

Christina

Oslo

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2019

Kubisch

Walks —

Electrical



is a work in progress, which started in 2003. It is a public walk with special, sensitive wireless headphones by which the acoustic perceptibility of aboveground and underground electromagnetic fields is not suppressed, but rather amplified.

The transmission of sound is made by built-in coils which respond to the electromagnetic waves in our environment. The palette of these sounds, their timbre and volume, vary from site to site and from country to country. They have one thing in common: they are omnipresent, even where one would not expect them. The perception of everyday reality changes when one listens to this hidden electromagnetic world. Nothing looks the way it sounds. And nothing sounds the way it looks.

Using these headphones is not harmful, but please be cautious as certain sound sources, particularly security gates, can be extremely loud. Never walk through a security gate with the headphones on.

Walk slowly and occasionally stop and simply turn your head from side to side. Electromagnetic fields can vary within very short distances. The route indicated on the map is a suggestion only. Feel free to explore the city as you choose. Some of the sounds indicated on the map may not be present all the time.

Please turn your headphones off when not in use in order to save battery life, and return them promptly after your walk. Treat them carefully, they are custom made. The electromagnetic walks have been presented worldwide. The walk in Oslo is Nr. 77 in the series.

- Sentralen
- 1
- Handout of the headphones and maps. The walk is free but you will be asked to leave some ID. Test your headphones: listen to the various screens and electronic locks in the entrance area. Leave the building.
- Street Corner
- 2
- Stop and observe the various signals from the tram lines. Try different positions. Cross the street.
- Security Gates
- 3
- Stand near the entrance of the Filippa K shop. Caution: the sound is very loud – do not stand too near. Move away and compare with the security system in the entrance of Acne Studios. Cross the street and listen to Zara.
- Stortinget T-Bane
- 4
- Go down to the T-bane (Metro) station. Next to the stairs you'll see two large advertising screens on your right. Listen very closely and move your head. Explore more light screens and electronic displays in the area (not all of them sound). Then take the escalator and listen as close as possible to the small light screens in the wall while going down. They all sound different.
- T-Bane (Metro) Hall
- 5
- Discover the various sounds of the ticket machines, LED lights, etc. Then take the escalator up on the opposite side and exit at Lille Grensen.
- Lille Grensen
- 6
- A sharp rhythmic ticking signal welcomes you when you exit the station. Go along the street and explore more security gates, for example the ones at Power. Turn around the corner to your left until you reach the sport outlet.
- Sport Outlet
- 7
- Go into the entrance area and move under the two white boxes hanging from the ceiling. Create your own audio patterns.
- ATM Machines
- 8
- Cross the street and go to the two ATM machines of the DNB bank. Listen to the screens up close. Enjoy the variety of signals.

- Parliament Building (Stortinget)
- 9
- Cross the park and observe the various antenna signals. Remove and switch off your headphones — give your ears a brief rest. If you feel tired, this is a good moment to break off and return them. Otherwise go down Rosenkrantz gata until you reach Rolf Strangers plass. Put on your headphone again. Now you can explore the electrical harbour atmosphere.
- Self-Driving Bus
- 10
- Go to the bus stop for the red self-drive bus, and take a trip with Mads or Oda. Enjoy the musical harmonies and sudden breaks — it's a special experience.
- Harbour (Rådhusplassen)
- 11
- Proceed to the harbour in the direction of Aker Brygge. Enjoy the view and the various signals.
- Aker Brygge
- 12
- Listen to the signals between the ferry departures signs B, C and D, then continue to walk along Stranden. Turn right at Riggersgata.
- Underground Parking
- 13
- Enter the car park. The entrance is just before the Decaux light screen in the passage to your left. Take the elevator down to level C/D. When you get out turn left and enter parking level C. Go to the right and stop at the column with the grey router-like object in front of the blue door. Listen closely. Great rhythm. Explore the car park with care. Take the same elevator up and continue to walk down Riggergangen.
- Bryggetorget
- 14
- Enter the square and approach the six big antennas above the metal parking pavillon. Listen to the strong signals from different angles. Stroll along Holmens gata and continue back to Aker Brygge tram stop.
- Tram Ride
- 15
- Take the no. 12 tram from Aker Brygge. Stay on for two stops while listening to the electromagnetic melodies. Get off at Øvre Slottsgata. Please switch off your headphones and return them straight away to Sentralen.
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- Special recommendation: Oslo Sentralstasjon (Oslo central train station). Take the tram to Jernbanetorget (outside Oslo central station). Walk around all the platforms 1–11, moving as close as possible to the neon lights and picking up the beautiful electromagnetic variations.

- 1 Sentralen
- 2 Street Corner
- 3 Security Gates
- 4 Stortinget T-Bane
- 5 T-Bane (Metro) Hall
- 6 Lille Grensen
- 7 Sport Outlet
- 8 ATM Machines
- 9 Parliament/Stortinget
- 10 Self-Driving Bus
- 11 Harbour (Rådhusplassen)
- 12 Aker Brygge
- 13 Underground Parking
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- 15 Tram Ride

