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White Noise Mixtape

Organized by Tenaya Izu and Henry Murphy
in participation with The Racial Imaginary Institute Biennial

The White Noise Mixtape is an audio collage featuring music, readings, and other sonic contributions. Contributors include musicians, poets, artists, and comedians who we see in dialogue with the theme of “white noise.”

We chose to begin with a lot of found cassettes well into decrepitude-- obsolete plastic artifacts eroded by time, their content disintegrating into noise. Each unique reclaimed cassette features these contributions dubbed over and intertwined with remaining original recordings and samples of found audio.

Occupying the body of a dying host, mingling fresh and fossil, the tapes’ original residual content becomes fertilizer for the efflorescent collage that will too in time crumble.

We use the framework of “white noise” to acknowledge the presence/non-presence of whiteness as an “inevitable” landscape in which we exist. Whiteness frequently saturates both the foreground and background of our lived experiences to the point where it becomes a dull roar of white noise: mundane in its ever-presence, yet sinister in its ability to drown out other sounds. The White Noise Mixtape seeks to amplify the sonically relevant by cutting through this static.

SIDE A

1. Yanyi - “Compartments”
 2. Soleil Grant - “REVELATION INTERLUDE”
 3. DJ Afifa - “The history of Ganja in Jamaica”
- found audio---
4. Jes Tom - “Excerpts from Jes Tom at NAPAWF's Queering Asian American Feminisms” 4/22/18
 5. Jazze Belle - “Dark Arts”

SIDE B

- found audio---
1. Catalina Ouyang - “untitled”
 2. Lee Chin - “This American Life: Leaving Your Mark”
- found audio---
3. Justin Allen - “a city”
 4. Skype Willams - “(Demo) I Hope You Don't Fuck It Up”