



SUSAN PHILIPSZ

20 September –
6 December 2014

‘Broken Ensemble:
War Damaged Musical
Instruments (Brass Section)’

Public Preview:
Friday 19 September, 6–9pm

Eastside Projects
86 Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham, B9 4AR, UK
Tel. 0121 771 1778

www.eastsideprojects.org

Open Wednesday to Saturday, 12–5pm
Free entry

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Eastside Projects presents a new installation by Susan Philipsz – internationally acclaimed artist, 2010 Turner Prize winner and 2014 OBE recipient. The Berlin based artist has created an acoustic environment as a growing musical ensemble of battered, bullet holed and broken instruments unheard for a century or more.

Philipsz has made new recordings of the sounds produced from five brass musical instruments damaged in Germany during various conflicts, and since conserved in museum collections. Each of these instruments becomes a performer or member of the 'Broken Ensemble', formed for the first time in Eastside Projects.

Pursuing the sculptural qualities of objects, space and sound, the artist plans to grow the 'Broken Ensemble' over time with new recordings being made of further musical instruments used in war over the coming years. During the exhibition, in October, a sixth recording will be made of the 'Balaklava Bugle' used to sound the Charge of the Light Brigade in the Crimean War in 1854. This sixth 'voice' will then be added into the installation as a new performer, or member, shifting the musical score and character of Philipsz's 'Broken Ensemble'.

Over the past two decades Philipsz has investigated, reimagined and rearranged musical and literary sources and specific historical constellations, often using familiar tunes and pop songs, performed in her own voice and recorded. Recently in dOCUMENTA 13, Kassel, and at Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin she has made increasing use of instrumental compositions, reconstructing powerfully charged historical works through multi-channel sound installations.

'Broken Ensemble: War Damaged Musical Instruments (Brass Section)' is Philipsz's first solo exhibition in the UK since winning the Turner Prize and exemplifies the artists commitment to exploring the psychological and sculptural potential of sound in relation to unique sites.

Born in 1965 in Glasgow, Susan Philipsz currently lives and works in Berlin. She received a BFA in Sculpture from Duncan of Jordanstone College in Dundee in 1993, and an MFA from the University of Ulster in Belfast in 1994. Since the mid-1990s, Philipsz has exhibited at many leading institutions and public venues around the world including: Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (2014); MOMA, New York (2013); K21 Ständehaus, Düsseldorf (2013); dOCUMENTA 13, Kassel (2012); Glasgow International (2010); and Skulptur Projekt, Münster, Germany (2007). Earlier in 2014 a permanent installation opened on Governors Island, New York. Philipsz is represented by Tanya Bonakdar Gallery New York and Isabella Bortolozzi Gallery, Berlin. With thanks to Capt. JM Holtby AMA, Curator, The Queen's Royal Lancers & Nottinghamshire Yeomanry Museum, Nottinghamshire,