

Jane Grant, John Matthias and Nick Ryan. This site is part of a nationwide musical composition called The Fragmented Orchestra, winner of the PRS Foundation’s New Music Award 2008.

The Fragmented Orchestra is a huge distributed musical structure modelled on the firing of the human brain’s neurons.

www.thefragmentedorchestra.com

the fragmented Orchestra

12th December – 22nd February 2008

We have selected 24 sites around the UK on the basis of the inherent sonic rhythms they exhibit – the rhythmic sounds of people, animals and the elements.

All of the sounds from this location, including the sounds that you make, will stimulate an artificial neuron to ‘fire’. When it fires, a fragment of the sound at this location will be captured by a microphone that we have installed close to where you are standing.

The 24 sites are connected to each other to form a ‘neural network’. The tiny fragments of sonic information, captured at this site, and the firing events that caused them, are transmitted over the internet, causing other sites to fire and capture more fragments of sound from across the UK.

The millions of captured fragments of sound from across the UK arrive at our central performance space at The FACT Gallery, in Liverpool, where our collective musical composition can be heard from a large array of 24 loudspeakers, each representing one of the 24 sites.

The Fragmented Orchestra mimics the ebb and flow of rhythm through the human brain. The collective composition heard at the FACT gallery is returned, instantaneously, to the sites allowing you to hear how your own input changes the composition of the piece.

You are both player and audience of a vast and evolving musical instrument extended across the UK.

The Fragmented Orchestra will run from December 12th 2008 – February 22nd 2009.

The Fragmented Orchestra is the created by artist Jane Grant, composer-musician-physicist John Matthias and BAFTA winning composer-sound designer Nick Ryan. The artists gratefully acknowledge the PRS Foundation for funding the project and our generous sponsors.

The 24 sites:

1. The Thainstone Centre
Inverurie
2. The Hidden Gardens
Tramway, Glasgow
3. Music55-7@Verbal Arts Centre
Derry
4. Kielder Observatory
Black Fell, Northumberland
5. Sonic Arts Research Centre
Queen’s University Belfast
6. Brontë Parsonage Museum
Yorkshire
7. Blueprint Studios
Manchester
8. FACT
Liverpool
9. Everton Football Club
Goodison Park, Liverpool
10. Centre for Alternative Technology
Machynlleth
11. The Barber Institute of Fine Arts
University of Birmingham
12. Gloucester Cathedral
Gloucester
13. Millennium Stadium
Cardiff
14. Watershed
Bristol
15. Landscope C of E Primary School
Devon
16. Roland Levinsky Building
University of Plymouth
17. Newlyn Art Gallery
Cornwall
18. Kiosk, West Pier Decking
Brighton Seafront
19. Rochelle School
London
20. Roundhouse
London
21. National Portrait Gallery
London
22. The Stephen Lawrence Centre
London
23. Institute Of Psychiatry
Kings College London
24. St. Andrew’s Church
Fulham Fields, London

