



Hush City Soundwalks for the International Year of Sound 2020

Dear Hush City Soundwalkers,

I am thrilled to share with you this How-to, that provides practical advice and instruction in preparing and conducting Hush City Soundwalks for the International Year of Sound 2020.

- **Aim of the Hush City Soundwalks for IYS2020:** Celebrate the International Year of Sound 2020, by soundwalking in search of quiet areas, and map & assess them with the Hush City app.
- **Number of participants:** 25/30 participants (max).
- **Duration:** 1/1,5 hour including the introduction and the final group discussion.
- **Length:** 1/1,5 Km.
- **Design of the soundwalk's route:** A route with stations at 3-5 quiet areas can be defined in advance by the soundwalk leader, or the route can be co-designed with the participants.
- **Structure of the soundwalk:** Start the soundwalk with an introduction to the activity in the field, explain its purpose; then guide the participants along the route and stop at the quiet areas along the route. At the quiet areas, ask the participants to actively listen to the environment for 1-3 minute/s in silence, and afterward invite them to use the Hush City app to map & assess the quiet areas. End the soundwalk with a group discussion to share their impressions while the experience is still vivid.
- **Data collected with the Hush City app during the soundwalk:** Data is linked in real-time to the Hush City Map and is ready to be further explored and discussed with the participants. Surf the map [here](#).
- **HushCityApp-Tip #1:** Hush City is a free, citizen science mobile app to identify, map and evaluate quiet areas, available for iOS and Android smartphones since April 2017. Prior to the start of the activity, [download](#) and install on your smartphone the free Hush City app.
- **HushCityApp-Tip #2:** Make sure to access the Hush City app, by creating a new account, i.e. enter your email address and a new password, then check the Verification Email in your Inbox. If you cannot find the Verification Email, search for it in the Spam Folder. If you have problems with the Verification Email, drop us a line at: info@opensourceoundscapes.org.
- **HushCityApp-Tip #3:** Make sure to not record your own and/or the other participants' voices when using the app. Also, avoid headshots, when taking pictures with the app.
- **Sound-Tip #1:** During the soundwalk, if possible, walk & stay silent. This can be challenging and is perceived as frustrating by the participants, especially if they are not used to meditative practice.
- **Sound-Tip #2:** It may happen that you and/or the participants find yourself/yourselves listening to your thoughts. To re-tune into the environment, focus on breathing and listen to a sound that you like.
- **Comfort-Tip:** Wear soft-soled shoes on the soundwalk.
- **Media-Tip:** Share with us your experience! On Twitter, use: @HushCityapp #IYS2020 #HushCitySoundwalks.
- **Safety-Tips:** Safety is of the utmost importance. Make sure the routes you have chosen are not hazardous, or that your soundwalk does not include defamatory content, or third-party content for which you have not gotten permission to use.

Do you have questions on the soundwalks and/or this How-to? Reach out at: antonella.radicchi@tu-berlin.de

Thank you again for your participation!

Quiet cheers from Berlin,
Antonella

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