

**PROFESSUR
CHARBONNET
HEIZ**

**VOLUPTAS
VOYAGE PITTORESQUE IV
BERLIN**

KLANG

Berlin is an experiment without hypothesis. Multiple identities enable it to absorb the 'other'. Berlin is ugly, but intense. Its qualities were never intended. There is not a single idea, a single concept, or a single geometry which characterizes this city as a whole.
(PHILIPP OSWALT)

VOYAGE PITTORESQUE is a playful seminar launched by VOLUPTAS which focuses on the infinite and often hidden complexity in our immediate environment. Over the coming years, VOYAGE PITTORESQUE will bring us to specific territories and neighbourhoods that are closely related to the teaching team of VOLUPTAS. Thanks to the precise geographical boundaries and the local connections, VOYAGE PITTORESQUE offers time and knowledge to critically engage with an environment.

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PHILIPP OSWALT, BERLIN – CITY WITHOUT FORM (2000)

The product of a multitude of invisible forces, Berlin’s urban space lacks any singular identity. The absences in its urban fabric, produced through

destruction and fragmentation, shift the focus from the solid object to the in-between. Berlin, like few other cities, is defined by its voids – spaces in which things resonate. A city of sound.

Shifts in sound, musical performance, and auditory perception have always been at the forefront of the city’s urban transformation. The city’s more recent development can be traced through the places in which new experiences of sound and spaces for listening emerged. In Berlin’s history, new modes of perception went hand in hand with historical change, subversion, and political dissonance. Changes in perception lead to changes in society. In Berlin, sound creates.

On our journey, we will discover spaces which expand our reading of Berlin through a spectrum of sounds, from noise to high music. Experiencing the city through spaces for listening, we will discover the ways in which it has been shaped, and is still shaped, by sound in all its facets: controlled sound and harmonic resonance, industrial noise and cultural rebirth, environmental ambience and ecological

thought.

Different practices of listening, sensing, and recording will introduce us to some of the lesser known dimensions of Berlin’s complex and layered reality. Guided by specific musical and sonic events, as well as the insight of a range of musicians and sound artists, we will discover a diverse urban fabric through sound. Opening our ears will open us up to experience, experiment, and uncertainty. In Berlin’s varied textures of noise and silence, we can catch a break – and hear things that have not yet been put into language. Honing in on all parts of our auditory spectrum will reveal new qualities and stories, questioning our preconceptions of what this city is and what it might become.

DATES

March 17th – 21st, 2025

LOCATION

Berlin

COST

Category C, CHF 500–750. This covers entrances, tours, accommodation, one dinner and a reader.

Individual transportation to and from Berlin is not included.

INTEGRATION

The seminar week is integrated into the VOLUPTAS design studio.

Participation is voluntary.

ENQUIRIES

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IMAGE CREDIT

Arno Fischer, Ostberlin, Silvester 1989-1990