

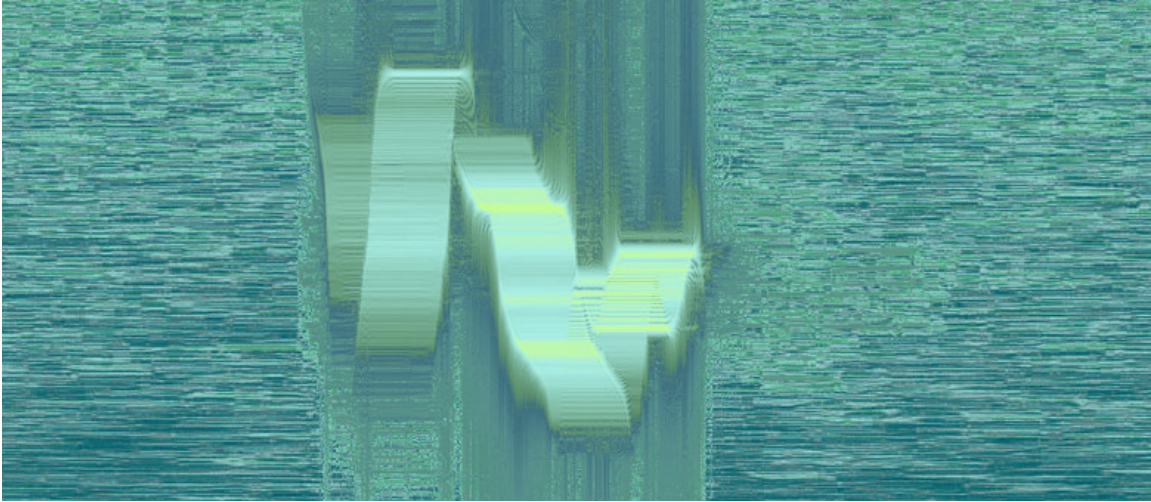
# JEFF TALMAN STUDIO – NEW YORK

*exquisitely muted... luminously still* – The New York Times

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## PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT

*Music at St. Paul's, Columbia University presents*



*spectrograph: Vireo philadelphicus, birdsong*

## **WHEN SOARING SINGS**

*– sound installation –*

Birdsong, calls and choruses from over 100 species are sound source to Jeff Talman's new installation in collaboration with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Celebrating the cycles of regrowth, the work explores the sounds of bird species that return to nest in New York State in the spring.

Intertwined with humanity as life partners of the planet, birds are a vast source of sacred and secular inspiration and utility. The dove, thunderbird, eagle, raven, swan – birds as symbols of peace, spirituality, love, death, flight, freedom, nations and more provide continued meaning and wonder today. As environmental concerns and risk to bird populations increase, scientific explorations also offer further diverse study including those in avian-borne diseases, and the extraordinarily rarified, GPS-like organic mechanisms of the homing instinct.

Mozart, Beethoven, Wagner, Rimsky-Korsakov, Stravinsky, Messiaen and many others relate to birds in their music. Respighi, perhaps inevitably, went forward with the available technology in 1924 to first feature the recorded song of a nightingale in his orchestral work, *The Pines of Rome*. Continuing in this tradition Talman's multi-channel sound composition explores the inherent qualities of melodic shape, rhythm and unique tonal coloration of these extraordinary avian sounds.

**Exhibition** – Presented by [Music at St. Paul's](#), Columbia University. Migratory bird species identification and field recordings of bird song, calls and choruses are provided by the [Macaulay Library](#) of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

### **Schedule**

Tuesday	March 31	2-10 PM, 6:30 artist presentation
Wednesday	April 1	7-8 PM
Friday	April 3	7-8 PM
Saturday	April 4	6-8 PM
Easter Sunday	April 5	1-8 PM
Monday	April 6	7-8 PM
Tuesday	April 7	7:15-8:15 PM (concert precedes the installation, 6-7 PM)
Wednesday	April 8	7-8 PM
Friday	April 10	7-8 PM
Saturday	April 11	6-8 PM
Sunday	April 12	2-3 PM
Monday	April 13	7-8 PM

**Acknowledgements** – Many thanks to the Lab and Lab Director John Fitzpatrick, Macaulay Library Director Michael Webster, Lab Audio Production Engineer Mathew Young, St. Paul's Chapel, [The Earl Hall Center at Columbia University](#), Associate Director Suzanne Jung, Program Manager Denis Dobbins and University Chaplain and Director of The Earl Hall Center Jewelnel Davis.

**Jeff Talman** – A recognized "pioneer of the use of resonance in artworks" (Intute at Oxford University), Talman has created numerous sound installations including works for Cathedral Square-Cologne, Galleria Mazzini-Genoa, Rothko Chapel, the MIT Media Lab, The Kitchen, Eyebeam, the Bavarian Forest (four installations) and in museums, galleries and alternative spaces internationally. His major achievement is the +15-year exploration of reflexive resonance, in which ambient resonance becomes an installation's only sound source. The installations, which may also include video and objects, often feature the collaborative expertise of scientists from many institutions, including NASA, the Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy, MIT and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Trained as a composer, he also studied visual arts as an undergraduate. Talman attended and then directed orchestras at Columbia University and the City College of New York. Awards include those from the Guggenheim Foundation, the New York Foundation for the Arts and artists residencies internationally. His third CD, *Moments From The Sun* will be released in 2015.

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video documentation: <http://vimeo.com/channels/653325>