Q

A HISTORY OF MUSEUM RADIO IN TWO EPISODES

Episode 1: A History of a History of the World in 100 Objects
19.00–19.45
The isylo and Manfred Gory Lecture Theatre
In 2010 the British Museum and the BBC collaborated on a series of programmes that charted the history of both radio and the Museum. How was it made and what made it so successful? The programme’s creator Robert Kettridge (Head of Arts, Documentaries & Drama, BBC Radio), Jane Ellison (Head of Partnerships, BBC) and J D Hill (Head of Research, British Museum) join in conversation with the V&A’s Head of Research Bill Sherman.

Episode 2: A History of an Object in 100 Worlds
19.45–20.30
The isylo and Manfred Gory Lecture Theatre
What happens if you turn the British Museum’s formula on its head and offer histories of objects instead of the history of the world? V&A staff offer proposals featuring some of the Museum’s most surprising objects.

R

The Decorators: Turn on, Tune in and Drop in Radio
19.00–20.30
Sculpture Garden 50c & 50d
The Decorators’ Radio operates as a pop-up mobile stall designed to encourage conversations in and about the public realm and the relationship we have with it. In collaboration with neuroscientists, mindfulness experts and architects, join them to create a ‘Social Broadcast’ that will explore our emotional and physical relationship with the V&A (space), followed by live ‘On Air’ radio experiments.

#FridayLate

V&A Presents
FRIDAY LATE

Friday 26 February
18.30 – 22.00

Broadcast live at the Museum, February’s Friday Late presents to you Radio V&A. Come and hear broadcasters, DJs, producers and radio art activists take over the Museum airwaves as we investigate the history and culture of radio. From a vital mode of communication to a bite size podcast, explore this iconic medium through oral histories, radical programming and sonic installations.

All events are free and places are designated on a first come, first served basis, unless stated otherwise. Filming and photography will take place at this event.

Please note, if the Museum reaches capacity we will not allow access on a first come, first served basis.

#FridayLate

A

Balamii

Grand Entrance
Balamii is an online radio station based in Peckham, which broadcasts around the world, yet remains rooted in the culture and feel of South London. Started in October 2014 as an iPhone app that played mixes recorded in London’s underground club scene, Balamii has grown into a functioning studio, which now broadcasts live three evenings a week. Having programmeled Robert Desnos’s La Clef des Songes (The Key of Dreams) inspired by the early surrealist radio programme of the same name, Balamii will micro-broadcast dreams across the pots transmit via FM radio or the internet.

Four radiophonic Dream Vessels

For February’s Friday Late, Balamii will launch Four Dream Vessels – a pop-up mobile stall designed to micro-broadcast dreams across the world. On your phone. Dream Vessels is inspired by the early surrealist radio programme of Robert Desnos’s La Clef des Songes (The Key of Dreams) from 1937, which invited listeners to submit their dreams for interpretation and dramatisation, inviting radio dreamers to deliver their secrets as real ones. Maggi Hall has exhibited in the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, the British Museum, Tate Britain, the Sainsbury Centre, Whitechapel Gallery and broadcast internationally. She is a Senior Lecturer at Canterbury Christ Church University UK.

www.magzhall.wordpress.com/
@MaggiHall
G Spoken Word Lammas
Sculpture, Room 25
18.45 & 19.30
What is the power of the spoken word? This performance explores ideas key to radio broadcast – confronting the power of words as communal reaction to live news broadcast. Four Year 10 pupils from Lammas School in Leyton will be performing extracts from the music video recorded during a school trip to the Houses of Parliament, which became YouTube hit – receiving over 5000 views in five days. Abdalla, age 15, wrote the work in response to the Leytonstone tube station stabbing that followed shortly after the large-scale Paris attacks in November 2015. The lyrics act as a direct challenge to the barbarism of terrorist groups such as ISIS as well as the extremism of Islamophobia. lammas.waltham.sch.uk/spoken-word/133.html

H The Sound of Silence by Vicki Bennett (People Like Us)
National Art Library
19.30
Libraries encourage silence, yet are full of words. The broadcast experience is similar – it is all around us yet we have to tune in to actually hear it. Vicki Bennett’s site-specific three and a half hour radio show will be played throughout the course of the evening. It graps from the wide spectrum of sounds picked up when using a radio receiver, from outer space to our inner world. There really is no such thing as silence. Vicki specialises in the manipulation and reworking of original sources from both the experimental and popular worlds of music, film and radio. She was the first artist to be given unrestricted access to the entire BBC Archive. peoplelikeus.org/ @do_or_diy

F East London Radio
Sculpture, Rooms 21-24
Join East London Radio as they explore the oral history of East London through the voices of local independent artists and their own radio DJs and volunteers. From Hackney to Tower Hamlets, they will be featuring East London’s vibrant art scene using sonic postcards, an interactive map and listing stations. Visit their pop up studio to listen to some of their best soundbites of the last three years! Started by Aaron McCarter and Ian Chambers, East London Radio aims to provide routes into radio for young people, recent graduates, the long-term unemployed and those within up and coming areas in East London. The radio’s playlist ranges from soul to disco to hip hop, jungle, grime and even the odd classical track. eastlondonradio.org.uk @EastLondonRadio

I Radio Arts Transmitter workshop
Lunchroom, Learning Centre
19.00, 19.30, 20.00 & 21.00
Is it possible to represent thoughts as electronic frequencies? From the late 1940s, Oxford’s Delawarr Radionic Laboratories conducted experiments to try to find an answer to this. Their activities remain largely unknown, as they worked within the context of fringe science. Experimental composers Daniel Wilson and Toby Clarkson (of Oscillatorial Bimiento) will present to these unusual electronic sound experiments with electroacoustic musical diffusions of collected thought-frequencies. A short documentary introducing Radionics Radio will also be premiered. miraculousassemblages.com @postelectronics

J Radionics Radio
Leighton, Room 107
19.00, 20.00 & 21.00
Is it possible to represent thoughts as electronic frequencies? From the late 1940s, Oxford’s Delawarr Radionic Laboratories conducted experiments to try to find an answer to this. Their activities remain largely unknown, as they worked within the context of fringe science. Experimental composers Daniel Wilson and Toby Clarkson (of Oscillatorial Bimiento) will present to these unusual electronic sound experiments with electroacoustic musical diffusions of collected thought-frequencies. A short documentary introducing Radionics Radio will also be premiered. miraculousassemblages.com @postelectronics

K Casting
Lunchroom, Learning Centre
19.00, 19.30, 20.00, 20.30 & 21.00
Accustomed to the landscape and mythology of Dartmoor and the South Devon coast, overfamiliar with psy-trance, and gong therapy of Totnes culture, Lucinda Guy and Sarah Gray invite you to explore the parallels between radio broadcasting and the casting of spells. Write a message you would like to send out into the ether, then think about it deeply whilst recording a different text on hand held recorders provided. Your recording will then be woven into sine waves to activate sympathetic vibrations. Using portable sound recorders, record your deepest secrets which will be embedded in a frequency of sine waves ready to be cast out into the aether! This activity has limited capacity. soundartradio.org.uk/ L Open Secrets
Leighton, Room 102
What was it like to work at the V&A in 1950s and 1960s? Does anything ever go wrong? Why were V&A staff Christmas parties banned in the 1960s? The answers to these questions are revealed in the V&A oral history, Open Secrets, an ongoing project about the history of curating at the V&A. Pass through the Leighton Corridor and listen in on curators’ secrets. The audio-archive was created by Linda Sandino, CCW/V&A Research Department, Senior Research Fellow in Oral History. soundcloud.com/vamuseumsets/ friday-late-radio-v-a

M Tune-In (Scriptwriting for Radio)
Art Studio, Learning Centre
18.30, 19.00, 19.30, 20.00, 20.30, 21.00 & 21.30
In this 20-minute workshop you will be taught the power of writing for sound. Learn how it can be used to create an atmosphere to engage your listeners’ emotions and imagination. Silence your inner critic in order to reveal your own scriptwriting magnificence. This workshop will be led by Ann Thébault, an award-winning writer of radio drama, documentary, novels, short stories and film, as well as an Associate Lecturer at the London College of Communication, BA (Hons) Advertising, anntheato.co.uk/ @anntheato