

RADIO GARDENING

by **Manthos Karras**

Plunge into a radiophonic Babel and start to wander. Pass from the Balkans for traditional music, head to Northern Europe for radio plays and choirs, make a stop in Asia for thai nursery rhymes, travel to the Middle East for amanes, listen to advertisements from the African continent, swing between preaching in some southern American state, weather forecasts for the pacific islands and breaking news in Russia, rush to Japan for some j-pop or further south to India for astrological predictions.

This radio show is a sound collage of excerpts recorded from dozens of radio stations broadcasting in the four corners of the world, during the first months of the Covid 19 pandemic. The creative process is based on individual rotation decisions in the radio garden platform. The transmissions are often played simultaneously creating unexpected multicultural sonic results.

about Radio Garden:

The interactive web platform Radio Garden allows the user to have a unique radio experience. The project's interface is comprised of a Google Earth style globe that is dotted with numerous bright green points — each symbolizing a radio station. By simply spinning this virtual Earth, the user can tune in to any station he wishes around the globe.

Radio Garden started out in 2016 as an exhibition project commissioned by the Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision in the context of the research project Transnational Radio Encounters. It was created, designed and developed by Amsterdam-based Studio Puckey & Moniker.

One of the app's founders Jonathan Puckey says:

"We had the idea to make a modern version of the old world receiver radio sets ... We hoped to recreate this magical feeling of travelling across the globe blindly, relying on the sense of hearing and the knowledge of location to bring these live radio stations to life.

The globe should act a kind of dérivé device; people should be able to get lost and use their ears to paint the picture of the location.

Hopefully we can also remind people that those borders that divide us are just in our minds. Radio knows no borders.

The beauty of radio is that while radio signals themselves cross borders, radio studios have very fixed locations and are therefore always regional in nature.

Radio is at its best when it represents local tastes and cultures.

Our hope is to provide an alternative to the fibreless fare currently provided to us by technology giants. I see young people questioning the ease and emptiness of algorithmic playlists and taking back control over their listening"

External links

radio.garden

