

## **Juan José Rivas (México City 1976)**

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**Juan José Rivas** is a Mexican transmedia artist. His work is characterised by exploring the boundaries between sound, art and technology with a strong artistic background and a passion for experimentation. Throughout his artistic practice, Rivas has used a variety of media, including drawing, photography, video, sound installations, electro-acoustic compositions and live performances. His creations often involve the use of digital and electronic technologies, allowing him to expand the expressive possibilities of sound without separating from improvisation as the main resource, to elaborate a discourse through translation, error and interference within the different artistic languages.

In addition to his artistic work, Juan José Rivas has contributed significantly to the Mexican sound scene as director of VOLTA, improvisation and sound experimentation sessions with more than 12 years of work. He has given workshops and conferences on sound art, art and technology and creative processes and has collaborated with other artists and musicians in multidisciplinary projects.

He has been nominated twice for the CIFO-Ars Electronica Award (2022-2023) and been a member of the National System of Art Creators FONCA (2017-2020), Artist in residence at Sound Art and Experimental Music Program BEMIS Center for Contemporary Arts (2020), MATADERO in Madrid (2015), HANGAR Center for Artistic Creation in Barcelona (2011) and SBK in Karlsruhe Germany. Since 2003, he has given workshops, classes, seminars and conferences at different universities, schools and cultural centers in Mexico and abroad.

### **AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES**

- 2022 – Nominated for the CIFO-Ars Electronica Award, cycle 2023
- 2022 – Winner of the Fund to Support Cultural Projects. British Council “Cultura Circular”
- 2021 – Nominated for the CIFO-Ars Electronica Award, cycle 2022
- 2020 - National System of Art Creators FONCA Mexico. 2017-2020
- 2020 - Artist in residency Sound and Experimental Music Program BEMIS Center for Contemporary Arts. Omaha, Nebraska. USA
- 2015 - Artist in residency at MATADERO Residencias Sonoras #1 Madrid Spain.
- 2013 - Promotion of Cultural Projects and Co-investments FONCA/CONACULTA México City.
- 2012 - Volta PAC Patronato de Arte Contemporáneo. México City.
- 2011 - Young Creators Grant in Multimedia FONCA/CONACULTA México City.
- 2007 - Arts and Media, Production and Research Support CMM/CONACULTA México City.
- 2005 - Young Creators Grant in Multimedia FONCA/CONACULTA México City.
- 2005 - 2ª National biennial of University Art. 1st. Prize Toluca, Mexico.
- 2004 - Artistic residence exchange program Mexico-Spain, HANGAR Barcelona, Spain.
- 2003 - SABK. Artistic residence exchange program, Karlsruhe, Germany,

### **SOLO EXHIBITION / SITE-SPECIFIC INSTALLATIONS**

- 2022 – U: Ubicarse. Tránsito Interno 02. Centro Cultural España, CDMX. 27 abril 2022.
- 2021 – I am still Listening. MUME Vienna, Austria

- 2020 - Z: Zapping. Site-specific sound action. BEMIS Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, Nebraska. U.S.A.
- 2019 - W: Whistle. Site-specific sound action. Wien Modern, Echoraum, Vienna, Austria
- 2019 - E: Envolver: Site-specific sound action. Center for Experimentation and Production of Contemporary Music. Mexico City.
- 2019 - I: Inhalar. Site-specific sound action. Perfume Museum. Mexico City.
- 2019 - N: Nadar. Site-specific sound action. Multimedia Center of the National Center for the Arts. Mexico City
- 2018 - H: Heredar. Site-Specific Sound Action, No Idea Festival, Austin Texas USA
- 2018 - Grunt. Site-specific sound action. Sound Forest Museum of Modern Art. Mexico City
- 2018 - X: Xerografiar. Site-specific sound action. Herder Music Library, Mexico City.
- 2018 - F: Figurar. Site-specific sound action. Gimnasio de Arte. Mexico City.
- 2016 - A: Abducir. Sound action for specific site. Sound space of Casa del Lago.
- 2016 - O: Oscilar. Transpíxel Festival. Museum Ex Teresa Arte Actual. Mexico City.
- 2016 - D: Desaparecer. Memorial of the Digital Culture Center. Mexico City.
- 2015 - Escombros. Sound installation Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Oaxaca, México.
- 2014 - FORM FONCA. Zona MACO Contemporary Art Fair Mexico City.
- 2012 - FORM Sound actions of sculptural consequence. San Carlos. Cultural Center UNAM. Mexico City.
- 2009 - 00:00:04,33 Digital Arts Laboratory, BORDER Cultural Center Mexico City
- 2006 - Generic notes of love and hate. Arcaute Gallery. Monterrey, Mexico 2006.
- 2003 - Faith and devotion. SAK Karlsruhe, Germany.
- 2003 - Click. Arcaute Gallery. Monterrey, Mexico.
- 2001 - Salon de belleza. Central Gallery of La Esmeralda, National Center of the Arts. Mexico City.
- 2001 - Antonio es Dios. Arcaute Gallery. Monterrey, Mexico 2001.

## **COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS**

- 2022 - Microfest: Volta. Colective exhibition. Vernacular Institute. Julio 2022
- 2022 - La Venganza de la Basura. Centro de Cultura Tlaxcala, Mexico. Agosto-octubre
- 2022 - La Venganza de la Basura. Centro de Cultura Digital. Mayo a junio 2022
- 2021 - ALEPH. Art & science festival. Bitacoras de pandemia: ABISMO INTERNO. ALEPH
- 2020 - Group exhibition. BEMIS Benefit Art Auction. BEMIS Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, Nebraska. U.S.A.
- 2019 - Olfactory Synesthesia. Museum of Perfume. Mexico City.
- 2018 - Modos de Oír. Ex Teresa Arte Actual Museum. Mexico City.
- 2016 - 15 Collective exhibition at the Main Gallery La Esmeralda. CNA.
- 2015 - Brut Noir - Black Noise Space Mexico. Montreal, Canada.
- 2015 - Mexico: The future is Unwritten. Luciano Benetton, Italy
- 2015 - Iconofreedom. Chalton Projects. Oxo Tower, London.
- 2014 - FACTO Sound Artifacts Festival. National Sound Archive. Mexico City.
- 2014 - International Day of the Dead Festival at Oxo Tower, London.
- 2014 - Creation in Young Creators Movement. Library of Mexico. Mexico City.
- 2014 - Sonoplastia. Museum of Contemporary Art of Oaxaca, Mexico.
- 2013 - FACTO Festival of Sound Artifacts. CNA. Mexico City.
- 2012 - Oído enfático. La Quiñonera Cultural Center. Mexico City.

2009 - Plug and signify. Border Cultural Center. Mexico City.  
2009 - Ars Ludens. around art and new media. CMM CNA. Mexico City.  
2008 - Coleccionables. Centro Cultural Border. Mexico City.  
2008 - Another Fucking Collective Art Show Galería Arcaute. Monterrey N. L.  
2007 - Transito\_mx02 Nomadic Borders. CNA. Mexico City.  
2005 - 2ª. National University Art Biennial. State of Mexico.  
2005 - International Festival of Video/Art/Electronics. Lima, Perú.  
2005 - Especular lo Próximo .Can Felipa Hall, Barcelona Spain 2005

## **SOUND IMPROVISING / CONCERTS**

2022 - Meditatio Sonus: Hydra 2.0 Centro Cultural Casa Palmira, Cuernavaca. Noviembre  
2022 - Audiovisuology: improv audiovisual set. Audiomaquinas. Octubre 2022  
2022 - Microfest: Volta. Xaxa. Vernacular Institute. Julio 2022  
2022 - Jason Kahn, Gudinni Cortina y Juan José Rivas. 316 Centro, CDMX, julio 2022  
2022 - Sonares: Galia Eibenschutz & Juan Jose Rivas. Museo JUMEX Febrero 2022  
2021 - The Fuse Factory. Live vids For Covid. Video concert on streaming  
2021 - Messianic Permutations. Performance. Ron Athey, Ex-Teresa Arte Actual.  
2021 - Volta. Galia Eibenschutz & Juan Jose Rivas. Vernacular Institute. Diciembre.  
2021 - Ruido Horrible. Sotano Vacas verdes. diciembre 2021 CDMX  
2021 - Akouphène Festival 2021. Cave12 Geneva, Suiza. 28 nov 2021  
2021 - La olla hirviendo. 27 nov 2021 Mixcoac. CDMX  
2021 - Groar! El arte del Lenguaje. Presentacion del disco en Casa del Lago UNAM.  
2021 - Resonancia Chilanga. El sonido y sus diversificaciones musicales 15 de octubre  
2021 - Encuentro Internacional de Grabación de Campo 2021 // 13.09.21 – 13.10.21  
2021 - High Zero Festival Online. <https://vimeo.com/537577710>  
2021 - Recording session Radio Nopal México City.  
2020 - Axial Age Festival Fall x Netmett Coaxial Arts Online.  
2020 - Sound Labs no. 7 Music UNAM Mexico City Online  
2020 - Full Pink Moon Lunar Opera by Pauline Oliveros, Opera Povera in quarantine L.A.  
USA  
2020 - Resonance. BEMIS Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, Nebraska. U.S.A.  
2020 - Low End Concert BEMIS Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, Nebraska.  
U.S.A.  
2019 - Anniversary Concert Complejo cultural Los Pinos. Los Pinos Cultural Complex.  
FONCA Mexico City.  
2019 - Night of the Dead, Wien Modern. Echoraum Austria, Vienna.  
2019 - The Three Thunders. Le Cabinet Geneva, Switzerland.  
2019 - The International Turntable Orchestra. Berlin, Germany  
2018 - Improvisation concert, Handbag Factory Los Angeles, USA.  
2019 - Wild Oscillation Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions L.A. USA  
2019 - Divine darkness. Betalevel L.A. USA.  
2019 - Facto, Festival de Arte Nuevo Chihuahua, Mexico.  
2019 - Concert for sound sculptures. Modes of Hearing. Exteresa Museum. Mexico City.  
2019 - 13 Radical Music Exhibition Mexico City Museum.  
2018 - h3ar sessions Workshop 30, San Miguel de Allende  
2018 - Umbral 3rd Festival Centro de Artes Vivas CDMX  
2018 - Abyss 01 Bucareli 69 Cultural Center Mexico City.  
2018 - Concert Greg Saunier, Juan Garcia Juan Jose Rivas. Melchor Ocampo Park.  
Mexico City

2018 - VOLTA ASMR vol.01 Bucareli 69 Cultural Center Mexico City.  
2018 - Radical Music Festival 13 Mexico City Museum.  
2018 - 316 John Krausbauer, Kaori Suzuki, Juan José Rivas, Concepción Huerta  
2018 - Listen with your eyes Museo Tamayo. Mexico City.  
2017 - No Idea cdmx. The fifth floor. Mexico City.  
2017 - Volta Propagaciones. Versailles 94. Mexico City.  
2017 - SyN-AnæstesiA Brooklyn, New York. U.S.A.  
2017 - Antitherapy. Queens, New York. U.S.A.  
2017 - Aural Niche. Valerio Tricoli, Werner Dafeldecker and Juan José Rivas. Mexico City.  
2017 - Tres Truenos Bandini Cultural Center Mexico City.  
2017 - VOLTA Bucareli 69 Cultural Center. Mexico City.  
2017 - Tribute to Tony Conrad. Lighthouse of Aragon. Mexico City.  
2017 - Lost Paradise. Committee on Intangible Affairs, Morelia, Mexico.  
2016 - VISO 01 sound improvisation set Lyrica Mexico City.  
2015 - MOD09 Electronic Music Meetings CCEMX. Mexico City.  
2015 - Improvisation with electronic media Ex-Teresa. Mexico City.  
2015 - Soundscapes MEX-UK Sound improvisation. Fonoteca Nacional. Mexico City.  
2014 - The reverse Sessions Tarek Atoui. Kurimanzutto Gallery. Mexico City.  
2014 - Rotor. Electromagnetic Spectrum Improvisation Session. Mexico City.  
2014 - Germinal, Forest Festival. CONACULTA. Mexico City.  
2014 - Experimental Electronics New River Studios. London UK.  
2013 - Sound is Virus Sound improvisation with electronic media Dr. Fourquet 25 Madrid. Spain.  
2013 - Keep breathing. Sound improvisation MATADERO Madrid, Spain.  
2012 - Plan B Sound improvisation. Plan B. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.  
2012 - Tsonami International Sound Art Festival. Valparaíso, Chile.  
2012 - Overflows Approaches to the improvised music, Tonalá Cinema. Mexico City.  
2012 - 2nd Meeting of free music Nameless sound, Houston, Texas. USA  
2012 - Meditatio Sonus Auditorium of the Chapultepec forest. Mexico City.  
2012 - 2nd Meeting of free music ENM UNAM Mexico City.  
2012 - ZERUMEN Sound improvisation. Cultural Center of the Forest UNAM.  
2012 - FORM 02 Casa Vecina Cultural Center. Mexico City.  
2012 - Blind Spot. Sound improvisation, Aguascalientes Cultural Institute.  
2012 - FORM 01 Alameda Art Laboratory. Mexico City.  
2012 - Pagan Party. Art and New Technologies Center. San Luis Potosi, Mexico.  
2012 - Der Blode Dritte mittwoch Rhiz, Vienna, Austria.  
2012 - Rue du Nord festival Theatre 2.21 Lausanne, Switzerland.  
2012 - PLATTFON live set Basel, Switzerland.  
2012 - The factory Live set Losone, Switzerland.  
2012 - Froid Buffet Live set. Froid buffet. Lyon, France.  
2011 - Zerumen & Stalaktos. Laboratorio de Arte Alameda, Mexico City.  
2011 - Nightingale Upgrade! Chicago, USA.  
2011 - Chicago Art Department FMEL Chicago USA.  
2011 - FMEL Latin Electronic Music Festival. Chicago, USA.  
2011 - BENT FESTIVAL 2011 New York, USA.  
2011 - Open Field. Border Cultural Center. Mexico City.  
2011 - Noise Sessions. Experimental Museum El Eco, Mexico City.  
2011 - Zerumen: Juan José Rivas & Rogelio Sosa Electro visiones. Ex Teresa Museum. Mexico City.  
2011 - YA'AX LU'UM: Culture and Social Participation Meeting. MACAY Merida, Yucatan.  
2011 - Keet visual and sound art festival Campeche, Mexico City.

- 2011 - Aural Festival. The Aural Niche 2011. Mexico City.
- 2010 - High Zero festival Baltimore, Maryland USA.
- 2010 - Dorkbot Cd de Mexico # 21, Mexico City.
- 2010 - Festival für unabhängige und revolutionäre Musik. Vienna,Austria.
- 2010 - Fails&distortions Raum 18 Ziegarstrasse 11, Berlin. Alemania.
- 2004 - L'estat de les estructures. Hangar Centre de Producció d' Arts Visuels. Barcelona, Spain.

## **DISCOGRAPHY**

- 2021 - "GROAR" Label: Bemis Center for Contemporary arts. Bandcamp
- 2020 - "Anthology Of Experimental Music From Mexico" Label: Unexplained sounds group.
- 2020 - Self-Isolation Sound scape. Postcard Flexidisc. Ciudad de México.
- 2018 - QUADRILATERE Vinyl Juanjose Rivas, Dragos Tara, John Menoud, Lionel Malric, Yann Lecollaire, BKGD, Benoit Moreau, Laurent Estoppey, Gergely Sütö, Andrew Weathers, Ikue Mori, David Menestres, Thomas Barriere, Christian García, Michaël Gebril.
- 2017 - MIKROTON DIGITAL MD20.2017 Sound Canvas 2  
<http://mikroton.net/recordings/mikroton-digital/md-20>
- 2017 - [art020] Juanjosé Rivas Tiznar. Audition Records. Ciudad de México.
- 2012 - Upskirt Audio CD // Ciudad de México.
- 2011 - Galvanized Corpse Audio CD // SUFLEX México.
- 2008 - While you sleep Audio CD// MANDORLA NET LABEL. Ciudad de México.
- 2008 - FPS Video Residual DVD // CONACULTA. Ciudad de México.
- 2007 - I wanna be your Toy Circuit bending set DVD // CONACULTA Ciudad de México.
- 2006 - Sound Check N° 1 Audio Mini CD // JRZ Ciudad de México.
- 2004 - Teoría del escándalo. HANGAR-CONACULTA Barcelona, España.
- 2004 - Concrete Audio CD// HANGAR-CONACULTA Barcelona, España.
- 2004 - Burn Again Audio CD // PORO SOUND. Ciudad de México.
- 2004 - The secret life of Insects Audio Mini CD // PORO SOUND. Ciudad de México.
- 2004 - Flesh and pink milk (compilación) Audio CD // PORO SOUND. Ciudad de México.
- 2004 - Degenerate Electric Audio video CD // PORO SOUND. Ciudad de México.
- 2004 - Telephone cabin (compilación) Audio CD // PORO SOUND Ciudad de México.
- 2003 - The insignificance of balance (compilación) Audio CD // PORO SOUND Ciudad de México.

## **PUBLISHING AND CONFERENCES**

- 2022 - La Improvisación Libre en Latinoamerica. Seis evento virtuales Octubre 2022
- 2022 - Groar; Rewiev on Neural Magazine, IT.
- 2021 - Juanjosé Rivas: Arte y sonido experimentales Nexos
- 2021 - A hybrid time: deep down it's all connected. Article Voices of mexico
- 2021 - GROAR Album Review Densidad2025
- 2021 - GROAR Album Review Deposito Sonoro
- 2021 - GROAR Album Review Point of view
- 2021 - Self Isolation Interview Magazine Online link: Jeronimomx
- 2020 - To see the sound. Interview Omaha Magazine Online link:  
[https://issuu.com/.../omahamagazine\\_om0720\\_cityversion/18](https://issuu.com/.../omahamagazine_om0720_cityversion/18)

- 2019 - Physical Circuits Music and Code Days. Center for Experimentation and Production of Contemporary Music. Mexico City.
- 2019 - Artistic Education and Interdisciplinary Conference IV Congress of Artistic Education for Human Development. León, Mexico City
- 2019 - Technological disobedience and recycling Digital Culture Center. Mexico City.
- 2019 - Music and technology. Data, International Digital Art Meeting Xalapa, Veracruz. Mexico.
- 2018 - Experimental Music (lecture). Experimental Sound Practices. California Institute of the Art Los Angeles, USA.
- 2018 - Mistakes and improvisation as creative processes. International Congress of Artistic Education: Art and Technology. UABC Tijuana, Mexico.
- 2018 - Networks and technology in music and sound art FOROArte. UDLA Puebla, Mexico
- 2018 - Sound art: Mexico - Spain. Tamayo Museum. Mexico City.
- 2018 - Culture jamming to the culture surfing. Connecting the dots. Digital Culture Center. Mexico City.
- 2018 - The copy and transcription, Herder Music Library, Mexico City.
- 2018 - Diversity and production. XXV International Colloquium, Art and "Disability": Vasconcelos Library. Mexico City.
- 2018 - Culture and Electronic Music. SAE Mexico City.
- 2016 - Venues at CDMX. NODO Practices and ideas for the contemporary music circuit. CCEMX. Mexico City.
- 2015 - Technology and non-formal education. Motorlab: Digital Citizenship Laboratory CCEMX CMM. Mexico City.
- 2012 - Culture and Art of Mexico Report: <http://www.conaculta.gob.mx/cultura/201211/>
- 2012 - FORM Tsonami International Sound Art Festival. Conference. Valparaiso, Chile
- 2012 - Nameless sound Conference: Sound Improvisation. Houston, Texas. U.S.A.
- 2012 - Binary. International Festival of Art, Design and New Media Culture ENAP UNAM. Mexico City.
- 2012 - The need for silence. Conference Cultural Institute Aguascalientes. Aguascalientes, Mexico.
- 2011 - Electronic experimental music. FMEL. Chicago, Illinois. U.S.A.
- 2009 - International Tangent Radio Symposium 2009 Universidad Iberoamericana Conference. Mexico City.
- 2008 - Sound Art and Technology. Essay, Magazine: Science and Development, CONACYT.
- 2008 - Replicants. Essay, Book: Transmutative Experimental Body CMM, CENART

## **CULTURAL MANAGEMENT AND CURATORSHIP.**

- 2023 – VOLTA Abismal / Casa del Lago. Abril 2023 British Council program.
- 2022 – VOLTA / Vernacular Institute. 2022-2023 Vernacular Institute CDMX
- 2020 - Artistic Director Volta: Sessions of improvisation and sound experimentation. Mexico City 2011-2020
- 2016 - Artistic Director 1st International Encounter of Sound Art and Experimental Music Tlaxcala, Mexico
- 2013 - Planning and Evaluation Council. Transitio\_mx. Mexico City.
- 2011 - Dorkbot Mexico City. People doing weird things with electricity. Mexico City.
- 2009 - Selection Committee of the third contest of Electronic Arts and Video Transitio\_mx

## **TEACHING**

- 2023 - Professor (2007-2023) Universidad Centro, Cine, Diseño y Televisión. Mexico City.  
2020 - Workshop for children. Build your home synthesizer. UNAM, Casa del Lago.  
2019 - Workshop "Creativity as a criminal act " IV Congress of artistic education for human development. Leon Gto. Mexico  
2018 - Tutor of Young Creators FONCA CONACULTA Multimedia 2018  
2018 - Peripheral explorations artistic tutorials. Gimnasio de arte Ciudad de México 2018 - Educational program mobile fields, Seminar of technological speculation Gimnasio de arte y Cultura  
2017 - Academic Tutor SOMA Mexico City  
2017 - Academic advisor GIMNASIO DE ARTE Mexico City.  
2017 - Professor of Animation and Digital Video 2007-2017Universidad Centro, Cine Diseño y Televisión. Mexico City.  
2017 - Technology and new media workshop Motorlab Ciudadanía Digital 2013-2017 CCEMX.  
2017 - Sound Recycling Workshop Wings and Roots, CONACULTA, 2010-2017. Mexico City.

## **EDUCATION**

- Master degree in Design Studies at Centro. Cine, Diseño y televisión in México City.
- Degree in Multimedia. Design School EDINBA Mexico City.
- Bachelor of Visual Arts degree, ENPEG La Esmeralda, INBA. Mexico City.

## **LINKS**

[www.juanjoserivas.info](http://www.juanjoserivas.info)  
[www.voltamx.info](http://www.voltamx.info)  
<https://vimeo.com/juanjoserivas>  
<https://juanjoserivas.bandcamp.com/>

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