



Curtin University

Sensory Guide

Sense and Sensitivity Exhibition

Sense and Sensitivity combines the work of two neurodiverse artists, Perth-based landscape photographer, Simon Phillips, and Singapore-based performance artist, Dawn-joy Leong, in a series of sensory stories that celebrate the beauty of the natural and human worlds.

Sensory Cues

A list of audio/sound and image changes throughout Projector Loop

0 – 11 sec

Screen is dark

3 sec

A bird chirps, background noise of cars passing/traffic noise/leaves rustling/air in motion/passing birds chirruping

6 – 15 sec

Police car siren passing

Gentle open chords of piano start playing

14 - 29 sec

Dog barking, birds chirruping.

Piano playing increases into a mellow, gentle rhythm.

Faint background noise of people talking, kids playing.

29 sec continuing

Mellow, tinkling piano playing continues with faint background noise of crowd, and birds chirping including clear intermittent chirp/whistle of Willy Wagtail

11 – 38sec

Distant sounds continue

Black screen slowly fades and image fades up into view.

The entire screen gradually reveals a photo of a reflection of Perth skyline on the Swan river.

At first impression the image of the Perth skyline looks slightly distorted and blurry, on closer inspection it becomes clear the image is “flipped”/upside down.

The top half of the image is the skyline reflected in the water.

The bottom half of the image is the actual Perth skyline – clear crisp outlines of shrubs at the base of the buildings, a few boats, the thin white loops of the sculpture at Elizabeth Quay, the long, curved roof of the Perth Convention and Exhibition centre.

The water is very still so the reflection on the water is almost mirrorlike, except for a few ripples of the water.

The image is of the Perth skyline seen from the South Perth foreshore.

The centre of the image is the BHP skyscraper with 8 or 9 large buildings to either side. It is early morning and the sun is reflecting on the windows of two buildings on the very right of the screen.

The sky is very pale blue with a few wispy clouds above the skyline.

This static image of the skyline remains throughout following sounds

38 sec

Saxophone starts playing along with mellow jazzy piano and faint background noises of people, and birds chirping

The static image of the Perth skyline remains

57 – 60 sec

Saw-like sound of car ignition/engine turning over

1.04 – 1.15

Dog barking, short intermittent whistle of Willy Wagtail.

Traffic/people noises fade out.

Mellow, jazzy saxophone and piano continue including gentle swishing of brushes on snare drum.

1.15 – 1.22 sec

Kitten meowing

1.22 – 1.54

Saxophone very much to the fore, building into a crescendo, continues with piano, snare brushes fade, intermittent whistle/chirp of Willy Wagtail

1.54 – 2.03 (Crossfade of images begins)

Sound of saxophone, piano and whistle/chirp of Willy Wagtail fades.

As the music fades, simultaneously the image of Perth skyline crossfades into a photo of a very close up image of Samphire plant stalks across front of screen.

They are thin, pale green, articulated, twiggy, little plants that grow around the Swan river and salt lakes in damp swampy areas.

(They are edible and have a crisp salty taste)

The middle and far distance, the image is out of focus.

The middle of the image is shades of pale green with flecks of brown.

Across the horizon is a rough pale brown outline of low hills or buildings – out of focus.

Above is a faded strip of pale sky, also out of focus.

2.03

Continuing sounds - twigs breaking/crackling, a magpie calls, different birdsong in the distance, buzz and whirring of insect sounds, the cooing of doves - outdoor/bush sounds

2.06 – 2.18sec

Gentle, intermittent, single notes of vibraphone start to play under bush sounds

2.18 – 3.38

Series of more continuous notes intermittently played on vibraphone.

Bird tweets, insect chatter, bush sounds continue.

3.38 – 3.51

A descending scale of high ringing notes played on vibraphone

Bird tweets, insect chatter, bush sounds continue.

3.52 – 4.05 (Crossfade of images begins)

The descending scale of high ringing notes played on vibraphone is repeated

Bird tweets, insect chatter, bush sounds continue.

A very gradual fade of samphire image with a crossfade of a new image – bright white starbursts on a black background

4.06 – 4.14

Individual bell chimes. The chimes have a long sustain.

Birds chirping, sounds of insects, bush sounds

Gradually the white starbursts become greener to reveal a photo of the birds-eye view of the green tree tops of a dense, mature, pine plantation in dark shadow.

4.15 – 4.21

Bell chimes ring with more ongoing sustain.

Birds chirping, sounds of insects, bush sounds

4.22 – 5.00

Bell chimes start to increase and overlap with more ongoing sustain.

Birds chirping, sounds of insects, bush sounds start to get drowned out by the sound of the bells chiming

The dark shadows around the tree tops fade and more of the green forest is gradually revealed as the forest of pine tree tops begins to get lighter.

A few random tree-tops are browner/dying back.

5.00 – 5.30

Almost imperceptibly the view moves in closer to the tree tops and the tree tops gradually become lighter

Bell chimes continues to pulse and overlap with more sustain.

Birds chirping, sounds of insects, bush sounds are barely audible, completely drowned out by the pulsing sound of the bells.

5.30 – 5.45

The gradual zooming in on the tree tops stops

Bell chimes continues to pulse and overlap with more sustain.

Birds chirping, sounds of insects, bush sounds are barely audible, completely drowned out by the pulsing sound of the bells.

5.45 – 6.00 (Crossfade of images begins)

A white mist appears at the bottom edge and sides of the forest image

The bell chimes diminish in intensity with less overlap of chimes and gradual individual chimes only.

Birds chirping, sounds of insects, bush sounds become more audible

6.00 – 6.10

The bell chimes slowly diminish into individual chimes then fade to stop.

Overlaying the fading bells is the sound of a stream of running water.

The forest tree tops fade and a new photo fades up of lush moss, ferns and hanging tendrils of vines covering an overhanging rock-scape.

6.10 – 6.15

The sound of a running stream continues.

Intermittent sounds of squeaky cricket chirps, insects, frogs and dripping water

The mist along the bottom of the frame morphs into the misty blur of a running stream below the overhanging rockface.

The mist to the left side of the image morphs into the misty spray of water from a waterfall.

6.15 – 7.45

The image slowly recedes away from the viewer to reveal more of the landscape – a natural bush setting.

The waterfall to the left of the image is slowly revealed.

There are more dots of mossy greenery to the left of the waterfall.

Above the waterfall is a rough granite ledge running along the width of the image.

Above the granite is a glimpse of pale green and yellow tree leaves and a few thin black tree branches.

The waterfall is running over granite rocks and the water is flowing into the rushing waters of the stream.

The stream water is also running over granite rocks.

6.15 - 6.24

Sound of rushing water of stream continues with sounds of frogs and crickets chirping

6.24 – 7.45

The occasional whistle “tatter -ta -ta” sound of bird call and clacking of bird beaks.

Sound of rushing water of stream continues.

Sounds of frogs and crickets chirping

Intermittent sounds of dripping water.

7.45 – 7.55 (Crossfade of images begins)

The image of the waterfall over granite, running stream, bush setting fades away

The running water, frog, cricket and bird sounds begin to fade.

A new photo begins to appear of dark grey layers of oozing mud with a few lasting flecks of green distinguishable from the bush setting image.

7.55 – 8.00

Slow synthesiser music starts

The running water, frog, cricket and bird sounds fade completely

8.00 – 8.08

Low sound of air blowing begins.

Low sombre synthesiser continues

8.08 – 9.00

Deep “bloop” sounds of bubbling mud begin

Low roaring sound of air blowing continues.

Low sombre synthesiser continues with notes gradually rising higher

The image of ripples of oozing mud, with faint green specks begins to almost imperceptibly start to rotate counter-clockwise

8.15

Flecks of green completely fade away.

9.00- 9.59

The image of oozing, ripples of mud slowly develop darker shadows along the edges of the ripples.

The image continues to slowly rotate counter-clockwise

Deep “bloop” sounds of bubbling mud begin

Low roaring sound of air blowing continues

Low sombre synthesiser continues with more notes gradually rising higher, including faint single, intermittent chimes

10.00 – 10.25 (Snap image change)

Snap change into new image – a photo of an aerial view of a huge white pile of tailings on a red ochre landscape.

The tailings are leaking a long winding, rivulet of white into the red landscape.

The image is almost imperceptibly/gradually moving towards the top of the screen

The faint low roaring of air blowing continues

The synthesiser continues with more pulsing note/chiming sounds in waves

10.25 – 10.40

The synthesiser sounds become musically more layered including a faint bass rhythm

The faint low roaring of air blowing continues

The image continues to gradually move upwards towards the top of the screen

10.40 – 10.48

Very faint tinkle of chimes

The synthesiser sounds and faint bass rhythm continues.

The faint low roaring of air blowing continues

The image continues to gradually move upwards towards the top of the screen

10.48 – 11.10

Bell chimes start, like windchimes, in different pitches, replace the synthesiser music and bass rhythm

The faint low roaring of air blowing continues

The image continues to gradually move upwards towards the top of the screen

11.10 – 11.46

Single long synthesiser notes start to play intermittently

Chimes are more random, less continuous

Bass drum rhythm builds

The faint low roaring of air blowing continues

11.46 – 12.00 (Crossfade of images begins)

Various long synthesiser notes play as the image starts to slowly change.

Bass drum rhythm builds

Intermittent chimes continue

The faint low roaring of air blowing continues

Across the middle of the image appears a birds-eye view of a white foam, wiggly edge of water licking up a red ochre shoreline with a faint, blurry green line of ocean.

12.00 – 12.15

The white foam, wiggly edge of water licking up a red ochre shoreline with an emerald green ocean slowly fades up as the image of the white tailings slowly fades away.

Various long synthesiser notes continue as the image starts to slowly change.

Bass drum rhythm builds

Intermittent chimes continue

The faint low roaring of air blowing continues

12.15 – 12.24

A photograph of a birds-eye of an emerald green ocean with a wide, white foam wiggly edge of water licking up a red ochre shoreline.

The red ochre shoreline is smooth where the water has been washing back and forth on it. There is distinct line all the way across the image from left to right where the water has washed to.

The bottom third of the screen is speckled red ochre sand.

The sound of the synthesiser, chimes and bass stop - replaced by the gentle sound of the slosh of small waves.

A slow zoom in towards the image starts

12.24 – 13.40

Gentle tune on metal xylophone and guitar starts to play.

A slow zoom in towards the image continues

More and more of the red ochre shoreline fills up the screen and less of the ocean and foam shoreline is visible

The gentle sound of waves continues.

13.40 - 13.50

The marks, speckles and scratches of the red ochre shoreline are now clearly visible.

Gentle tune on metal xylophone and guitar continues

The gentle sound of waves continues

13.50 – 14.10 (Crossfade of images begins)

Bluey grey colour appears in the right-hand corner of the image and across the top of the image

The red ochre image begins to fade

A new image of a photo of a rugged granite coastline gradually starts to appear.

Gentle tune on metal xylophone fades away

Gentle guitar playing begins to fade

The gentle sound of waves fades

Sounds of seagulls squawking and waves breaking on rocks

14.10 - 14.25

A photograph of a rugged granite coastline with blurry waves breaking along the granite edge

The pale mauve sky has a pink tinge

Gentle guitar fades away completely

Sounds of seagulls and waves breaking on rocks

14.25 – 14.50

The image gradually moves to the left – we see less of the rocks and more of the ocean on the right appears.

The ocean is blurry and out of focus

More of the pale mauve sky with a pink tinge is revealed.

An island gradually becomes visible along the horizon in the top right of the picture

Sounds of seagulls continues

The sound of the waves breaking on rocks increases

Faint snippets of sounds of people talking

14.50 – 16.00 (Crossfade of images begins)

A new image begins to appear and overlay the granite coastline and ocean image. The new image is a photo of a long, narrow, rugged granite peninsular with a channel of ocean a few metres wide running between it and some rugged granite rocks

The turquoise ocean is not calm, with foamy white of the swell breaking on the rocks

16.00 - 16.10

The still image moves slowly to the right.

The sounds of sloshing waves on rocks

The sound of seagulls stops.

Another bird calls out a long “coo-wee” a couple of times

16.10 – 17.45

Ethereal choral singing begins, building to soaring voices

The ‘coo-wee’ bird call continues intermittently.

Other seagull calls mingle in

The sound of rolling waves continues

The image moves slowly to the right, revealing more frothy white waves on a turquoise ocean and another small granite outcrop island near the craggy granite peninsular.

The sky is overcast, a pale grey in colour and thin white cloud cover of various shapes.

17.40

Choral singing stops.

17.45 – 18.00 (Crossfade of images begins)

Gentle melodic synthesiser with tinkling notes begins to play

Image becomes lighter and starts to fade away to completely white screen

Wave and ocean sloshing noises

Seagull squawking

18.00 – 18.05

Female voice begins singing a song about love, melodic synthesiser continues

The screen is white

Sound of gently lapping waves

18.05 – 18.20

A new black and white image begins to fade into view.

It is of a wooden walkway over a granite outcrop over ocean.

The walkway runs from the left of the screen towards the right.

There are steps with hand rails at either end, both leading down into the water.

The water is misty and out of focus.

In the middle of the image from left to right is the horizon – the sky above overcast.

On the left hand-side of the image, along the horizon a tiny sliver of land is just visible.

The image is moving almost imperceptibly, rotating to the left, away from the viewer

Female singing and synthesiser continues

Sound of gentle lapping waves

18.20 – 18.29

The image of the walkway is fully revealed

The image continues to move almost imperceptibly, rotating to the left, away from the viewer, more rocks on the right of the image are gradually revealed in the misty ocean.

Female singing with synthesiser music continues

Sound of gently lapping waves

18.29 – 19.19

Female stops singing and starts to gently speak over gentle synthesiser music

Sound of gently lapping waves continues

Same slowly moving image of the wooden walkway over ocean

19.19 – 19.50

Female begins singing again with gentle synthesiser music continuing

Sound of gently lapping waves

Same slowly moving image of the wooden walkway over ocean

19.50 – 20.20

Female singing stops

Gentle synthesiser music stops

Sound of gently lapping waves gradually fades to silence

Image of the wooden walkway over ocean starts to darken and fades to black

The lyrics for the jetty sensory story

18.00-20.20:

YESTERDAY (©Dawn-joy Leong, 2008)

*Yesterday, we were young,
Sandy beaches, too much sun.
Long brisk walks, woods of green,
Sunburnt faces, melting ice-cream.*

*Look, there's you and I,
What a time it was.
Perhaps you never really understood my dreams,
But you were always there for me.
And I was too young myself to see
What it would cost to really be me.
Well, the years would soon tell,
But how was I to know?
I was young, lost and afraid to let it show.
I knew the last time we kissed goodbye
That we'd both grow up at last.
And you will always have a very special place in my heart.
Because my dear, yesterday will never quite be in my past,*

*Here today, separate paths,
Memories still vivid though light years away.
Love will live in our hearts,
Thank you, dear, for yesterday.*

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