

2011 WORLD FORUM FOR ACOUSTIC ECOLOGY CONFERENCE

*'Crossing listening paths'*

IONIAN UNIVERSITY, CORFU, 3-7 OCTOBER 2011

**PRELIMINARY CALL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTIONS**

*Soundscapes* are seldom simple; on the contrary, they tend to be complex sounding systems continuously changing in time, which no art or science can approach in depth on its own. Listening is the 'corner stone' for the appreciation, participation and study of the sonic environment that surrounds and includes us. As Westerkamp (2002) remarks, it is the ecological balance of our planet that becomes audible "*to those who care to listen.*"

We might consider listening in two ways: as the actual activity of focusing (in innumerable ways) our attention to the soundings, and in a metaphorical manner; *listening as a metaphor*. A research or a compositional approach to the sonic environment, for example, can be thought of as a *listening path*. One alone cannot listen to everything that is simultaneously sounding in the soundscape; similarly the meanings transmitted through soundings cannot be fully uncovered by a single discipline. The multidisciplinary approach in the research of the sonic environment has been highlighted from the very beginnings of Acoustic Ecology. These different aesthetic and scientific approaches to the soundscape are considered here metaphorically as *crossing listening paths*, which in their 'conjunctions' and interactions might create a better understanding of the whole.

*'Crossing listening paths'* is the main theme of the Conference of the *World Forum for Acoustic Ecology*, which will take place at the Department of Music of the Ionian University in Corfu, Greece from 3-7 of October 2011. The conference will be endorsed by the *World Forum for Acoustic Ecology* and the *Hellenic Society for Acoustic Ecology*, will be organized and co-sponsored by the *Department of Music of the Ionian University* and the *Electroacoustic Music Research and Applications Laboratory (EPHMEE) of the Ionian University*, and will be supported by the *Computer Music Laboratory of the Department of Music Technology and Acoustics of the Technological and Educational Institute of Crete*.

Proposals are invited for roundtable discussions, workshops, papers/posters, compositions/artistic contributions, relating to, but not limited to the main theme. A small number of the submitted papers will be selected for inclusion in the forthcoming issue of the *Soundscape Journal*, which will share the conference theme. The official language of the conference will be English.

Please send abstracts for roundtable discussions, papers/posters, workshops, (max. 400 words) & proposals for compositions or other artistic contributions by **May 15, 2011** as an email attachment to: [wfae2011@akouse.gr](mailto:wfae2011@akouse.gr)

The abstracts/proposals will be reviewed, and the participants whose papers and sonic art works will be chosen for presentation will be notified by **July 15, 2011**.

Information about keynote speakers and the conference program will be forthcoming.