ELECTRICAL WALK BERLIN

Since 2003, Christina Kubisch has been using induction headphones she developed herself to make the electric fields of our environment audible. Electromagnetic waves are everywhere, even where one might not expect them. Light systems, antennas, transformers, surveillance cameras, anti-theft devices, high-voltage lines, smartphones, wi-fi routers, ATMs and other electricity networks form a web of magnetic fields that, although hidden as if under a camouflage cloak, is nevertheless of incredible presence. The perception of the everyday changes when listening to electricity, the familiar places and their surroundings appear in a new context.

The circles on the map mark special places to listen. These may sound different at various times of the day, or sometimes they may not be present at all.

Walk slowly. Stop from time to time and just move your head. Electromagnetic waves often appear unexpectedly and sound different depending on the listening position. Some sound sources, especially security systems, are particularly loud. Please keep your distance and never walk through a security barrier with your headphones on to protect your ears and the headphones. The routes serve as indications. You are free to expand them. Please always switch off the headphones whenever you are not wearing them to save the batteries. Return the headphones immediately after the end of the walk.

Electrical Walk Berlin is Walk No. 83. of the series, which has been realised worldwide.

Further information: www.electricalwalks.org

CHRISTINA KUBISCH ELECTRICAL WALK

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1. Galerie Mazzoli

Handing out headphones and information.

2. Station

Stop and listen to the different signals of the overhead lines and trams.

3. Sparkasse

Enter the counter room. Approach the ATM screens for withdrawal/deposit.

4. Tram ride

Take the M1 in the direction of Rosenthal Nord and travel 2 stops to Schönhauser Allee Arcaden.

5. Forecourt

Stop in front of the shopping centre and listen to the diverse and dense magnetic fields. Then walk through the passage between the arcades and the S-Bahn and take the last entrance on the left into the shopping centre.

6. Arcaden Floor 0

Walk freely around and listen to the various security barriers (such as those from Esprit or Douglas), advertising boards, illuminated signs, etc. Caution: Some security barriers are extremely loud and intense. Do not walk too close to the entrance of these shops with your headphones, you could damage your ears and also the headphones. Keep your distance.

Enter the post office and compare the signals with those of the ATMs.

Afterwards, take the escalator and go to floor 1.

7. Arcaden Floor 1

Stand in front of the entrance to Medimax facing Rossmann and listen to the multiple signals from the antennas on the roof of the building. You can as well go up to the roof garden (floor 5). There, the signals are much clearer and more intense.

8. Return

Take the M1 tram or the underground (or walk) back to the Galerie Mazzoli.

