

Site-Specific Music at Dartington

As the location of a number of pioneering investigations into the expanded field of performance and exhibition, Dartington College of Arts had a long tradition of using the estate as a point of departure for student work across the disciplines taught there. Music was no exception, with the 'Sites Project' a regular fixture of the Spring term for 1st year students.

Yas Clarke's *Snare Drums in a Field* (2008) is one wonderful example among many others from the project. Inspired by a visit from Alvin Lucier the previous year, the piece was conceived for a path that ran through a field on the estate. Conducted by the artist using brightly coloured flags, four drummers played a simple rhythm in unison, with the audience located next to the conductor at one end of the path. The piece was a poetic translation of distance into time, as simultaneously played beats became rhythms based on the time it took for the sound of each drummer to reach the audience.

David Prior, 2017

Yas Clarke - Snare Drums in a Field (2008)

Yas Clarke has gone on to a successful career as a composer, sound artist and sound designer (<http://www.yasclarke.com/about.html>).