

## Charlie Usher

Brussels BE, born 1987 in UK



Selected performances / exhibitions / interventions (solo practice and collaborations)

- 2026 — New installation work - **Oscillation** Festival, **iMal** and **Q-O2** Brussels  
Sound intervention in exhibition by Mladen Bundalo - **MSURS** Banja Luka Bosnia  
Posthumous realisation of new work by **Hanne Darboven** in collaboration with **Victor Guaita** and the  
**Hanne Darboven Foundation** Hamburg DE. Première 2027/28 at **Concertgebouw Brugge** BE  
*Eye Below Ear* (contribution to audio release by **Slow Reading Club** / **Kunsthall Mechelen** BE)  
*Psychic Rally in Heavens* (sound contribution for sculptures with **Nina Emge**),  
group exhibition **EMBODIED SURFACES**, **La Rada** Locarno CH
- 2025 *Learning* - double CD / digital release - **Edições CN**  
*Sweats* - **queerANarchive** - **Galerija MKC** Dom Mladih Split Croatia  
*Something is approaching* (sound for performance by **Carolina Mendonça**) - (**BUDA** Kortrijk and  
**Beursschouwburg** Brussels BE)  
Live organ, percussion and playback performance with Henry Andersen - **0930-0530** Antwerp BE  
*Fugue* - **visual score / performance** for expo and publication by **Céline Mathieu** and **Aaron Amar Bhamra** -  
**Jester** Genk BE and **Mousse Publishing**  
Live bontempi organ performance - **Moving Pictures** New Polyphonies Brussels
- 2024 *Learning* with **Slow Reading Club** - **BOEKS** Ghent  
*Mixed feelings* - **M Leuven** Leuven BE
- 2023 *Parakeet Chronicles* (soundtrack for film by **Adler Murada**) - **Black box**, **Beursschouwburg** Brussels  
*Mixed feelings* (edition for exhibition *Infinite Play* (Marina Pinsky)) - **La Loge** Brussels  
*The Third Room* (performance by Christine de Smedt, Theo Livesey and Liza Baliasnaja) - **BUDA** Kortrijk BE  
*CAVES-3* (sound for performance by **Aubrey Birch**) - **Kunsthau Zürich** CH  
*Uncovers* - soundtrack loop for capsule collection pre-release, w/ **Wang Consulting**, **Cunst-link** Brussels
- 2022 *The Third Room* - **De Singel** Antwerp  
*CAVES-3* (sound for performance by **Aubrey Birch**) - **KANAL-Centre Pompidou** Brussels  
*No one cried* (sound for film by **Daniel Jacoby**) - **e-flux Screening Room** New York City  
*No one cried* - **Reykjavik International Film Festival**  
*The Oceanographies Institute* (*Singing with Our Ancestors*)  
More-than-Human Encounters Series, **Kaaistudio's** Bruxelles BE
- 2021 *So calm and don't want to end* solo piano with ensemble - **BBC Radio 3** / **An Assembly** commission/broadcast  
*Step in* (remix of **Pan** / **Federico Protto**) - tape release  
*Heart-crack* (sound for film by **Aubrey Birch**), *100 ways to say we*,  
**Theater Neumarkt** / **Goethe-Institut** / **Venice Biennale of Architecture**  
*Mixed feelings* installation and solo performance, group exhibition *Rosa Rosa Rosae Rosae*  
curated by **Pauline Hatzigeorgiou**; **Maison Pelgrims** Brussels  
*No one cried* - **Reykjavik International Film Festival**  
*Psychic Rally in Heavens* (sound contribution for sculptures with **Nina Emge**),  
group exhibition *Modern Nature*, **La Beque** CH  
*No one cried* - **Moscow International Film Festival**  
*Everything I don't know I've stolen* (sound for performance by **Petar Sarjanović**)  
**ImPulsTanz**, **Kasino am Schwarzenbergplatz** Vienna AT  
*The Oceanographies Institute* (workshop-performances with Marialena Marouda & Elpida Orfanidou)  
**Dansand** Festival, **KAAP** Ostend BE  
*So calm and don't want to end* - **Ben Smith**; **Musicon** Durham UK  
*Future perfect* (with **Slow Reading Club** (Henry Andersen and Bryana Fritz)) - **Art by Translation**  
*No one cried* - **International Film Festival Rotterdam** NL  
*Mixed feelings* exhibition - **STUK** Leuven BE  
*Mixed feelings* live piano solo - **Oscillation** Festival, **Q-O2** Brussels  
*CAVES-3* (sound for performance by **Aubrey Birch**) - **KANAL-Centre Pompidou** Brussels  
*Timepiece* (contribution to project by **Berno Odo Polzer** / **Peter Ablinger**)  
**MaerzMusik** Festival, **Berliner Festspiele** Berlin DE
- 2020 *Mixed feelings* solo exhibition - **Galerie DuflonRacz** Brussels  
*The Oceanographies Institute* performer / composer - **C-Takt#4** festival; **C-Mine** Genk BE

- Pink dusts* (sound/light performance and installation for **Daniel Jacoby**) - **A Tale of a Tub** Rotterdam NL  
*The Oceanographies Institute* - Festival **Implantieren** Frankfurt am Main DE  
*Everything I don't know I've stolen* (**Petar Sarjanović**) -  
**Bâtard Festival; Zilverenzaal, Beursschouwburg** Brussels
- 2019 *Mixed feelings* durational solo performance - **Bâtard Festival; Gouden Zaal, Beursschouwburg** Brussels  
*Mixed feelings* solo performance - **The Pool** Brussels  
*Pink dusts* (sound/light score/performance for **Daniel Jacoby**) - **Galerie Antoine Levi** Paris FR  
*Mixed feelings* performance w/ **Emma Lloyd - Volksroom** Brussels  
*The expression of an egg* (sound for film by **Daniel Jacoby**) - **Edith-Russ-Haus for Media Art** Oldenburg DE  
*Mixed feelings* performance w/ **Emma Lloyd, Q-O2** Brussels
- 2018 *An assembly* - **An assembly**; UK tour  
*So calm and don't want to end* - **Albert Kim**; US tour
- 2017 *Site of the ruins* - **Emma Lloyd / Joshua Hyde; ÉASF** Paris  
*So calm and don't want to end* - **Miki Sawada**; US tour
- 2016 *Euphrates from the escarpment, western edge* - **SoundInitiative; Église Saint-Merri** Paris FR  
*So calm and don't want to end* - **Miki Sawada**  
*Euphrates from the escarpment, western edge* - **SoundInitiative; Flix** ES
- 2015 *Someone besides what they do* - **EXAUDI / James Weeks; The Warehouse** London
- 2014 *Western edge, euphrates, desert tract* - **London Sinfonietta; Kings Place** London
- 2012 *Yawl Ketch Schooner Brig* - **Oliver Coates; Purcell Room, Southbank Centre** London
- 2011 *Green distance* - **Katelyn Clark; First Presbyterian Church** Brooklyn Heights
- 2010 *Slow pan* - **BCMG / James Weeks; CBSO Centre** Birmingham UK / **BBC Radio 3**
- 2009 *Dateland / Public service / Jojoba farms* - the **New York Miniaturist Ensemble; Lincoln Center** NYC  
*Rasafeh from the air* - **BBC Concert Orchestra; Royal Festival Hall** London UK / **BBC Radio 3**
- 2008 *Rothko rothko* - **BBC Philharmonic Orchestra; BBC Studios** Manchester UK / **BBC Radio 3**

#### Education / mentoring

- 2010/2012/2014 Mentored with **Tom Johnson, Antoine Beuger, Howard Skempton**  
 2005 - 2009 Degree (*BMus first class honours*), **RNCM**, Manchester

#### Organising

- 2022 — **Winona** Brussels (more info: [winona.cloud](http://winona.cloud))  
 Running and curation of unfunded non-profit project space with Henry Andersen and Sabrina Seifried. Season 2025 consisted of 7 exhibitions, 3 performances, 2 talks and 77 artworks by 23 artists.
- 2014 - 2015 Curator of concert season **Dedans / dehors - ÉASF**, Paris -  
*Music from the peripheries – un long regard sur les pratiques expérimentales de ces cinquante d'années :*  
*Cage, Radigue, Oliveros, and those in their stead.*

#### Residencies / workshops / research trips (solo practice unless specified)

- 2026 **Hanne Darboven Stiftung**, Harburg-Hamburg DE
- 2025 **Beursschouwburg** Brussels, **BUDA** Kortrijk, **PACT Zollverein** Essen *Something is Approaching*
- 2023 **BUDA** Kortrijk *The Third Room*
- 2022 **Theatre la Balsamine** Brussels (*Everything I don't know, I have stolen* (Petar Sarjanović))  
**De Singel** Antwerp *The Third Room* (with Christine de Smedt, Theo Livesey and Liza Baliasnaja)  
**NAU Ivanov** Barcelona *The Third Room*  
**BUDA** Kortrijk *The Third Room*  
**Kaai Studio's/Workspace** Brussels *The Third Room*  
**wpZimmer** Antwerp *The Third Room*
- 2021 **LOD muziektheater Bijloke** Ghent (with Clara Levy and Victor Guaita)  
**wpZimmer** Antwerp (with *The Oceanographies Institute*)  
**STUK** Leuven  
**C-Takt** Neerpelt, Belgium

**Q-O2** Brussels (solo practice)  
**Q-O2** Brussels (with *The Oceanographies Institute*)  
 2020 **Q-O2** (with *The Oceanographies Institute*)  
**BUDA** Kortrijk (with *The Oceanographies Institute*)  
**Q-O2** Brussels  
**C-Takt** Neerpelt (with *The Oceanographies Institute*)  
 2019 **Workspace Brussels** (with *The Oceanographies Institute*)  
**BUDA** Kortrijk (*Everything I don't know, I have stolen* (Petar Sarjanović))  
**Edith-Russ-Haus for Media Art** Oldenburg DE (*The expression of an egg* (Daniel Jacoby))  
 2016 Workshop *In Vivo Dance* with **Xavier Le Roy**, CN D and Centre Pompidou, Paris  
 Workshops with **Hanna Hartman**, Flix Catalonia  
 2013 **Soundings Festival, Austrian Cultural Forum** London  
 2012 **Jerwood DanceEast** Ipswich UK  
 2011 **Banff Centre**, Canada

#### Other

2015 - 2016 Promotion by **Sound and Music New Voices**  
 2006 - 2009 Promotion by **Sound and Music UK**  
 2004 **Guardian/BBC Proms Young Composer of the Year**

#### Side hustles

2024 — Registrar, art handler / install technician, general support work, fixed position; Gallery Greta Meert, Brussels  
 2020 — Fabrication and production (sculpture, murals, etc) / carpentry for various (visual) artists  
 Freelance art handling for museum and galleries

[mixedfeelings.biz](http://mixedfeelings.biz)

[winona.cloud](http://winona.cloud)

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#### Biography

Charlie Usher (1987 BE/UK) is a composer living in Brussels, working with composed and found sound, heart-on-sleeve cultural samples, installations of rotary and handmade speakers and live instruments; in museum, gallery and concert hall contexts.

His work moves materials through detailed editing protocols, horizontal time structures, and other formal constraints, staging them within acoustics not typically considered fit for sound, to mobilise shifting modes of attention to interrogate the act of listening and relating to information we hear.

His solo and collaborative work has been installed and performed over Europe and North America, including amongst others, Q-O2, KANAL-Centre Pompidou, Kaaistudio's and Beursschouwburg, Brussels; STUK, De Singel, Jester and Boeks, Belgium; La Becque Switzerland, Berliner Festspiele Berlin, Dom Mladih Split Croatia; e-flux screening room NYC, Lincoln Center NYC, South Bank Centre, London, and during multiple US and UK tours.

Recent releases include *Learning*, a double CD edition of his collaboration with Slow Reading Club, released by Ediçoes CN in 2025 with an accompanying text by Bill Dietz; and a sheet-music contribution to *Fugue*, an exhibition and accompanying publication by Celine Mathieu, Aaron Amar Bhamra, curated by Koi Persyn, with Mousse Publishing and at Jester, Genk BE.

Since 2022 he co-runs the project space Winona with Sabrina Seifried and Henry Andersen.