

Come and explore spatial composition, deep listening, and resonance through play.

## WORKSHOP

### BELLS & WHISTLES SCRATCH ORCHESTRA

3pm–5pm / Women & Marginalised Genders  
TiM Below

Get involved with sound-making in this collective scratch orchestra led by organist and musicologist **Dr Rebekah Okpoti**. Think bells, organ pipes, and composition miniatures that experiment with texture and timbre.

If you have an unusual instrument with a soft tone — bring it along! You'll also need your phone or another handheld device to record the sounds you create. Expect a playful, hands-on session that celebrates curiosity, creativity, and making noise together.

Join us as we transition from day to evening with the experimental world of sound poetry.

### OPEN MIC SPITTING YARNS

5pm–7pm / Open to All  
TiM Café

Focusing on the playful, radical, and dramatic, our host **Carrienne Vivianette** introduces seminal works in the field. Vivianette will perform alongside other poets as they share new works in sound poetry written specifically for the event. The audience will be invited to compose their own sound poems using art strategies drawn from historic sound poets during a brief workshop, followed by an opportunity to perform cabaret-style!

## ANN ROSÉN

### PERFORMANCE DRAWING SESSION

7pm–9pm / Open to All  
TiM Studio

**Ann Rosén** will perform her Drawing Session in two sets, the Mouth and the Voice, where she creates music through drawing, utilising the conductive properties of graphite through electronic circuits that run directly from the medium to software on Rosén's computer.

The pencil, paper, and electronics are combined into an experimental instrument that sonifies mark-making, as she simultaneously scribes and performs graphic scores in real-time. After the second set, Rosén will answer questions, demonstrate, then invite the audience to sample the instrument.

**FRI**  
17 OCT 2025

Make your own noisy pompom synth with **Sam Topley** to take home with you!

## WORKSHOP

### NOISY POMPOMS

1pm–3pm / Women & Marginalised Genders  
TiM Café

In this fun, practical workshop we will create playful pompom musical instruments – handheld DIY synths that are brought to life by squeezing colourful pompoms.

Along the way you'll learn about e-textiles and discover how soft and tactile materials can be incorporated into electronic musical instrument building. Participants will craft two e-textile pompoms, connect them to a printed circuit board, and explore the sounds they can produce. No prior experience is necessary.

**Shortwave Collective** invite you to make a very simple radio with us!

In this workshop, participants will construct a self-powered, tuner-less radio, which we call an Open Wave-Receiver.

Working with a basic set of materials – wire, clips, tent pegs, and chosen or found objects – we'll become co-researchers and experimenters, attaching our radios to metal structures as makeshift antennas and searching for signals. No experience necessary! Our workshops have a feminist ethos and are designed as inclusive spaces to question and create together.

### OPEN DECK SPIN OFF

5pm–7pm / Open to All  
TiM Café

**Helen Stead** will lead by demonstration and will be on hand to provide guidance during this light-touch, informal drop-in session. Twenty-minute slots are available to book for those with sets compatible with MP3 on USB and laptops – ideal for anyone who has always wanted to try this style of DJing but lacked the opportunity, equipment, or encouragement to give it a go.

Learn to create ambient soundscapes in our programmed interlude alongside members of Bradford Sound Wom\*n Network using MP3 via Rekordbox.

## WORKSHOP

### OPEN WAVE-RECEIVER RADIO

3pm–5pm / Women & Marginalised Genders  
TiM Below

**SAT**  
18 OCT 2025

## MARIA CHÁVEZ

### PERFORMANCE ABSTRACT TURNTABLISM

7pm–9pm / Open to All  
TiM Studio

Influenced by contemporary art and Deep Listening, Chávez takes us on a hunt for subtle imperfections. Using four turntables, two mixers, and the RAKE double needle, Chávez layers broken vinyl to create live sound collages in real-time. At the end of the performance the audience will be able to ask questions and engage with the piece by breaking and playing the records provided.

Junk Instruments Orchestra is a playful, participatory sound workshop where discarded materials are reimagined as instruments in a spontaneous, collective noise ensemble.

## WORKSHOP

### JUNK INSTRUMENTS

2pm–4pm / Families  
TiM Café

Led by artist **Margarita Novikova**, the session invites participants to explore rhythm, texture, and improvisation using repurposed objects and found sound to craft colourful Junk Shakers. The workshop reflects on wasteful overconsumption. It's a call to reclaim agency – to create, not just consume. Together, we'll experience connection through collective action and compose raw sonic textures of resistance, transformation, and joy.

Three new pieces by emerging Bradford sound artists celebrating feminist perspectives in sound with a focus on climate, will be exhibited in Gallery II during the festival.

Bradford's industrial history, particularly in the textile and manufacturing sectors, has contributed to significant environmental degradation and social inequality, with working-class communities disproportionately affected by these challenges.

**Maria Chávez** will perform her Abstract Turntablism by repurposing broken vinyl into sonic sculptures comparable to improvised musique concrète.

Influenced by contemporary art and Deep Listening, Chávez takes us on a hunt for

**SUN**  
19 OCT 2025

Led by artist **Margarita Novikova**, the session invites participants to explore rhythm, texture, and improvisation using repurposed objects and found sound

### EXHIBITION SOUND BLEED

5pm–7pm / Open to All  
Gallery II

It is an ideal location to explore the intersection of feminism, sound, and environmental justice, while amplifying voices often underrepresented in climate discourse. **Closing View on the Sunday.**

**Tallulah Lilburn-Quick** is a Bradford-born sound artist, creating installation-based works that centre on interaction, memory, and lived experience.

At the heart of their practice is a focus on how sound shapes our understanding of space and memory. Through D-I-Y electronics, the public are invited to engage physically and sonically with their surroundings. This installation explores the physical environment and its relationship with the sonic environment. Repurposed landline telephones become speakers, transforming domestic nostalgic objects into listening devices. In doing so, the work encourages us to understand landscape through soundscape, hearing place as much as seeing it.

**Jacqueline Sharp** is a multidisciplinary artist creating work that explores healing environments and sonic storytelling.

Her work is rooted in community, harnessing heritage and culture to inform and connect through visual and participatory arts practice. Recording the resonance of Shipley's Kirkgate Centre and playing it back into the space bridges two sonic points in time, pre and post refurbishment. The audience bears witness to the feedback-loop as it distorts and degrades. Intimately listening to cassette tapes played through portable recorders and headphones, we interrogate the sonosphere of a building as it absorbs and projects living memory.

**Kirran Shah** is a writer and creative wellbeing facilitator applying embodiment practices and nature's collective healing through a decolonisation lens.

She re-creates trauma informed, community-led experiences using art, drama and movement therapy to re-harmonise and re-humanise. Between two speakers, an immersive sonic experience washes over the listener in an invitation to feel into the somatic experience of a woodland soundscape. The natural and synthetic combine into a binaural walk-through of a forest soundscape layered with an ambient musical composition. We are encouraged to lean into our own internal rhythms and create healing pathways for the body.

# Plug it up

Sonic Arts  
Festival

17 - 19 Oct 2025

Theatre in the Mill

University of Bradford, BD7 1DP



Bradford Sound Wom\*n Network  
PRESENTS

# Sonic Arts Festival

17 - 19 Oct 2025

Theatre in the Mill

# Plug it up

A DIY sound art festival combining workshops and performances led by women & marginalised gender artists who are working with sound in innovative ways.

Friday & Saturday -  
Workshops are for  
women and marginalised  
genders, performances  
are open to all.

Sunday - Events are  
open to all.

TICKETS



PRODUCED BY  
Bradford Sound  
Wom\*n Network

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
Yorkshire Sound  
Women Network



YSWN



BRADFORD 2025  
UK City of Culture

