

# THE AURICLE

SONIC ARTS GALLERY

## Jo Burzynska: *Mishearings*

4-28 June, 2015

Opening 4 June, 6-8pm

Sound artist and wine critic, Jo Burzynska (aka Stanier Black-Five) is premiering a solo exhibition of multisensory work at The Auricle sonic arts gallery in Christchurch. *Mishearings* is a collection of sound-based installations that use the interaction of the senses to alter or intensify perceptions through the combination of sensory stimuli.

Burzynska draws both on her own studies in sound and taste and current psychological research into crossmodal correspondences. These have shown that the senses can have a powerful influence over each other, with the conceptual elements of each exhibit achieved or intensified by employing auditory illusions.

In *Hearing Lips and Seeing Voices* Burzynska presents an audio-visual poem that can be perceived in three ways that offer up very different meanings. This uses the “McGurk Effect”, an illusion that occurs when the auditory component of one word is paired with the visual component of another, leading the viewer to perceive a third different word.

*Bittersweet* is a work for 8 speakers and chocolate. This soundscape, created from the sounds of food production, cycles between low pitched industrial drones and high pastoral frequencies, which change the perception of the flavour of the chocolate from bitter to sweet.

The brain’s ability to construct meaning through noise is harnessed in *Poetry as I need it*, an exploration of sound and the moment using John Cage’s Lecture on Nothing. And all the senses entwine in *Carbonic Oscillation*, a chamber offering a highly visceral experience of effervescence, which participants are encouraged to experience with a glass of sparkling wine.

Burzynska will also be hosting a series of multisensory events over the month of the exhibition:

Thursday 4 June (6pm) - **Opening event:** featuring *Carbonic Oscillation* in the bar

Saturday 13 June - ***Oenosthesia III*:** artist talk and live sound and wine performance

Sunday 14 June – **Wine and music matching workshop** at the New Zealand Boutique Wine Festival, Auckland

Friday 19 June - **Wine and music matching workshop**

Saturday 27 June - ***Sensation: multisensory dining experience:*** collaboration between Burzynska, chef, Alex Davies (Shop Eight) and visual artist, Toshi Endo

### Jo Burzynska - Biography

Jo Burzynska - who also records and performs under the name Stanier Black-Five - is a Christchurch-based sound artist and wine writer whose work in these areas has increasingly converged in the production of multisensory art. Her installations and performances regularly combine sound and taste and are created at the intersection of the senses.

Recent work includes the public installations *Resonifying the city* in Cathedral Square, Christchurch (2014); *150 years of rail* at Ferrymead Heritage Park in collaboration with Chris Reddington (2013); *Stepping Out* in Colombo Street, Christchurch (2013) and *Oenosthesia* at the Intereferenze FARM Festival in Tufo, Italy (2012).

Burzynska’s audio work is largely based on the manipulation of her own environmental recordings and has been performed and released internationally. Live performances include major festivals, such as the London Musicians Collective’s annual Festival of Experimental Music in the UK to New Zealand’s Lines of Flight Festival. Recent album releases include *Body Waves* and *Avast!* on the European Entr’acte label.

As a writer on music, she has contributed to the likes of the UK’s *The Wire* magazine and wrote a chapter of the book *Erewhon Calling: experimental sound in New Zealand*. As a wine critic, she writes one of New Zealand’s most widely read weekly columns for the New Zealand Herald’s *Viva* magazine.

She is one of the founders of The Auricle Sonic Arts Gallery in Christchurch, New Zealand, where she curates The Auricle's "oenosthetic" wine list, in which she matches wines to the current exhibition and the music playing in the space.

More information about Burzynska's sound art can be found at <http://stanierblackfive.com> and wine writing at <http://joburzynska.com>.

For further details, pictures or to book a place at any of the events, contact:  
[jo@joburzynska.com](mailto:jo@joburzynska.com)

Artist and artwork information at <http://auricle.org.nz/mishearings-by-jo-burzynska/>

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**Gallery Hours:** Wednesday-Sunday 12pm-5pm

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