



Recess Presents

**Melissa Dubbin and
Aaron S. Davidson**

Volumes for Sound

March 26 – May 25, 2013
Middling reception: April 17, 6-8pm
Closing Reception: May 23, 6-8pm

On March 26, Melissa Dubbin and Aaron S. Davidson will begin work on *Volumes for Sound* as part of Recess' signature program, Session. Session invites artists to use Recess' public space as studio, exhibition venue, and grounds for experimentation.

Over the course of their Session, Dubbin and Davidson will create new works influenced by the geometries of sound. Funneling, folding and porting sound requires physical structures. Electric guitar amplifiers and cabinets make use of an imperfect architecture for energy, while acting as totems delineating an ancestry of sound amplification. These forms address archaeoacoustics and the pre-electrical harnessing of sound within architecture, while employing the staggered geometries of loudspeaker time-alignment and the slurred voicing of phase cancellation.

The artists will use photography as a method of recording various conditions. Sound waves reach our ears after traveling along different paths that describe overlapping triangles; a folded, warped and sonified camera-obscura. Cameras render an optical compression of tones akin to a constrained dynamic range in the audible realm. An image's lack of sound becomes a way of defining the aural.

This Session will continue themes developed in earlier iterations of *Volumes for Sound*. Earlier works used untreated fiberboard sculptures as objects with potential for sound. These forms descend from familiar objects drawn together in domestic and architectural situations - such as the triangulation that occurs when a listener sits in a chair in front of a pair of speakers. This triangulation is collapsed into objects containing several variations for configuration. Artists were invited to create performances using the volumes. Between events they were left silent and photographs provided evidence of the previous configurations.

The artists will punctuate their Session with informal performances and presentations.



About the artists:

Melissa Dubbin and Aaron S. Davidson have an ongoing collaborative practice that combines various media. Recent solo shows include exhibitions at Audio Visual Arts (AVA), New York City (2013), Henie Onstad Kunstsenter, Høvikodden, Norway (2012), and The Living Art Museum, Reykjavik, Iceland (2012). They have exhibited internationally at museums, galleries, and art centers including SculptureCenter, New York; Exit Art, New York; New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; 2004 Gwangju Biennale, S. Korea; and Moderna Museet, Stockholm.

Dubbin and Davidson live in Brooklyn, New York.

State of the Arts



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