

## fjk3 – Contemporary Art Space

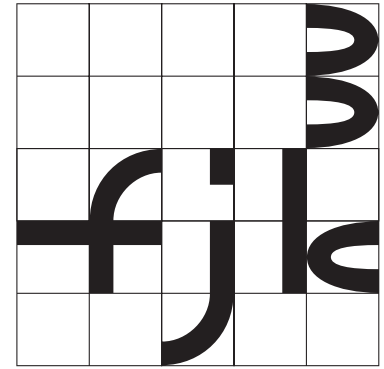
Franz-Josefs-Kai 3  
1010 Wien, Austria

### Susan Philippsz

Curator:  
Fiona Liewehr

Opening: Wed, June 26, 2024, 7 p.m.  
Exhibition until Sept 15, 2024

Opening hours:  
Wed – Sun: 12 noon – 6 p.m.  
Fri: 12 noon – 8 p.m.



Contemporary Art Space

For some thirty years now, **Susan Philippsz** (born in Glasgow in 1965) has been exploring the **psychological and sculptural potential of sound** with recordings of her voice and re-worked musical compositions. Guided by her interest in the power of sound to trigger emotion, the artist responds to the architecture and history of the spaces where her pieces are installed. Her art prompts introspection and an engagement with personal and collective memories. **Loss, separation, and longing** are recurring themes throughout her oeuvre, in which the transitions begin to blur between a visual sense of architectural space and the subjective experience of the emotional spaces of soundscapes.

Combining **sound installations** and **sculptures** with **cinematic and photographic works**, Susan Philippsz' **Vienna exhibition creates an atmospheric space of remembrance** that inspires awareness of the architectural features of the exhibition venue and its eventful history. Conceived specifically for this show, her **Sound Mirrors** harkens back to the early decades of the building at Franz Josefs Kai 3. Built in 1904 by architect Julius Goldschläger, today's exhibition spaces initially housed the offices of the renowned ceramic tile company Brüder Schwadron. With its two parabolic mirrors, this work merges the visual self-perception of visitors and the spatial experience of the architecture with the original preserved tiled ceiling while the artist's voice echoes between them, creating a **space for reflection and projection**.

**Recalling past events and voices into the present** is a constant in Philippsz' art – particularly in the context of World War II and its destruction of human lives and culture. In this show, her 12-channel sound installation **Study for Strings (violin)** from 2018 and the film installation **Sokol Terezín** (2023) are exemplary of this approach. Both draw on elements of an orchestral work that **Czech-Jewish composer Pavel Haas** composed in the Terezín / Theresienstadt concentration camp before being murdered in Auschwitz. His Study for String Orchestra premiered as part of the Nazi propaganda film *Theresienstadt. Ein Dokumentarfilm aus dem jüdischen Siedlungsgebiet* ("Theresienstadt: A Documentary Film from the Jewish Settlement Area") documenting the supposedly good living conditions of European Jews in the ghetto. Philippsz' sound installation and her film, which takes us through extant rooms of the former ghetto, are based on instrumental sequences the artist has isolated, note by note, from Haas' composition. This process of **deconstructing** and **rearranging** heightens the **awareness of absence and loss**.

The **double vinyl record Sound Mirrors** has been released as an edition to accompany the exhibition.

## **Biography**

Susan Philipsz, born in Glasgow in 1965, currently lives and works in Berlin. In 2010 she received the Turner Prize and was awarded the OBE for her services to British art in 2014. Since the mid-1990s, her sound installations have been presented in many prestigious institutions and public venues around the world, including solo exhibitions at the ARoS, Aarhus, DK (2023), SF MoMA, San Francisco (2022), Kunstmuseum Bonn (2021), Castello di Rivoli, Rivoli, IT (2019), Tate Modern (2018) and Tate Britain (2015), London, Bonniers Konsthall, Stockholm (2017), Kunsthaus Bregenz, AT (2016), Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (2014), Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA (2013), K21 Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf (2013), Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL (2011), Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO (2011), Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH (2010), Museum Ludwig, Cologne (2009). Installations by Philipsz were on view at Skulptur Projekte Münster, GER (2007), the 55th Carnegie International, Pittsburgh, PA (2008), the dOCUMENTA 13, Kassel (2012), and the National Gallery of Victoria Triennial, Melbourne (2020).

## **Guided exhibition tours**

### **Sunday tours**

Sun, July 7, 2024, 5 p.m.

Sun, July 21, 2024, 5 p.m.

Sun, Aug 4, 2024, 5 p.m.

Sun, Sept 8, 2024, 5 p.m.

No registration required, free of charge

### **Curator's tours**

Fri, July 19, 7 p.m.

Fri, Sept 13, 7 p.m.

No registration required, free of charge

Individual guided tours (maximum 25 visitors) upon request via [info@fjk3.com](mailto:info@fjk3.com)