

How does it feel to be a building?

Pedro Figueiredo

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This building

IN DECEMBER 2022 I was working on a piece considering the impact of Woolworths on every day life. The work ended abruptly with the unexpected closing of the school.

More than 3 years later one thing remains the same, my fascination with this building. I thought that instead of using the building as the setting for my imaginary story, I would let the building speak for itself — albeit mediated through microphones and my arrangement of the traces left by the world in which it is immersed.

Despite the electricity flooding the basement, the humans walking around, and the wind lambasting the windows on the top floor, the building still finds a way to rest. It sits, looking at the sea, wondering about its next incarnation.

Multichannel audio, 22 minutes

Biography

PEDRO FIGUEIREDO is a sound artist and software developer living in Ramsgate. He has long been interested in small sounds, which he finds are a great antidote to the modern demand for all the attention all the time.

His recording practice has been focused on experimental music, from DIY software and electronics to more traditional instrumentation. This has directed his interest in listening, which has moved from a utilitarian perspective – collecting sounds to use as backdrop – to a critical one, wherein he considers all sounds as an ontological entity, rather than a facet of a being, object, or place.

Pedro completed the Sound, Society, Nature Sound Arts diploma at The Margate School of Art in 2023. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Acoustic Ecology, examining how sound can be used to foster civic participation and community development, focused on Minster Marshes and surrounding areas, at Canterbury Christ Church University.

His website can be found at straywool.com.

