

WAVES OF RESONANCE

Impact Report



2021
2030
United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

European
MARINE BOARD
Advancing Seas & Ocean Science

EMBracing the Ocean artist-in-residence project Reporting period April 2024 - October 2025

"An incredible immersion into a fascinating, enigmatic, frightening, and beautiful world. We lose all our bearings and learn to hear in order to see better. To look differently. With our ears and heart. We resonate"

- Exhibition attendee



Co-design process:

During her EMBracing the Ocean project, artist Elise Guillaume developed the surround soundscape "Waves of Resonance" in partnership with environmental psychologist Dr. Marine Severin and acoustic ecologist Dr. Clea Parcerisas. Waves of Resonance features marine sounds, including anthropogenic noise, biological and geophonic sounds, recorded in the North Sea and the Arctic. By including sounds that are typically inaudible to human ears, Waves of Resonance aims to stir emotions like awe, which are known to strengthen our connection to nature and enact pro-environmental attitudes. Together, they led research workshops where participants engaged with the evolving sound piece to enrich the creative process and generate data that shaped the soundscape's final output, while advancing research into the psychological impact of listening to marine sounds. The project will continue beyond the EMBracing the Ocean residency.

Project outputs:

- Participation in three research campaigns onboard the VLIZ research vessel *Simon Stevin* to gain insight into the process of sound recordings for scientific research.
- Development of surround soundscape "Waves of Resonance".
- Research workshops held at Royal College of Art, London (3 October 2024), [Day of Marine Science](#), Ostend, Belgium (24 November 2024), and La Chapelle Jeanne d'Arc Centre d'Art Contemporain d'Intérêt National (17th June 2025).
- ["Par le corps"](#) solo exhibition at La Chapelle Jeanne d'Arc Centre d'Art Contemporain d'Intérêt National in Thouars, France (20 March – 22 September 2025), featuring "Waves of Resonance". Ocean literacy activities using sound snippets from "Waves of Resonance" were held with youth during the exhibition.
- [EMB Third Thursday Science webinar](#) (19 June 2025).
- A series of photographs of acoustic recording onboard the *Simon Steven* research vessel, developed using seaweed-based developer solution.
- [Video](#) about the development of the "Waves of Resonance" project, available on the EMB YouTube Channel.
- Various talks given by Elise which highlight the "Waves of Resonance" project, including at the Royal College of Art alumni sessions, London (5 August 2024), the "Land and Earth Art" seminar at Zurich University of the Arts (7 November 2024, online), and at the opening of "Par le corps" exhibition with the director of the art center, Martial Déflacieux, and moderated by art critic Pauline Lisowski (21 March 2025).

Key impact:

- Workshops engaging participants in ocean literacy.
- Raised awareness about the sounds of climate change and the critical issue of noise pollution in the North Sea
- Advancement of art-science reciprocal collaboration towards developing solutions for sustainable development and the relationship between ocean and human health.
- Results from the research workshops indicate that experiencing the "Waves of Resonance" soundpiece decreases negative mood and stress, with participants reporting a high level of ocean connectedness overall.

Project longevity:

- Solo exhibition at Five Years Archway in London UK (9 - 19 October 2025).
- Aspects of the project will be featured in the film ["WITHIN, FROM BELOW"](#) developed by Elise and supported by the [Sound Image Culture](#) programme and the [Science New Wave Film Fund](#), which will be released in 2026.
- Planned publication of research results on the impact of the soundpiece on participants well-being, emotional experience and ocean literacy.
- A podcast episode with [Le.s Sensible.s](#) is planned for September 2025.
- Elise and Marine will continue to explore whether ocean sounds can be used in therapeutic contexts.

IMPACT IN NUMBERS

2 EXHIBITIONS

Showing the work

2,400+ VISITORS

At the exhibition

3 WORKSHOPS

With a total of 80 participants from a range of ages, nationalities and socio-demographics.

3 TALKS

Mentioning the project

2 VIDEOS

Featuring the project

261 VIEWS ON YOUTUBE

Of videos related to the project

510 PAGE VISITS

To project webpage on EMB website

13 INSTAGRAM POSTS

Promoting the project

5 PRESS ARTICLES

In international media outlets

"A beautiful message for the preservation of nature. Waves of Resonance is a particularly striking and soothing experience. It's a reminder of how much humans need nature, how little we are aware of the world around us, and how important it is to protect it"

- Exhibition attendee

