

# Sean Dower - *A conversation along the Highway of Brotherhood and Unity*

Dom Omladine Beograd, 2017



## **'A conversation along the highway of brotherhood and unity' 2017**

In this exhibition, sculpture and sound combine to explore how we locate ourselves, both spatially and culturally. Works exhibited include a minimalist array of brass piezo speakers embedded in concrete, projecting a soundtrack of cicadas and synthesizers down the length of the gallery, whilst a printed electrostatic speaker and parabolic reflector bounce mysterious radio signals across the space. On a low platform at the end of the gallery sit three rustic wooden stools, which vibrate haptically with the residue political speeches. Elsewhere, a text-based sculpture with engraved Cyrillic letters silently explores the onomatopoeic sounds of technology and a suspended, slender steel rod transmits the vibrations of an unheard soundtrack. The exhibition is bookended by videos of abstracted light patterns based on 1980's dance and exercise culture. These unlikely components combine to form a sculpture-sound-system that invites the viewer to explore the singularity of audio, sensory and visual experience in an immersive and conceptual way. The visual and physical threads can be experienced individually or in totality.

The title of the exhibition refers to the E70 motorway, the so-called 'Brotherhood and Unity Highway', an artery of cultural and ideological communication in the former Yugoslavia. Dower first travelled to Belgrade in 1990 with the Bow Gamelan Ensemble, who were invited to make a large-scale performance using sound and pyrotechnics in a derelict Belgrade power station. Since this time Dower's work has continued to combine sculpture, performance and sound to engage viewers in dynamic spatial, acoustic and visual encounters. Recent trips to Belgrade by the artist have cemented his engagement in cultural dialogue as an on going mode of practice.

Sean Dower (born 1965) lives and works in London. Recent projects exploring cultural and spatial aspects of sound include: 'On Air' at Beaconsfield Gallery London (2015), 'The Voyeur' at De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill UK (2012) and Musik für Barbaren und Klassiker at Netwerk Center, Aalst Belgium (2010).

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## Individual Works:



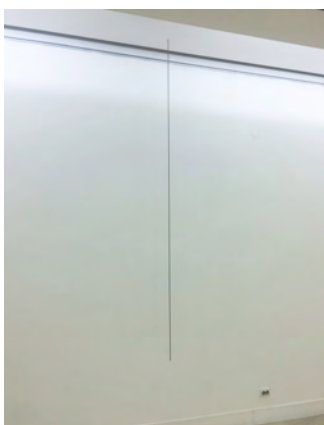
Cicadas, ball bearings and Synthesizer 2017  
Piezoelectric elements, cement panel and audio player  
62 x 62 x 3cm



Sound Reflector 2017  
Wall-mounted aluminium parabola, with reflected sound from UVB-76  
100 x 110 x 25cm



UVB-76, 2017  
Printed electrostatic speaker, steel frame, foam and audio player  
60 x 60 x 30cm



Vibrating Rod 2017  
Suspended steel rod, audio transducer and audio player  
6mm diameter, height variable



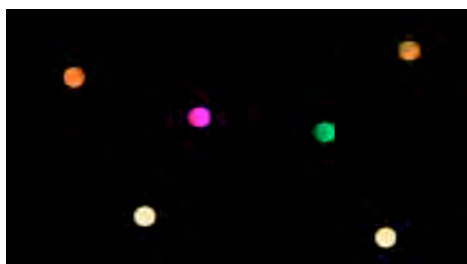
Noises (бука) 2017  
6 Traffolyte engraved panels, wooden stand  
17 x 100 x 12cm



A conversation along the Highway of Brotherhood and Unity 2017  
Wooden platform, carpet, 3 stools, audio transducers and player  
245 x 200 x 45cm



Aerobics 2, 2017  
HD video  
Duration 5 mins.



Aerobics 1, 2017 (at entrance)  
HD video  
Duration 5 mins.

