

SOME THINGS IN THE AIR

a month of sound installations

June 1 - 27, 1998 • Harwood Art Center • Albuquerque, New Mexico

Gallery Hours: Monday thru Friday 9 AM - 5 PM, Saturday 10 AM - 4 PM

Walking into Harwood's Main Gallery, at first glance it might seem that "nothing is there". But take a moment and it will become clear that the room is in fact completely full of art — it just isn't on the walls. Instead it is floating invisibly between them, hung on the molecules of air which fill every inch of the space. In "SOME THINGS IN THE AIR", four sound artists respond to the blank-canvas stillness of an empty white room, addressing ideas and themes of presence/absence, the passing of time, the subtle change of light, voices in the aether, life beyond the walls... Please feel free to spend a good amount of time with these pieces. Many of them are quite subtle and benefit from a concentrated level of attention. A different work will play continually each week throughout the month of June.

June 1-6: Boston sound artist ELLEN BAND presents "Acoustic Mirage", which uses layers of "pink noise" (the high pitched hiss of humidifiers and other devices) laced with subliminal snippets of voices and music to induce aural illusions within the mind of the listener.

June 8-13: Santa Fe installation artist THOMAS ASHCRAFT presents "Pulse Traveling Zone", which uses sound similar to metabolic hum to encourage stationary time/space travel.

June 15-20: Albuquerque composer & sound artist STEVE PETERS presents "Emanations", a piece made of very pure feedback tones which hover at the threshold of audibility.

June 22-28: Santa Fe intermedia artist ANN RACUYA-ROBBINS presents "A Reverie of Place", which explores the hypothesis that the spirit of past sound lingers in the feeling of a place.

"Some Things in the Air" is sponsored by NONSEQUITUR, INC., a non-profit organization producing recordings, concerts and exhibitions of experimental music and audio art in New Mexico since 1989. Nonsequitur has released over 25 CDs, hosted exhibits of visual art by local and international artists at the now-defunct Nonsequitur Gallery. Currently, Nonsequitur is presenting a monthly series of concerts and other events, often in collaboration with Outpost Productions, the Harwood Art Center, and other local arts groups.

ALBUQUERQUE'S NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT SOURCE



EVAN RICHMAN, BOSTON GLOBE

Ellen Band starts off a month of sound art at the Harwood Center

EAR ACID: There are symphonies in molecules. The air is made of music. These are the kinds of ideas that have inspired a generation of artists, motivating them to take the sounds of everyday life, invent their own noises and spool them together to create artworks that feel like entire atmospheres. In the '80s, a word was devised for what these people do—"sound art"—but Ellen Band has been doing it since before it had a name. This week, you can experience the ethereal effects of Band's work, as she heads up a new, month-long installation of sound art called *Some Things in the Air*. Staged in the empty Main Gallery of the Harwood Center, the series will begin with Band's *Acoustic Mirage*, a display of "pink noise"—high-pitched whistles and hisses, mainly—accompanied by voices and bits of music that are so light that they border on the subliminal. A trippy, metaphysical roomful of invisible art, it's only the beginning. Each week for the rest of June, *Some Things* will feature a new, New Mexico sound artist—including Thomas Ashcraft, Steve Peters and Ann Racuya-Robbins. So if you're looking for the place where music stops and sculpture begins, stop by the Harwood this month, and keep your ears open.

Some Things in the Air opens with Ellen Band's *Acoustic Mirage*, Monday, June 1 at the Harwood Art Center Main Gallery (Seventh & Mountain). Band presents a concert of her work Saturday, June 6 at 8 p.m. Tickets \$5. For details on the rest of the sound art series, check Alibi's Arts & Lit Calendar or call 242-6367.

ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL

Friday, May 29, 1998 **venue**

The weekend's here and variety is the name of the game. Here's a little something for just about any taste.

BAND DAY

Sound artists heard at Harwood

Ellen Band is another female musician who took her cue from a male guitarist, Jimi Hendrix, for his work in creating feedback symphonies. "He took it out of the context of being something you want to eliminate and got people to listen to it," she said. But instead of creating guitar-based blues jams from Mars, Band creates aural artworks, using layers of "pink noise" — the sound that emanates from humidifiers, for example — and snippets of voice, music and natural sounds to induce sonic hallucinations. The Harwood Art Center will host her installation "Acoustic Mirage" beginning Monday. Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. She'll play in concert 8 p.m. Saturday, June 6, at the center. Tickets are \$5. Her installation is the first in the "Some Things in the Air" sound installation program that continues through June. Other guest artists include Santa Fe's