



# TAYLOR DEUPREE

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## BIOGRAPHY

Technology and imperfection. The raw and the processed. Curator and curated. Solo explorer and gregarious collaborator. The life and work of Taylor Deupree (b. 1971) are less a study in contradictions than a portrait of the multidisciplinary artist in a still-young century.

Deupree is an accomplished sound artist whose recordings, rich with abstract atmospherics, have appeared on numerous record labels, and well as in site-specific installations at such institutions as the ICC (Tokyo, Japan) and the Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media (Yamaguchi, Japan). He started out, in the 1990s, making new noises that edged outward toward the fringes of techno, and in time he found his own path to follow. His music today emphasizes a hybrid of natural sounds and technological mediation. It's marked by a deep attention to stillness, to an almost desperate near-silence. His passion for the studio as a recording instrument is paramount in his work, but there is no hint of digital idolatry. If anything, his music shows a marked attention to the aesthetics of error, to the short circuits not only in technological systems but in human perception.

And though there is an aura of insularity to Deupree's work, he is a prolific collaborator, having worked with the likes of Stephan Mathieu, Christopher Willits, Kenneth Kirschner, Eisi, Frank Bretschneider, Richard Chartier, Savvas Ysatis, and Tetsu Inoue.

Deupree dedicates as much time to other people's music as he does to his own. In 1997 he founded the record label 12k, which since then has released over 80 recordings by some of the most accomplished musicians and sound artists of our time, among them Alva Noto, Steve Roden, Ryuichi Sakamoto, and Steven Vitiello. Many share with Deupree an interest in stark minimalism, but the label has also found room for, located a common ground with, the acoustic avant-garde, the instrumental derivations of post-rock, and the synthetic extremes of techno.

And collectively, the cover jackets to the 12k album releases have served as an ongoing exhibit of Deupree's photography, its lofi aesthetic, with an emphasis on damage and wear and antiquated tech, closely paralleling his music. (His photos have also graced numerous books, design anthologies, and other recordings and projects.)

Deupree continues to evolve his sound with an ambition and drive that is masked by his music's inherent quietude. He approaches each project with an expectation of new directions, new processes, and new junctures.

## ARTIST STATEMENT

Over the past decade I have watched my work in digital sound, graphic design, and photography continue to merge and overlap. Each of these mediums inspires the other. I tend to absorb more musical inspiration from non-musical mediums, challenging myself to find connections and parallels. Likewise, when I conceive of a musical project there is inevitably the design and photography of the package to consider and how to best make them all relate to the project's concept.

If there were one central theme that ran through most of my work it would be that of minimalism. A quietness and interest in imperfection are key to my aesthetic. I believe that the single sound, color, or line, free from filler or dramatic intention makes the strongest statement, and this simple vision runs through everything I do. Most of my work leans towards the formalist, trying to leave messages and feelings up to the viewer of the work. However, my art is heavily inspired by my every day life and most projects stem from a particular event or memory from my life. To me they hold a lot of emotional value but on the surface it is the form that remains dominate. My work is a bit of an ongoing diary.

These ideas of minimalism in composition also extend to the elements that make up my work. Empty spaces, tiny sounds, narrow frequencies, thin lines, simple tones and colors, and the ideas of "micro" pervade. My process has evolved from using technology to zoom to the interior of sounds to being fascinated by the intricacies and imperfections found in the natural. Both have combined to make myworkexist on the border between these two worlds, whether it be a mixing of the latest musical technology with found sounds and acoustic instruments or my heavy use of Polaroid or other "lo-fi" cameras in my photography.

My projects are typically born from single words, memories or events, which then turn into a direction for a project and then a complete concept that can change my entire way of working for years following. I like to approach each project using different processes, mixing what I already know with yet-unexplored methods of working, thus using each body of work as a means to explore new ways of working. The process I find equally as interesting and rewarding as the result.

Lastly, I think it is important to note that I rarely consider my work complete. Deadlines, contracts, and schedules often force the "end" of a project while the nearly limitless tools available for digital sound and image processing often result in work that could be ever-evolving. Rather, each composition, design, or photograph I create exists merely as a snapshot of that particular time in my life, my processes, tools, and mindset. I begin the work, then end it, and then continue on with new ideas.

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## SELECTED RECORDINGS: 2011-1995, SOLO + COLLABORATIVE WORKS

- 2012** Faint / 12k, US / CD  
**2011** Journal / Champion Verion, UK / SINGLE  
Focux / 12k, JP / CD  
In A Place Of Such Graceful Shapes (with Marcus Fischer) / 12k, US / CD + VINYL  
Tasogare: Live In Tokyo (with Sawako, Minamo, Moskitoo, and Solo Andata) / 12k, US / CD  
**2010** Shoals / Lantern, US / CD  
**2009** Transcriptions ( with Stephan Mathieu ) / Spekk, JP / CD  
Weather & Worn / 12k, US / VINYL  
**2008** Sea Last / 12k, US / PHOTOGRAPHY/BOOK/CD  
Live in Melbourne ( with Solo Andata + Seaworthy ) / 12k, US / CD  
May ( with Kenneth Kirschner ) / Room40, AU / CD  
**2007** Listening Garden ( with Christopher Willits ) / Line, US / CD  
The Sleeping Morning ( with Savvas Ysatis ) / 12k, US / CD  
Landing / Room 40, AU / CD  
**2006** Northern / 12k, US / CD  
Specification.Fifteen ( with Richard Chartier ) / Line, US / CD  
**2005** Every still day ( with Eisi ) / Noble, Japan / CD  
Post\_piano 2 ( with Kenneth Kirschner ) / 12k, US / CD  
Live in japan ( with Christopher Willits ) / 12k, US / CD  
**2004** January / Spekk, Japan / CD  
Mujo ( with Christopher Willits ) / Plop, Japan / CD  
**2003** Untitled ( with Christopher Willits ) / Sub Rosa, Audiosphere, Belgium / CD  
**2002** Post\_Piano ( with Kenneth Kirschner ) / Sub Rosa, Belgium / CD  
Stil. / 12K, US / CD  
Balance ( with Frank Bretschneider ) / Mille Plateaux, Germany / CD  
After ( with Kim Cascone + Richard Chartier ) / 12k, US / CD  
**2001** Occur / 12k, US / CD  
Continue / Fällt, Ireland / 3"CD  
**2000** ActiveFreeze ( with Tetsu Inoue ) / 12k, US / CD  
**1999** Spec. ( with Richard Chartier ) / 12k, US / CD  
.N / Ritornell, Germany / CD  
Polr / Raster-Noton, Germany / CD

For a complete 2012-1996 discography please visit: <http://www.taylordeupree.com/discography/>

## SELECTED RESIDENCIES + SOUND INSTALLATIONS + SHOWS + FEATURED APPEARANCES

- 2012** Rauschenberg Residency / Robert Rauchenberg Foundation / Captiva Island, US  
**2011** Master Class and Guest Lecture / Berklee College of Music / Boston, US  
**2011** *With Hidden Noise* group sound installation / Aspen Art Museum / Colorado, US  
**2010** *Unseen* solo photography show (Polaroid work) / NADiff Gallery / Tokyo, JP  
**2009** New Aesthetics In Computer Music, Residency / University of York / York, UK  
**2004** Listening Garden (w/ C. Willits) / YCAM / Yamaguchi, Japan  
**2004** Invisible Cities / Sintesi Electronic Arts Festival / Naples, Italy  
**2003** Specification Twelve (w/ R. Chartier) / ICC / Sounding Spaces / Tokyo, Japan  
**2002** Invisible Cities / The Naughton Gallery / Belfast Festival / Queen's University, N. Ireland

## SELECTED DESIGN PUBLICATIONS

- 2009** Glitch: Designing Imperfection / Mark Batty, US  
**2005** 718: Brooklyn New Style / Booth-Clibborn Editions, UK  
**2004** ECHO/recall photo exhibition / Brisbane, Australia  
**2002** Los Logos / Die Gestalten Verlag, Germany  
Vs. / Mutek, Montreal, Canada  
35mm: Design in Miniature / Mutek, Montreal, Canada  
**2001** 35mm: Design in Miniature / Catalyst Arts, Belfast, N.Ireland  
35mm: Design in Miniature / Lovebytes, Sheffield, UK  
Visible Music / Gingko Press, Japan  
Music Dot Com / Duncan Baird Publishing, UK  
Sampler 2 / Laurence King Publishing, UK

# TAYLOR DEUPREE

## SELECTED CONCERT PERFORMANCES

- 2012** Quiet October, 12k Festival in Tokyo / Tokyo, Japan  
Tour of Japan / Tokyo, Matsumoto, Kyoto  
duet with Ryuichi Sakamoto / The Stone / New York, US
- 2011** Madeiradig Festival / Madeira  
Festival Semibreve / Braga, Portugal  
Tour of Japan
- 2010** 12k showcase, Tokyo, Japan
- 2008** Tour of Japan  
OFFF Festival / Lisbon, Portugal  
Plateaux Festival, Torun, Poland
- 2007** Specification.Fifteen (w/ R. Chartier) @ Akademie der Kuenste / Transmediale / Berlin, Germany  
Disgressions Festival @ Auditori / Barcelona, Spain  
12k Australian Tour 2007 / Perth, Melbourne, Brisbane, Australia
- 2006** University of York New Music Festival / York, UK  
Hiroshi Sugimoto retrospective, Hirshhorn Museum / Washington DC, USA  
Forced Entertainment Studio Theatre / Sheffield, UK  
The Sage Gateshead / Newcastle, UK  
Sprawl 10-year Anniversary / London, UK
- 2005** La Festival Batie / Geneva, Switzerland  
2005 Japan tour / Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Japan  
La Casa Encendida / Madrid, Spain  
Presences Electronique, GRM Festival, Maison de Radio France / Paris, France  
MUTEK, Museum of Contemporary Art / Montreal, Canada
- 2004** Yachiyoza Theatre / Kumamoto, Japan  
Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media / Yamaguchi, Japan  
Confluences Festival / Paris, France  
Sensoralia Festival / Rome, Italy
- 2003** OFFF Festival / Barcelona, Spain  
Sounding Spaces ( with Richard Chartier ), ICC / Tokyo, Japan  
Once.Twice:Festival of Sound and Video / Baltimore, MD  
Canolfan Gallery / Nagoya, Japan  
Think Zone / Tokyo, Japan  
Patchware on Demand / Club Metro / Kyoto, Japan
- 2002** 12k Release / Tonic / New York, NY  
12k / List Showcase / Le Batofar / Paris, France  
Loop / P.S.1 - Museum of Modern Art / New York, NY
- 2001** Koneisto Festival / Turku, Finland  
Micro\_Mutek 2 / Montreal, Canada  
Lovebytes Digital Culture Festival / Sheffield, UK  
Avant Pop Klangkreis Festival / Berlin, Germany  
*Architettura* Tour of Brazil / Belo Horizonte. Brasilia, Sao Paolo
- 2000** *Architettura* / Walker Art Center / Minneapolis, MN  
Mutek Festival / Montreal, Canada
- 1999** The UnPrivate House Opening / Museum of Modern Art / New York, NY

## EDUCATION

- 1993** Bachelor of Fine Arts / Photography  
New York University

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## LIVE PERFORMANCE TECHNICAL RIDER

- minimum 4-channel mixer (onstage) preferably Soundcraft or Mackie
- high-quality stereo sound system with wide frequency range
- stereo monitors on stage
- 3 powerstrips and appropriate voltage convertors, if necessary, for equipment from the USA
- 1 competent sound technician in charge of all audio equipment
- 1 table to accomodate equipment at sitting height, roughly 1m X 2m with chair
- output will be stereo out from the provided mixer to house sound system
- table should be placed in such a manner that audience is not present directly behind or to either side the artist during the performance
- space should be seated venue with no bar service during the performance.
- No video projections to be used unless specifically designed by artist
- Lighting to be low to none. no strobes or moving lights. single color (eg: blue)
- Back stage/dressing room area with:  
vegetarian food selections, water, beer (local or microbrew), and wine.

## TRAVEL & ACCOMODATIONS

- roundtrip airfare to and from the New York area  
artist will book own tickets, with immediate reimbursement from promoter
- reliable transportation to and from desination airport and hotel
- 1 hotel room with high speed internet for length of visit
- late checkout