



Fermynwoods Contemporary Art
Montague House
Chancery Lane
Thrapston
Northamptonshire NN14 4LN

T +44 (0)1832 731257
E james@fermynwoods.org
www.fermynwoods.org

PRESS RELEASE

SILENCER

Hazel and Thoroughsale Woods

Starting from outside The Corby Cube

George Street, Corby, Northants, NN17 1QG

Sonic Environment Walk, 10am, 17th September 2022

Performance, 2:30pm – 4:30pm, 17th September 2022

Look out for Maja Zećo negotiating Hazel and Thoroughsale Woods from Corby town centre this September as *Silencer*. A performance in a sensory impairment soundwalking suit complete with earplugs and noise-cancelling headphones.

Binaural microphones are hidden in the suit recording the environmental sounds while the surface of the suit absorbs external noise and vibrations.

As Maja experiences the environment in complete silence the suit makes ‘the other’ visible in public while concealing gender, body shape and voice. Performed for the first time in a woodland location, at once both a playful intervention and an unexpected encounter, the work has connotations of protective clothing and social distancing that speak to larger fears of walking through woodland spaces.

Preceding the performance Maja will lead a Sonic Environment Walk, guiding participants on a composed sound journey through the different acoustic areas of Corby woods to experience how soundscapes can shape our sense of belonging.

The workshop and *Silencer* performance will begin and end outside The Corby Cube and can be spotted close to the main entrance at around 2:30pm and 4:30pm.

Editors Notes

Funded by Arts Council England as part of *Xylophobia*, Fermynwoods Contemporary Art's two-year programme from 2022-2024. Named from the fear of wooden objects or forests, *Xylophobia* addresses issues of place and belonging, which go to the heart of community feelings of exclusion from both the art world and woodland space.

Maja Zećo is an interdisciplinary artist who creates immersive art through performance, sound art, video and installation. Born in Sarajevo (Bosnia) and resident in Aberdeen, many of her works investigate sonic phenomena through performance art where she explores her relationship with place and ways in which soundscapes shape our sense of belonging, identity and locality. Maja is a Lecturer in Contemporary Art Practice at Gray's School of Art, Robert Gordon University, was Aberdeen Art Gallery's first artist-in-residence following the gallery's landmark redevelopment.

More information at: <https://fermywoods.org/silencer-maja-zeco>