

Loula Yorke

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Loula Yorke is an electronics composer and live artist who uses sound, video and participation to create noisy artworks.

Described by *Electronic Sound* magazine as a 'DIY noisenik champion', Yorke's work dances in the spaces where the personal meets the political: actively fostering an enabling sensibility; encouraging collaboration, self-discovery and learning through doing.

Yorke runs participatory synth-building and performance workshops 'Atari Punk Girls', securing funding from Arts Council England to develop the concept into a staged show for SPILL Festival 2021.

In 2021, Yorke was selected for a 4-day program of paid Community Musician Training by Britten Pears Arts [*fka* Snape Maltings].

Yorke's work has been recognised with a Special Commendation from the Oram Awards 2020, a joint initiative between PRS Foundation and The New BBC Radiophonic Workshop celebrating innovation in sound technologies by the next generation of forward-thinking women and gender minority music creators.

Self-releases

CROWD CONTROL Vol 2: EP, Digital release, December 2020. Featured in *Bandcamp Daily's* 'Best Electronic Music on Bandcamp' monthly feature. Included in *Wire Magazine* issue 444 playlist. Radio play on BBC Radio 3, NTS, and Resonance FM.

CROWD CONTROL Vol 1: EP, Digital release, October 2020. Full album performed live online both for Sound City Ipswich 2020 and TUSK Virtual. 5-min extract aired on BBC Radio 3's festival coverage of Tusk's *Lateness* stage.

LDOLS: EP, Cassette + Digital release of 6 one-take improvisations, January 2019. Included in Top 10 Leftfield Releases in *DJ Mag*. Included in *Bandcamp Daily's* 'Best Electronic Music on Bandcamp' monthly feature. Radio play on BBC Radio 3's *Freeness*, and BBC Music Introducing Suffolk.

Commissions

SPILL Festival of Performance: ATARI PUNK GIRLS, 2020 SPILL Commission. R&D + scratch performance, workshops and a staged show. Both elements postponed to 2021. Commissioned to create a 1-hr sonic-theatre performance, co-composed with 10 girls/GMs aged 13-16 using self-built electronic instruments. SPILL is a biennale of experimental theatre and live art showing UK and international work.

BBC Soundscapes for Wellbeing: THE CHILL OUT ROOM, January 2021. 20-minute soundscape composed using archived BBC Sound Effects. Showcase for the launch of the BBC SFX online Mixer tool. The commission was part of a wider programme exploring the connection between virtual experiences of nature and mental wellbeing.

Curation

SonitusLIVE: Experimental sonics livestream broadcasting to Twitch and YouTube. Curation of 12 episodes featuring over 40 sound artists and musicians between April and December 2020, including Mariam Rezaei, Natalia Beylis, Jen Kutler, AJA, Cutler+Dunning, and UKAEA. Debut livestream mentioned in *The Quietus*. Oram Awards 2020 showcase edition reviewed in *Juno Daily*.

I have also produced a companion guide for sound artists wanting to experiment with livestreaming using OBS, which is available online through my website.

Selected Live/Filmed shows

2021

IKLECTIK [offsite]: Sonic Electronics Festival: Iklectik Arts Lab, London. Live electronics and sound-modulated laser performance (online, reviewed in Wire Magazine Issue 447, May 2021 edition).

Oxford Contemporary Music: Video Shorts: Live electronics and sound-modulated laser session filmed in Oxford Covered Market. Produced by Upcycled Sounds. Release pending.

2020

TUSK Virtual: Sage Gateshead (online). 'Crowd Control Vol 1': hybrid live electronics performance, laser and video work. Excerpt featured in the highlights of the festival on BBC Radio 3's Late Junction.

Sound City Ipswich 2020: South Street Studios, Ipswich (online). Live electronics performance of 'Crowd Control Vol 1'.

Housebound #10: The Old Police House, Gateshead. Hybrid live electronics and video work, 'What I Do In The Shadows' (online)

Further_In: Hybrid live electronics and video work, 'Book Club' (online)

NoiseQuest: Live electronics performance, 'Kitchen Queens' (online)

Threads: Brighton Modular Festival. Live electronics performance at The Rose Hill, Brighton

2019

Solo support to Talvin Singh MBE: John Peel Centre, Independent Venue Week 2019. Live electronics performance.

Solo support to The Orb: Colchester Arts Centre, Essex. Live electronics performance.

Atari Punk Girls: Live show with girls aged 9+ using self-built synths at Shoe Factory, Norwich. Funded by Eastern Ear & Norwich City Council.

Radio, podcasts and panels

Sisters with Transistors: Panel appearance – to accompany *Sound and Music's* watch party of a newly released film featuring stories of early pioneering women in electronic music. May 2021.

Beyond a Boundary: Monthly/bi-monthly radio show for CAMP Radio. Produced by Fuse Art Space, Bradford. July 2020-ongoing.

BLOC: Building Libraries on Creativity: 30-minute podcast profile of my work. Discussing the role of music as a source of rebellion, a space for processing emotion, and how building DIY oscillators could improve self-concept in girls. January 2021.

BBC Music Introducing LIVE 2020: Panel appearance – 'How non-conforming artists prosper in their surroundings' for BBC Music Introducing Suffolk, hosted by Angelle Joseph. October 2020.

Sussex Humanities Lab: Panel appearance – gender and music tech panel and DIY synth build. Funded by Feminist Approaches to Computational Technology network, University of Sussex. July 2019.

Workshop leader

CLIP SOUND AND MUSIC: Firstsite Gallery, Colchester (online). 'Acid House' workshop, making browser-based TR-808 + TB-303 electronic music and visuals. Workshop for girls/GMs aged 10+. November 2020.

BLOC: Building Libraries on Creativity, Suffolk Libraries (online). Building a noise instrument on breadboard. Workshop for girls/GMs aged 12+. December 2020.

ATARI PUNK GIRLS: DIY soldering and synth-building workshops for girls/GMs, aged 10+, delivered 6 times during 2019. Made possible with funding from: British Science Week, Norfolk County Council, Firstsite Gallery and Brighton Modular Festival.

CLIP SOUND AND MUSIC: Firstsite Gallery, Colchester. Workshop for girls/GMs aged 10+. Building light-reactive synths on breadboard. September 2019.

iHACK: OutLoud Music, South Street Studios, Ipswich. 6-week experimental sound program for adults with access needs, funded by Ipswich Borough Council. May-June 2019

CLIP SOUND AND MUSIC: Firstsite Gallery, Colchester. Experimental voice and electronics workshop for ages 14+. October 2018.