“Listening / This is at the same time a title, an address, and a dedication.”

Interior Field (Part 2) Variation

Richard Chartier

 [...] and, above all, remember to listen closely. Adorning the frontispiece of this issue, continent. is proud to present an alternate version of Richard Chartier’s work, Interior Field, provided by the artist. “Interior Field (part 2) Variation” reworks material originally published by LINE in 2013 and culled from a binaural recording session at the McMillan Sand Filtration Site in Washington, DC. This unique historical site, built in 1905, is currently slated for almost complete demolition and redevelopment. Chartier was given special access to record at this site during a sudden major rainstorm. Vast vaulted catacomb chambers with floor surfaces covered in four feet of sand create an unexpectedly deep acoustic field.

Since plumbing ‘unexpectedly deep acoustic fields’ with so many critical and creative probes could just as easily describe the resonant thrusts and preoccupations of our current investigation as a whole, it is fitting to introduce the issue with a work as sensitive and with as palpable a sense of clearing as Chartier’s. For a continuous experience of the 25-minute composition, open this issue’s articles in separate browser windows as you continue to read. When crossing the interior fields of listening and reading, headphones are encouraged for maximum results.