



DAVID MONACCHI Short CV

Main author's website: www.fragmentsofextinction.org

David Monacchi (Italy - 1970) is an interdisciplinary artist, composer and eco-acoustics researcher. He has been developing the project Fragments of Extinction since 1998, conducting field research in the world's remaining areas of undisturbed primary equatorial forest in Amazon, Africa and Borneo. The recipient of multiple international awards for his work on intangible heritage of ecosystems, Monacchi is pioneering a cross-disciplinary approach based on unique 3D soundscape recordings, to raise awareness on the biodiversity crisis through science-based sound art. His Eco-acoustic Theatre's patented invention (a scalable 45-loudspeakers spherical amphitheatre dedicated to sensorial and cognitive deep listening experiences of ecosystems) is being built in museums and public spaces, now traveling as SONOSFERA®. Over the last 20 years an intense activity of concerts, art installations, talks and cinema productions was done mainly in Europe and North America. Monacchi is author of the multi-awarded documentary film "*Dusk Chorus - based on Fragments of Extinction*" which travelled in 50+ international film festivals around the world. Monacchi has been portrayed by journals as Nature and PNAS, and is now professor at the State Conservatory of Pesaro. Collaborations with IUCN and ICCROM, to promote advocacy in primary forest soundscape conservation, culminated in an invited talk for the plenary session of the UN COP-14 Biodiversity Conference. His last challenging expedition in the primary forests of Malaysia (February 2023) resulted in 2.5 TB of data of sonic environments, digitalized for the first time internationally, with a new prototype of 64-channels 3D microphone array, to sample the entire ecosystem with unprecedented spatial definition, creating a biological sonic heritage for future generations.

EDUCATION

17/10/1994 – MM Musica Elettronica (Electroacoustic Composition) - State Conservatory of Pesaro – Italy

16/09/1992 – BM Music - Conservatory of Music "G.Rossini" Pesaro – Italy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (selected)

2009-Present Professor (tenure): "Electroacoustics" State Conservatory 'G. Rossini' Pesaro, Italy.

2006-2009 Adjunct Professor: "Electroacoustics", "Lab of Electroacoustics" State Conservatory of Pesaro, Italy.

2006-2009 Professor (tenure-track): "Musica Elettronica" Conservatory 'U.Giordano' Foggia, Italy.

2000-2009 Adjunct Professor: "Multimedia Acoustics", "Lab of Applied Sound Design" University of Macerata, Italy.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS (selected)

Jan 2022: "Artistic Research Residency" – ZKM, Karlsruhe, Germany.

Mar 2018 – Jul 2018: "Artistic Research Residency" – IRCAM, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France.

May 2007 – Nov 2007: "Fulbright" Research Scholar – CNMAT, University of California, Berkeley, USA.

Jan 1998 – Jun 1998: "Erato-Farnesina" Fellowship – WSP, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.

PUBLICATIONS (selected)

Research Articles (peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings)

2019 – David Monacchi, Almo Farina "A Multiscale Approach to Investigate the Biosemiotic Complexity of Two Acoustic Communities in Primary Forests with High Ecosystem Integrity Recorded with 3D Sound Technologies", *Biosemiotics*, Springer. Print ISSN1875-1342 Online ISSN1875-1350 ([link](#))

2017 – David Monacchi, "The Sonic Heritage of Ecosystems: toward a formulation". Proceedings of the SOIMA International conference Unlocking Sound and Image Heritage, Brussels, ICCROM-UNESCO, 2016. ISBN 978-92-9077-264-4 DOI: 10.18146/soima2015 ([link](#))

2014 – David Monacchi, "Fragments of Extinction – A Periphonic Audio-video Concert Based on Rainforest Ecosystems 3D Recordings". Proceedings of the EAA Joint Symposium on Auralization and Ambisonics, Berlin, Germany. ([link](#))

2013 – David Monacchi, "Fragments of Extinction: Acoustic Biodiversity of Primary Rainforest Ecosystems", *Leonardo Music Journal*, Volume 23, The MIT PRESS, ISSN 0961-1215 ([link](#))

2012 – David Monacchi, "Challenges and Perspectives on the Construction of SPACE, a Full-periphonic Ambisonic Studio for Soundscape Composition", in *The Global Composition – proceedings*, Darmstadt, Germany. ISBN 978-3-00-038817-0

Books, Research Monographs, Book Chapters and others (selected)

2019 – David Monacchi, "*L'Arca dei Suoni Originari*" pgg. n. 319, Mondadori. ISBN: 9788804683964

2017 – David Monacchi, Bernie Krause "*Ecoacoustics and its Expression through the Voice of the Arts: An Essay*" in A. Farina, S. Gage ed., *Eco Acoustics: The Ecological Role of Sounds*, WILEY.

2016 – David Monacchi, "*A Philosophy of Eco-acoustics in the Interdisciplinary Project Fragments of Extinction*", in F. Bianchi, V. J. Manzo, ed., *Environmental Sound Artists*, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, pp. 158–167.

2011 – David Monacchi, "*Recording and Representation in Eco-Acoustic Composition*", in J. Rudi, ed., *Soundscape in the Arts*, NOTAM, Oslo, pp. 227–250. ISBN 978-82-996867-4-7

On-line magazines and Institutional news (selected)

01-03-2021 **Nature** - Where I work: my race to capture the sounds of ancient rainforests. *Nature* 591 (170). ([link](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00535-9))
<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00535-9>

25-06-2019 **PNAS** - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 12580–12583 vol. 116 | no. 26. ([link](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1908588116))
www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1908588116

29-07-2016 – IUCN global news - David Monacchi, Fragments of Extinction, The Sonic Heritage of Ecosystems. ([link](https://www.iucn.org/news/protected-areas/201607/fragments-extinction-sonic-heritage-ecosystems))
<https://www.iucn.org/news/protected-areas/201607/fragments-extinction-sonic-heritage-ecosystems>

INVITED PRESENTATIONS (selected) (Keynote=K Invited=I Participation=P)

- 6-18/11/2022 UNFCC COP-27. Invited talk on Fragments of Extinction at the Mediterranean Pavilion on the 16-11-2022 “Biodiversity Day”
- 14-29/11/2018 UN Biodiversity Conference COP-14, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. Invited talk at the plenary session (20-11-2018) “Living in Harmony with Nature” (K)
- 24-28/06/2018 ISE (International Society of Ecoacoustics), third “Ecoacoustics Congress”, Brisbane, Australia. [Keynote talk](#) + keynote multichannel concert “Fragments of Extinction–The Sonic Heritage of Ecosystems”. (K)
- 29-30/05/2018 IRCAM (Institute of Research and Coordination in Acoustics and Music), Paris, France. The Sound of the Anthropocene: nature(s). Talk and listening session with Fragments of Extinction’s selected ecosystems. (I)
- 01-10/09/2016 IUCN Intergovernmental World Conservation Congress 2016, Honolulu Hawaii. Poster + immersive sound installation “Fragments of Extinction – The Sonic Heritage of Ecosystems” in the Protected Planet Pavilion. (I)
- 15/04/2016 IUCN headquarters Gland, Switzerland. Talk+3D concert “FoE-The sonic Heritage of Ecosystems” (I)
- 03-04/09/2015 ICCROM International Conference “SOIMA-2015: Unlocking Sound and Image Heritage”, in coll. UNESCO, Brussels, BE. Talk+keynote concert “Fragments of Extinction, The Sonic Heritage of Ecosystems”. (K)
- 11-13/09/2015 ECSITE – European Network of Science Centres and Museums, Annual Conference, Trento, IT. Talk + listening sessions “The intelligent sound of ecosystems” into the first prototype of Eco-acoustic Theatre. (P)
- 26/02/2015 UCLA – University of California Los Angeles, Social Sciences, Dean’s Lectures, Los Angeles, USA. Talk+concert “Fragments of Extinction–An Environmental Sound-Art Project on Acoustic Biodiversity of Ra.”. (I)
- 03-05/04/2014 EAA – European Acoustics Association, International Symposium “Joint Symposium on Auralization and Ambisonics”, Berlin, DE. Talk + keynote concert “Fragments of Extinction (Borneo2012)”. (K)
- 20-24/05/2014 Society of Code Biology, First International Conference in Code Biology – Université Paris Descartes, Paris, FR. Talk “Eco-acoustic Codes of Borneo Primary Forest”. (I)
- 16-18/06/2014 ISE, International Society of Ecoacoustics, First Conference “Ecology and Acoustics”, Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle, Paris. Talk “FoE – A New Recording Approach in Primary Equatorial Forests”. (I)
- 25-28/07/2012 WFAE – World Forum for Acoustic Ecology, International Conference “The Global composition” Hochschule of Darmstadt, DE. Talk+concert ‘Full-Periphonic Ambisonic Studio for Soundscape Composition’. (P)
- 25-27/03/2012 AES – Audio Engineering Society Conference “Spatial Audio in Today’s 3D World” – University of York, UK. Poster “Challenges and Perspectives in the Construction of a Full-Periphonic Ambisonic Studio”. (P)
- 3-7/10/2011 Balance-Unbalance 2011, Concordia University, Montreal, CA. Concert ‘States of Water’. (I)
- 25/06/2009 Ambisonics Symposium 2009, IEM, University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz, AU. Talk and Ambisonic full-periphonic 3D Concert “Fragments of Extinction, Africa’s travel report”. (I)
- 26/10/2007 Invited lecture + concert at CNMAT (Center for New Music and Audio Technologies), University of California – Berkeley, “Field Recording and Eco-Acoustic Composition”. Concert in coll. with Bernie Krause. (I)
- 07-14/10/2006 “Ear to the Earth” Festival and international conference, Electronic Music Foundation, NYU, 3LD, New York, USA. Talk + concert + multichannel sound installation “Fragments of a Sonic World in Extinction” (I)

ORGANIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCES

- June 2021 Conference organizer of the “[4th International Congress of Ecoacoustics](#)”, University of Urbino - ITALY, International Society of Ecoacoustics
- 25-27/06/2010 Conference organizer of “Orecchio alla Terra - Ear to the Earth”, Conservatorio “G. Rossini” - Pesaro, in coll. with Electronic Music Foundation, New York and Mostra Internazionale di Nuovo Cinema, Pesaro.

RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS (Selected)

- 1) Feb 2023 Field recording expedition in primary forest areas in Maliau Basin and Danum Valley – Borneo, Malaysia.
- 2) Jan-Feb 2016 Field recording expedition in primary forest areas in and around Yasuni biosphere reserve – Amazon.
- 3) Aug-Sep 2012 Field recording expedition in primary forest area in Ulu Temburong – Brunei, Borneo.
- 4) Sep-Oct 2010 Research expedition in primary forest areas in Gunung Mulu World Heritage area, Sarawak and Sabah – Malaysia, Borneo.
- 5) Aug-Sep 2008 Field recording expedition in primary forest area in Dzanga-Sangha World Heritage area – Congo Basin, Central African Republic.
- 6) Feb-Mar 2002 Field recording expedition in primary forest area Rio Branco and Rio Jauperi – Amazonas, Brazil.

PATENTS

21/02/2014 – **Italian patent** “Teatro Bioacustico” AN2014A000033 with patent **0001423451** granted on 27/07/2016 (Priority date 26/02/2013)

15/10/2015 – **European patent** “Eco-acoustic Theatre” EP 14723504.8 (International WIPO PCT WO2014/132280 A9) with patent **EP 3052719 B1** granted on 10/05/2017 (Priority date 26/02/2013)

07/01/2016 – **United States Patent** “Eco-acoustic Theatre” EP 14723504.8 with patent **US 9,447,592 B2** granted on 20/09/2016 (Priority date 26/02/2013)

DESIGN AND THEATRE CONSTRUCTION

The implementation of the Eco-acoustic Theatre patent 2013 has given different results:

1. Design, engineering and construction of the 5-mt diameter (height 4.05mt), 21.1 loudspeakers, 12 seats, mobile *Demo Eco-acoustic Theatre* presented at the European Conference of Science Museums, ECSITE (11-13/09/2015 Trento, Italy). The Theatre is now traveling as a demo facility for Fragments of Extinction.
2. Design, engineering and construction of the 16-mt diameter (height 6.03 mt), 16.2 loudspeakers, 124 seats, permanent *Soundscape Theatre*, opened to the public at NATURAMA Natural History Museum (26/06/2017 Svendborg, Denmark).
3. Design and construction of **SONOSFERA®** (implementation of the Eco-acoustic Theatre patent 2013) for Pesaro UNESCO Creative City of Music. The Sonosfera® (9.5 meter diameter, 45 loudspeakers, 6 projectors 4K a 360° 24K screen, circular seating system for 60 people) is a sound-insulated mobile theatre, for soundscape deep-listening experiences. Official opening to the public: January 6th 2020 by the President of EU Parliament David Sassoli.

PRIZES AND AWARDS (selected)

2012 – Giovannini National Prize for Innovation, 5th edition – Prize for sound art and interdisciplinary innovation, to the presence of President of the Italian Republic – Rome (Italy)

2008 – 1st Prize at the 35th International Competition of Sound Art and Electroacoustic Music of Bourges (France)

1996 – Locarno Film Festival - First Prize for soundscape design “XVII Video Art - Festival et Forum International des Nouvelles Images de Locarno” (Switzerland)

1993 – Multiple Sound Festival - First Prize for the sound environment “Scale Dorsali” Maastricht (Holland)

MEDIA PRODUCTS (selected)

2017 – documentary film “[Dusk Chorus – based on Fragments of Extinction](#)” by Alex d’Emilia and Nika Saravanja, written and narrated by David Monacchi – **11 International Awards**. For the Green Film Network Award (the best films winners in N. 33 Environmental Film Festivals in the world) *Dusk Chorus* positioned as Second Best Documentary 2017 on a global scale. Recently *Dusk Chorus* was awarded Best European Science Film 2017-2018, by Science Film Academy, Vienna.

2011 – feature film “OKA” directed by Lavinia Currier, Roland Productions. Film on Central African’s Bayaka Pigmies (soundscape design of the entire film by D. Monacchi, produced at Warner Bros, Hollywood).

CD and DVD (selected - as composer + sound engineer + bi-trilingual booklet written by D. Monacchi)

2008 - Monacchi, D. CD “[Eco-Acoustic Compositions](#)”, EMF Media, Earth Ear, New York, USA.

2007 - Monacchi, D. CD “Prima Amazonia”, Portraits of Acoustic Biodiversity, Wild Sanctuary, San Francisco, USA.

2005 - Monacchi, D. CD “Paesaggi di Libero Ascolto”, Ants Records, Roma, ITALY.

2004 - Monacchi, D. et all DVD “Paesaggi Sonori - Soundscapes”, Università degli Studi di Macerata, ITALY.

1995-2005 - N. 65 CDs of early, classic and contemporary music produced as recording and mastering engineer.

Exhibitions (selected 2015-2020)

2018 - **permanent exhibition**: *Fragments of Extinction in the Climate Clock* – a 45-min. sensorial experience for SONOSFERA® (full-periphonic 3D spherical audio with 360° video of 24K res.) featuring an educational journey on the soundscape of primary forests with IUCN-IPBES-IPCC recent data on extinction and the climate crisis.

2017 - **permanent exhibition**: *Fragments of Extinction* – a 38-min. loop immersive audio-video for the Soundscape Theatre at NATURAMA natural history museum (full-periphonic HOA audio, 360° video with 16K res.) featuring an immersive soundscape experience and extensive surround real-time visual spectrogram analysis.

2016 - **temporary exhibition**: *The Sonic Heritage of Ecosystems* – a 15-min. loop immersive 3D-listening on interactive headphones, as virtually simulated preview of the Eco-acoustic Theatre for the IUCN Protected Planet Pavilion, at the World Conservation Congress, Hawaii

2015 - **temporary exhibition**: *The Intelligent Sound of Ecosystems* – a 25-min. loop full-periphonic experience into the Eco-acoustic Theatre (demo mobile 5-mt diam). MUSE Museum of Natural History, Trento IT.

AFFILIATION IN INTERNATIONAL SOCIETIES AND JOURNALS (Current)

- [Journal of Ecoacoustics](#) – Editorial board
- [Fragments of Extinction](#), Non-profit Org. – Founder and President
- [International Society of Ecoacoustics](#) – Founding Member
- Global Sustainable Soundscape Network – Purdue University (USA) and others – Founding Member
- [ECSITE](#), European Network of Museums and Science Centers – Fragments of Extinction NGO, Member
- World Forum for Acoustic Ecology – Member