

"What else than a natural and mighty palimpsest is the human brain? ...Everlasting layers of ideas, images, feelings, have fallen upon your brain softly as light. Each succession has seemed to bury all that went before. And yet in reality not one has been extinguished."

This quotation from the English essayist Thomas De Quincey (from "Suspiria de Profundis", 1845) was for me the stimulus for the sound composition "Palimpsest - A Sound Biography".

What is happening to us every day: sounds arouse images, images arouse sounds or situations from long past years to life, as fresh as they are now - this process I apply on my personal sound archive from about 40 years. Under the layer of banal noises from my today's living environment, sound events from long past years are emerging - voices of people who no longer live or whose voices have changed by the time; natural sounds or music from places of many countries that were important to me - or quotes from a long working life with "sound" in all kinds of genres. These own sound memories mingle with small sound gifts from friends and colleagues. The abrupt and random sounds and voices begin to interact miraculously, beyond time and space, creating a new fleeting and kaleidoscopic presence.

As our recollection from the palimpsest of our memory seems to be arbitrarily happening, I left the selection to a random generator in the tradition of John Cage, which has the sense of humor to quote him from time to time: *"I do not work with intention, I work with non-intention."*



**palimpsest -
a sound biography**

Sound composition by Götz Naleppa

Recordings and composition: Götz Naleppa
Using numerous sound gifts -
My thanks to friends, colleagues and companions.

Duration: 48'58"
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Götz Naleppa / Januar 2017