

Francisco López *Buildings [New York]* (project realized and released in 2001)

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An immersion into the sonic matter from inner sound environments of buildings in New York. Wires, cables, gears, pipes, air ducts, boilers, clocks, leds, thermostats, computers, video cameras... a community of fragmented robots, machines that breathe, roar, hum, rattle, beep, crackle... a city from the inside, an unconscious futurist paradise. And above all, a tour de force of profound listening.

Though the sounds have been gathered from individual buildings, the net effect is of being in the urban Ur-Bau, the dynamo at the city's heart. Meaning not just the city but The City. (Evan Eisenberg).

Buildings [New York] is a work that has been created under the same perspective than *La Selva* (V2_Archief V228, 1998; featuring sound environments from the Costa Rican jungle). Non-processed, not mixed environmental sound matter from a certain 'reality'. An appraisal of the richness and essential qualities of the original sonic material. A non-referential intention. An extreme phenomenological immersion led by anti-rationality and anti-purposefulness. A world devoid of human presence. A passion for drones and their inner universe; that perceptually 'invisible' matrix of broad-band noise that is constantly flowing around us, both in nature and in man-made environments. A tour de force of profound listening in which every listener has to face his/her own freedom and thus create.

Buildings are sophisticated hyper-bodies we build around ourselves. Their physiology is controlled by metabolites and fluids such as electricity, air, water and gas. Wires, cables, gears, pipes, air ducts, boilers, clocks, LEDs, thermostats, computers, video cameras... work inter-connected to make up sensory, muscular, digestive, nervous systems that we set in motion, with a high degree of autonomy and self-regulation, in the service of our hyper-physiology. As a multitude of fragmented robots that communicate to each other at our command. A community of machines that breathe, roar, hum, rattle, beep, crackle... compartmentalized and separated from us, working constantly, while we sleep, when we are working, making love, cooking, listening to the radio. A city from the inside, an unconscious futurist paradise.

Original recordings done in New York buildings between January and March 2001 by Francisco López and Scott Konzelmann:

- [1] The Millennium Building (Movie Theater and apartment bldg.) - 111 W 67th st., Manhattan
 - [2] Starrett Leigh Building (Office bldg.) - 601 W 26th st., Manhattan
 - [3] The World Trade Center (Office bldg.) - 1 World Trade Center, Manhattan
 - [4] (Office & apartment bldg.) - 450 W 33rd st., Manhattan
 - [5] (Office bldg.) - 307 7th ave., Manhattan
 - [6] The Clocktower (Art studios, gallery & offices) - Leonard st., Manhattan
 - [7] (Manufacturing / Artist studios) - 68 Jay st., Brooklyn
 - [8] Sotheby's (Offices, galleries & studios) - 1334 York ave., Manhattan
 - [9] (Apartment bldg.) - 184 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn
 - [10] New York Psychoanalytic Institute (School and offices) - 245 E 82nd st., Manhattan
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Buildings [New York] was commissioned and presented by Creative Time for Massless Medium: Explorations in Sensory Immersion as part of Art in the Anchorage 2001, Brooklyn Bridge Anchorage, Brooklyn.

Edited and mastered at mobile messor during the spring of 2001.

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(p) V2_Archief 2001 (CD release)