

CENTRE FOR SENSORY STUDIES

TALKING SENSE LECTURE SERIES



Image credit: *Material Mapping*
Catherine Hamel

An Inverse Archaeology on the Turbulence of Silence: mapping the territory of a rumble

Catherine Hamel

Thursday, 16 June 2022

11:00 – 13:00

Room H-1120, Hall Building

The low rumble that emanates from the infrastructure of the modern environment, and eludes city policies and procedures, is not a noise as such. Yet its very silence, or infra-audibility, can be used to survey territories. The relationship between the visual world created by such methods and the actualities of the lived world can be potentially reorganized through the role of creative explorations in an archeology of perception. Why archeology? Archeology because excavated partial discoveries are curated to allow the viewer to extrapolate a realm. Reversed, this reverberation out of the ground creates social relations not as a thing to be looked for in carrying out the research, rather it is what is used to do the looking. In this lecture (which has a strong interactive component), a set of tools are presented as facilitators to investigate the built environment in order to engage it in less prescribed and predictable ways. It is a commitment to exploring society from within experience and values rather than objectifying it from the standpoint of the ruling relations. Hot, bothered and the wrong kind of dirty, such is the training of mapping the territory of a rumble.

Catherine Hamel is Associate Dean, Academic at the *School of Architecture, Planning & Landscape* at the University of Calgary, Canada. Her interests lie in the repercussions of objects made in their ability to activate space and its inhabitants towards a more just society. Born in Beirut, Lebanon, themes investigated include identity and estrangement in the context of post-war reconstruction and exile, memory in the scarred body and the voicing of political experiences in public space. What agitates her is not the sides people take, but the lines they draw in order to be able to take them.

This is a hybrid event. We encourage in-person attendance because it is part workshop. However, you can participate online via zoom by registering here: bit.ly/3IHNXHW