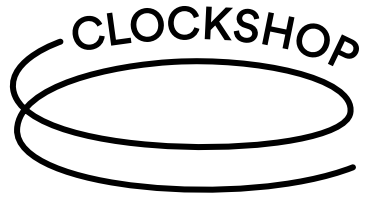


TJ SHIN

SONGS
of
EMERGING
ENDANGERMENT



YOUTH ACTIVITY GUIDE

THIS ACTIVITY GUIDE BELONGS TO:

Parent/caregiver note:

For ages 4 - 9, adult support is recommended

Learners ages 10+ are encouraged to explore the guide independently

WELCOME

Songs of Emerging Endangerment is an installation by TJ Shin, an artist born in South Korea who now lives in Los Angeles. TJ explores how power shapes our lives and experiences, using sound and sculpture to explore their ideas.

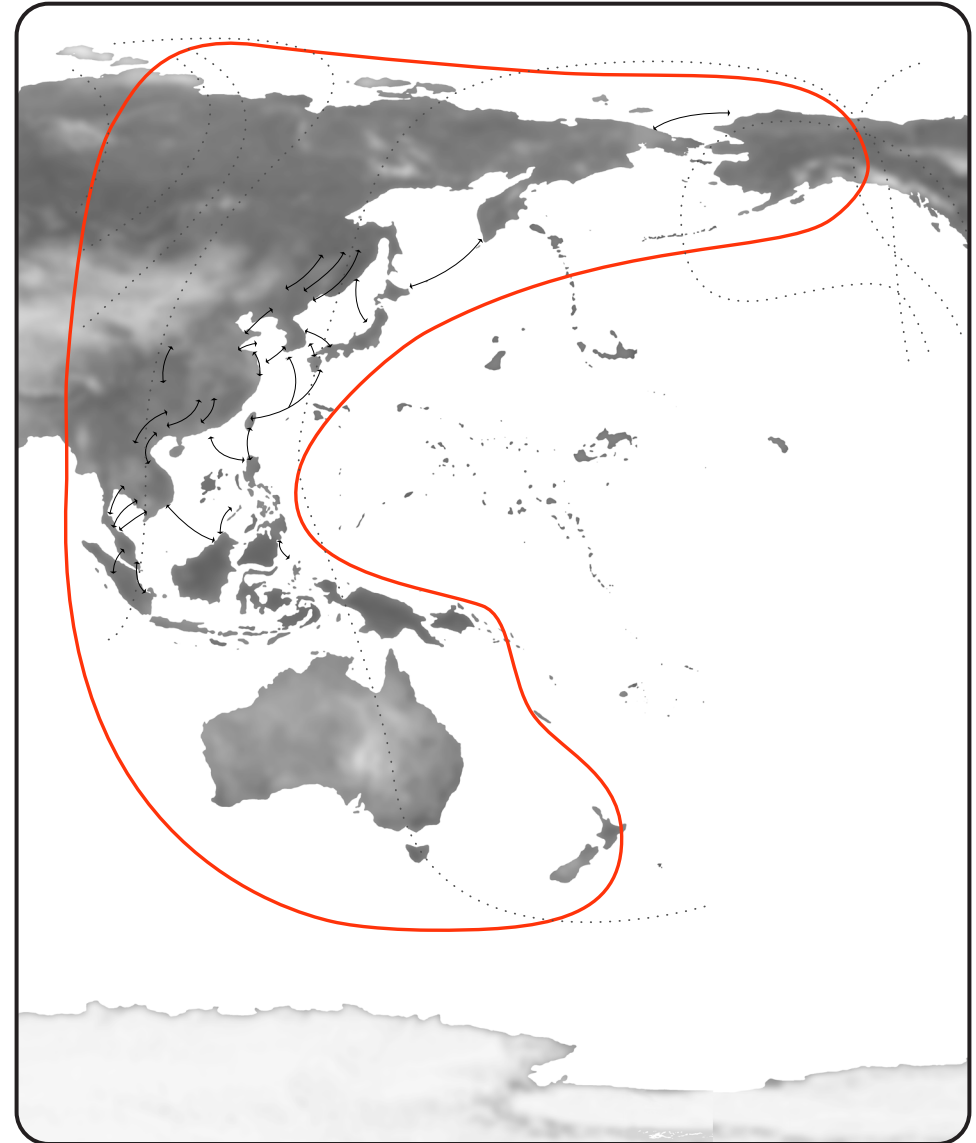
This installation emits sound from an air raid siren, a tool once used across LA to warn the city about incoming danger. Every hour, it plays recordings of people imitating the calls of birds that migrate through the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, a path that crosses East and Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands.

The participants in the project are people with connections to the regions where these birds live and travel. LA County is home to 1.5 million people with roots in East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific Islands. Sharing imitated birdcalls through this siren is a way to invite listeners—like you!—to reflect on movement, memories, and meaning across time and distances.

○ East Asian–Australasian
Flyaway Zone

○ Other flyaway zones

↻ Migratory paths



ACTIVITY 1

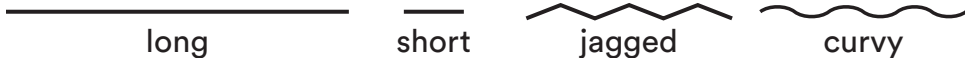
Chirps, Squawks, and Lines

This activity requires you to listen closely to the sounds coming from the installation. They play at the start of each hour, so if you don't hear anything now, you'll have to wait until the start of the next hour.

Try some of the other activities in the meantime!

Are they playing now? Time to get started! Find a comfortable place to sit and draw. Listen closely.

For each call, draw a line that matches the sounds you're hearing. As the sounds get higher or lower, louder or quieter, how will your line change? How might you represent a chirping sound or a screech? Consider if you will press hard or gently with your pencil. Will your line be long or short? Jagged or curvy?



Now, take a step back and look at your lines.

Can you take what you've drawn and transform it into a landscape that the birds making these calls might live in?

DRAW HERE

A large, empty rectangular area with rounded corners, outlined in black, intended for drawing.

ACTIVITY 2

Becoming the Call

The human-made birdcalls you hear in this artwork were recorded by people who have connections to the places where these birds migrate. When they imitate these birds, they bring their own associations and memories into this new environment.

Now, you get to do the same with birds that are right here in the park!

Walk around until you hear a real bird calling.
Use your voice to mimic the call as best you can.

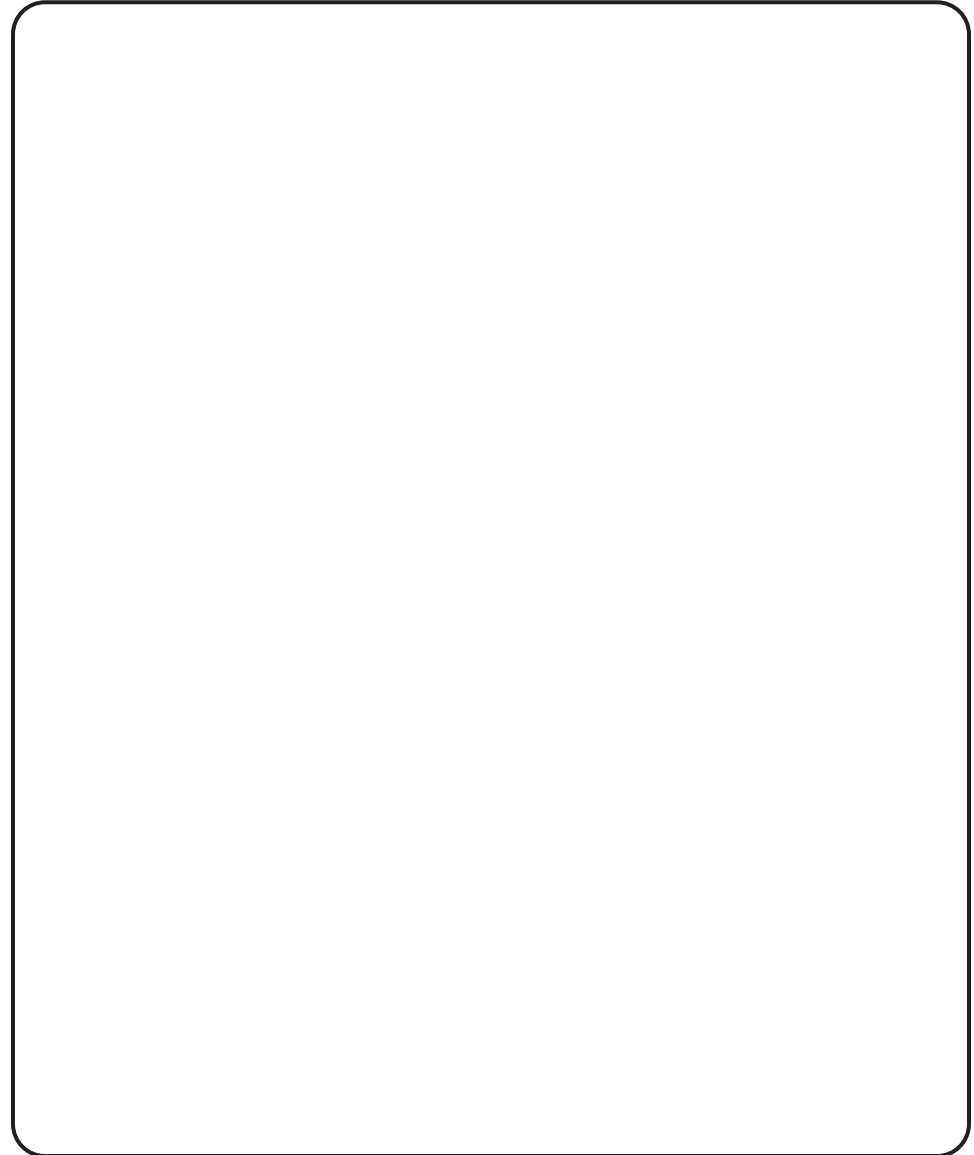
Pay close attention: Does the call change? Repeat?

When you repeated its call, you and the bird became collaborators! Was it easy or hard to replicate the sounds you heard? What can we learn about a bird when we try to imitate it?

To learn more about the bird you mimicked, download the Merlin app at merlin.allaboutbirds.org to record the bird's call and discover its species, migration range, and behaviors.

DRAW HERE

Now that you've gotten to know your bird through sound, make a drawing of it below! See if you can get a good look at the bird where it's perched or while it's flying. If you can't, you may have to draw it from your imagination or after doing research with the Merlin app.

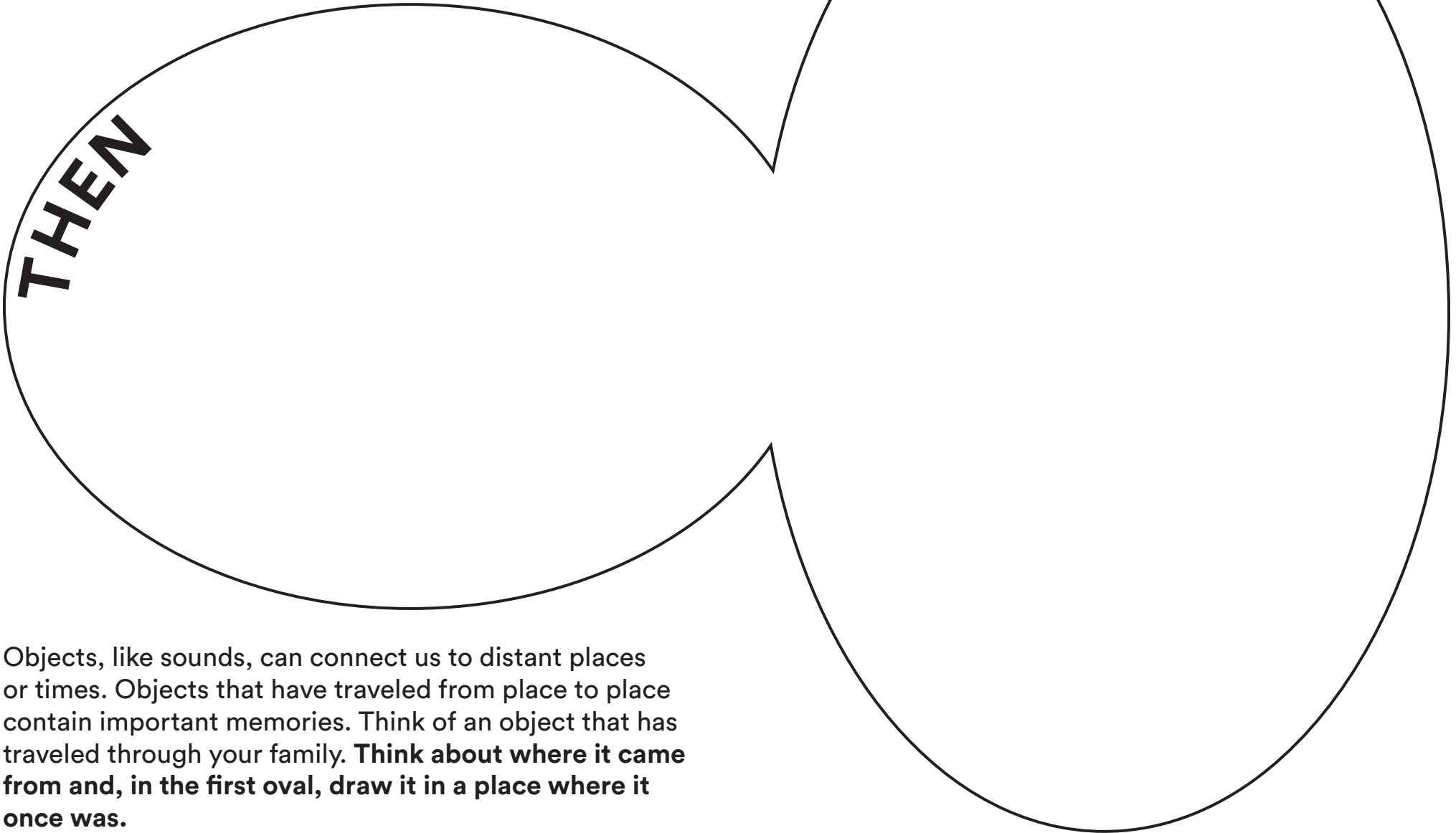


ACTIVITY 3

Mapping Memories

The sounds you hear are imitations of birds that don't live in California, but they're here, in a way, through the memories and voices of the participants in this project.

Now, in the second oval, draw it as it is now.



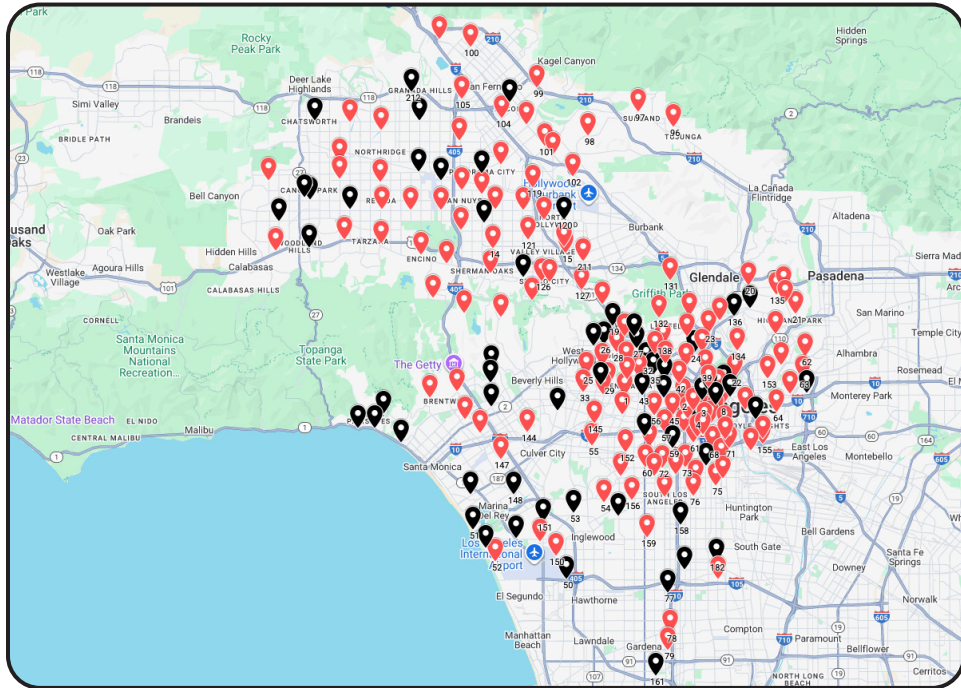
Objects, like sounds, can connect us to distant places or times. Objects that have traveled from place to place contain important memories. Think of an object that has traveled through your family. **Think about where it came from and, in the first oval, draw it in a place where it once was.**

ACTIVITY 4

Messages for the City

This installation replicates an air raid siren, a tool used across Los Angeles from the 1940s to the 1980s to warn people of wartime emergencies. They made loud, disruptive noises to get the attention of the public. Many of these sirens still exist throughout Los Angeles, but they have been silent since 1985.


This map shows all of the sirens that still mark the landscape of our city. TJ Shin gave this siren new life by having it play imitated birdcalls.



<http://www.wirechief.com/>

FILL IT OUT

If you had the chance to reactivate all of the sirens in LA again, what are some alternative ideas for sounds or messages they could broadcast?



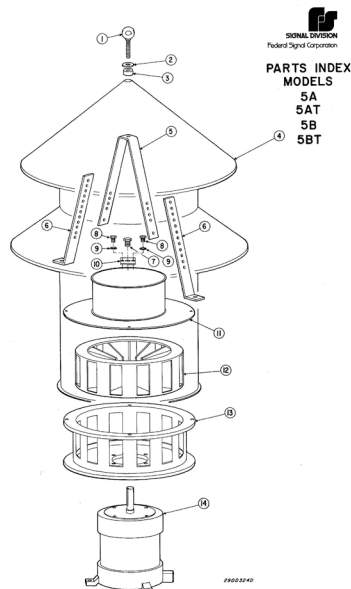
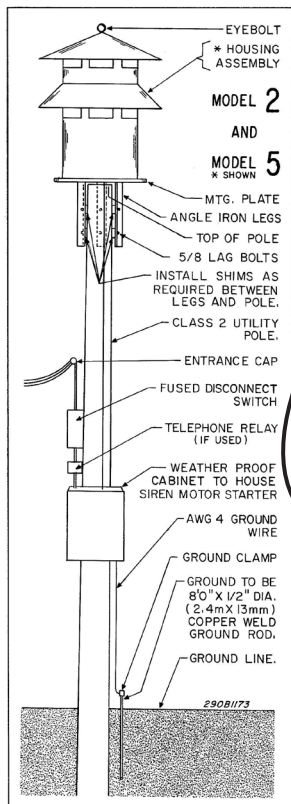


Figure 5-12 Model 5 Parts Index.



Clockshop works with artists to deepen the connection between communities and public land, in order to build a shared vision of a future based in belonging and care.