

LIBERAL ARTS ROXBURY

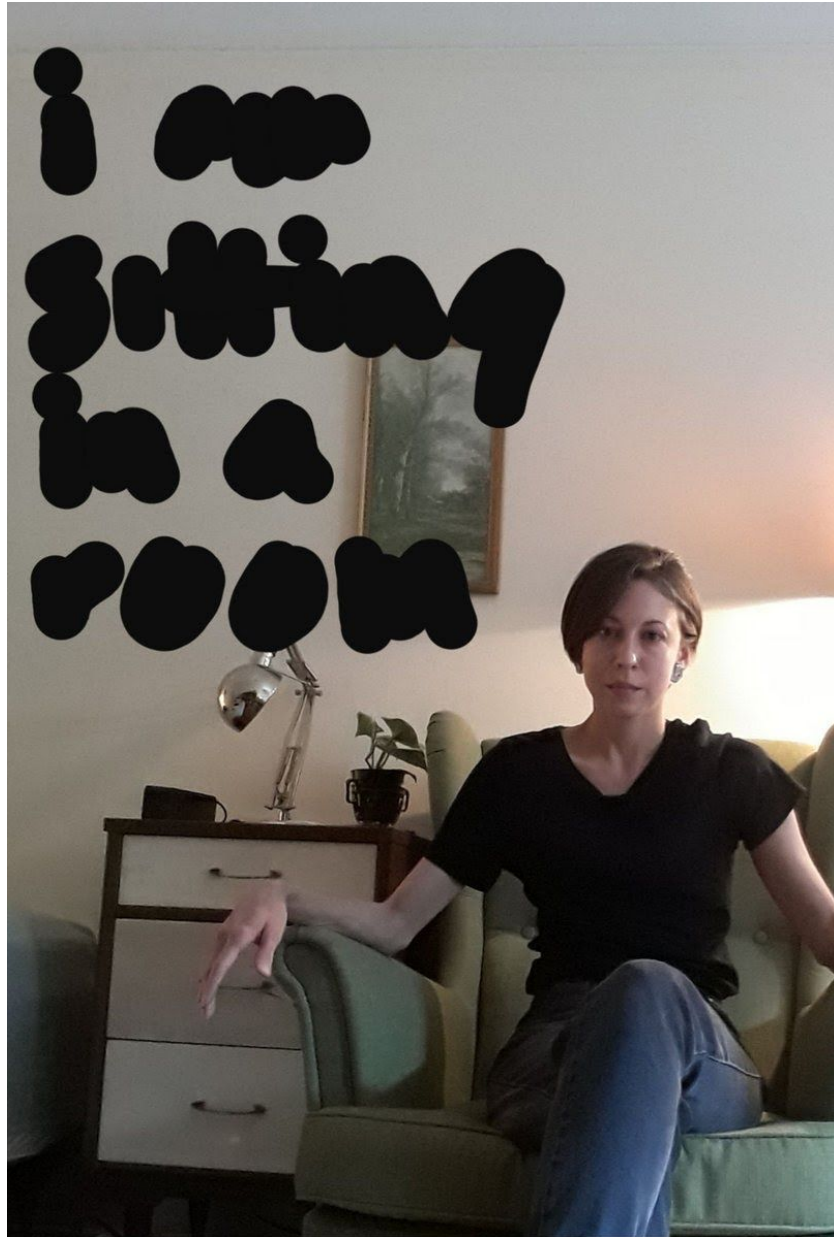
Liberal Arts Roxbury is pleased to announce *I Am Sitting In A Room*, a two channel sound installation by Theresa Smith. The work was originally produced for AMPLIFY2020 (Quarantine), a project for distributing sound works made under quarantine conditions. Smith has since added a second channel for her installation at Roxbury.

As my relationship with the world outside my apartment changed over the course of a few weeks in March and I found myself spending more time in my room, I noticed that it began to seem more like an extension of myself and less like a part of the building I lived in. I became interested in exploring this expanded sense of interiority: specifically, the question of where I thought I ended and the room began. Did the creak of my office chair belong to me, or to it? Was the lamp too bright for the room, or for my liking? These two sound works were created in quarantine to examine the reflection and refraction of conscious processes that occurred between, and within, the nested systems of cognition and comprehension operating in concert with one another to produce the layered composition of my experience.

The technique of using a series of playbacks and recordings to bring out the resonant frequencies of a room was pioneered by Mary and Alvin Lucier for their piece "I Am Sitting In A Room" (1969/1970). To create my piece of the same name, I used a version of this technique (which was, as it turns out, nicely destabilized by the combination of cheap electronics and an unquiet room). Its companion piece was created with audio from a recorder I placed in my window to capture the street noises that were audible from within the room. The unstable interactions between the two channels are my ongoing exploration of the slipperiness of the boundary between the intrinsic and the extrinsic where it occurs twice in the same space, at different scales: between the city and the room, and the room and myself.

-Theresa Smith, August, 2020

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Theresa Smith is a sound artist and writer currently based in Brooklyn, New York. Since 2008, she has released numerous works in album and EP formats under the solo monikers Bleak Race and Lemon Dot. Her collaborative projects include De Trop, Ballroom, Home Blitz and most recently York Factory Complaint. She has worked with Dais Records, Los Angeles, CA/Brooklyn, NY; Spirit Throne Tapes, Newark, DE; Robert & Leopold, Brooklyn, NY; Labour of Love, London, UK; and Mexican Summer, Brooklyn, NY. Her written works are published by ExPat Press, New York, NY.

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53525 State Highway 30, Roxbury, NY 12474 info@liberalartsroxbury.com