Glossary

Blackness in abundance:

The concept of abundance is fundamental to lfekoya's artistic practice. Rather than focusing on the absence or scarcity of resources, or positions informed by singular voices, the artist emphasises the richness, multiplicity and polyvocality of Black experiences. Through archival and sonic investigations, lfekoya speculates on 'Blackness in abundance', which allows for different positions to emerge, creating a shared society in which class, race, and gender are not predetermined factors, and freedom from the constraints of white supremacy and patriarchy becomes possible.

Frequency:

The term 'frequency' is used to describe the number of times per second that a sound pressure wave repeats itself. The units of frequency are called hertz (Hz).

Healing through sound / frequencies:

The experience of sound can have an impact on our bodily functions and cerebral activity. Specific frequencies are known to stimulate the brain and are alleged to induce a meditative state of mind. For this exhibition, Ifekoya uses frequencies, such as 174 Hz or 528 Hz, which are part of the 'Solfeggio frequencies'. Some claim that specific frequencies like these have positive effects on our overall wellbeing and health. Another prominent example would be the so-called 'binaural beats', which can potentially help reduce anxiety and stress, achieve relaxation, improve sleep or boost concentration.

Ifá:

Ifá is a religion and system of divination originating from the Yoruba people of South West Nigeria that is practised throughout the Americas and West Africa. Ifekoya refers to excerpts of the Ifá corpus in the audio track.

Resonant frequency:

Every oscillating medium has its own 'natural' frequency. One can speak of resonant frequency once the driving frequency is equal to the natural frequency of a medium (e.g. body, object or space). Ifekoya describes it with the simple formula 'Resonance = internal frequency'. The artist is interested in attuning to their own natural frequency, and in creating a process of sharing a methodology that supports others to also be attuned to theirs.

Sound / silence:

Sound can be described as radiant energy that is carried by pressure waves in a material medium (such as air or water). Acoustic waves travel at the speed of sound by compressing and decompressing such a medium. Depending on various factors, including spatial qualities, frequencies and other conditions, the phenomena of reverberation, echo or resonance may occur.

Sound, as well as silence, plays a central role in Ifekoya's practice. Their interest in prioritising and privileging the sonic is founded on the desire to inquire into other ways of knowing. They seek to offer immersive and simultaneously intimate spaces for listening, healing and reflection, but also to create spaces for community and shared experiences. Ifekoya is not only interested in the physical aspects and corporeal effects of sound, but also explores the role of sound and music in the creation of collectivity, rituals and spirituality.

MIGROS MUSEUM FÜR GEGENWARTSKUNST LIMMATSTRASSE 270 CH-8005 ZURICH

T +41 44 277 20 50 F +41 44 277 62 86 INFO@MIGROSMUSEUM.CH

MIGROSMUSEUM.CH MIGROS-KULTURPROZENT.CH



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Water:

Water is a chemical substance that is vital for all known forms of life. Throughout the audio track we can hear the sound of water, which is another crucial element for Ifekoya. In their practice, the artist is deploying water as a medium and metaphor. Among many other qualities, it can be perceived as a either a resource of scarcity or abundance.



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