

THE SONIC MEMORIAL PROJECT



SonicMemorial.org is a public archive and an online audio installation of the history of The World Trade Center. We are continuing to collect stories, ambient sounds, voicemails, and archival recordings that tell the rich history of the twin towers, the neighborhood and the events of 9/11. **The Sonic Memorial Project** is a collaboration of more than 50 independent radio and new media producers, artists, historians, and people from around the world who have contributed personal and archival recordings. To date, we have gathered more than 1,000 contributions, many of which have been woven into feature stories by Lost & Found Sound and broadcast on National Public Radio.

SonicMemorial.org is produced by Picture Projects and dotsperinch in collaboration with Lost & Found Sound.

Sonic Browser

Explore the sounds of the World Trade Center—wind blowing through the concourse, tourists at the observation deck, the piano player at The Greatest Bar on Earth—by rolling your cursor through this animated listening space.

Archive

Listen to more than 1000 voicemails, stories, interviews, and archival recordings spanning 70 years in the Archive. You can search by keyword or by themes such as Dare Devils, Elevators, Nighttime Sound, or Silence.

Stories

NPR's Lost & Found Sound created a series of award-winning radio documentaries featuring your voicemails and archival sounds. Listen to the stories that were broadcast on NPR: Walking High Steel, the Mohawk Iron Workers; The Building Stewardesses, Radio Row: 1920-1966; and the award-winning One Year Anniversary Special.

Add Your Story

Please help us build this historic archive by calling the Sonic Memorial Phone Line (1-877-894-8500) or by uploading your sounds at sonicmemorial.org.

For Educators

Curriculum for students grades 9-12 helps guide teachers through the issues such as history and identity, how to talk about 9/11, and the role of memorials in our society.

SonicMemorial.org is funded by The Corporation for Public Broadcasting, with additional support from the New York State Council on the Arts, Third Wave Foundation, and Creative Capital.

About Picture Projects

Alison Cornyn and Sue Johnson founded new media documentary firm Picture Projects in 1995 to create an online space for voices traditionally overlooked by mainstream media.

The firm is known for new media documentaries including 360degrees.org: Perspectives on the U.S. Criminal Justice System, akaKURDISTAN.com, and Farewell to Bosnia (www.picture-projects.com/bosnia.html). 360degrees.org won the Pew Center for Civic Journalism's Batten Award, the National Press Club's award for distinguished contribution to online journalism, the Online Journalism Award for Most Creative Use of the Medium, and a Webby Award for net.art.

SonicMemorial.org is a continuation of Picture Projects' history of weaving new technologies with smart design into an ongoing exploration of our social fabric through first-person stories, dynamic data and participatory storytelling; and of the firm's history of working with radio producers to create interactive documentaries online.

About dotsperinch

Dotsperinch was founded by Mark Shepard and Carlos Tejada in 1998. Since then, its network of artists, architects, and technologists have worked collaboratively on the development of exhibitions, installations, kiosks, and Web sites. Recent projects include 360degrees.org - developed in collaboration with Picture Projects; the National Building Museum's virtual exhibit, www.building-america.org; and the UNICEF Video Booth - as well as SonicMemorial.org.

About Lost and Found Sound

The brainchild of producers Nikki Silva and Davia Nelson, a.k.a. The Kitchen Sisters, and Jay Allison, Lost and Found Sound chronicles 20th century history with richly layered radio documentaries mixed with found-sound fragments. Heard periodically on NPR's All Things Considered since 1999, the series won a 1999 George Peabody Award, a 2000 Webby in the Radio category, a Clarion award from Women in Communications, and a Silver Reel from the NFCB. Lost and Found Sound, an ongoing cross-media collaboration, is spearheading The Sonic Memorial Project.

What the press is saying about SonicMemorial.org

“...A compelling argument against concrete memorials: how the space of memory is filled with voices and sounds impossible to design into an object.”

Counter Punch

“The insistence of memory...raw and moving.”

BBC Online

“...a depth far greater than what TV or newspapers could deliver”

The Washington Post Online

“Complete coverage of September 11th, then and now”

The Philadelphia Enquirer Online

“The best alternative form of remembrance out there.”

Media Rights

“...an impressive searchable audio archive of immediate, first-person accounts chronicling this historic event from almost every vantage point.”

Cyberjournalist

The Sonic Memorial Project and SonicMemorial.org have been featured in

The New York Times / ABC's Nightline / ABC.com / BBC and BBC Online

MSNBC.com / Wired (US and South America) / NY1 / PBS.org

C|NET / Cyberjournalist.org / Der Spiegel-Online / Surface / Terra

Awards / Festivals and Exhibitions / Presentations

George Foster Peabody Award / Foundation of American Women In Radio and Television
Gracie Allen Award / Archivists Round Table Award for Innovative Use of Archives / South
by Southwest Film Festival, Interactive Award for Audio/Radio Web Award

The Media Arts Festival in Japan at the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography,
organized by the Agency of Cultural Affairs / 32nd International Film Festival Rotterdam
/ ChiangMai First New Media Festival, Thailand / The Smithsonian Institution's exhibition,
September 11: Bearing Witness to History / MediaRights.org's Media That Matters Film
Festival, New York / The Australian Sound Design Project's 2003 Hearing Place Audio-
theque, Melbourne / Hot Docs Canadian International Film Festival

Society of News Designers, Savannah, GA / Canadian Broadcasting Corporation,
Toronto, Canada / 3rd Coast Audio Festival, Chicago, IL