**‘Figure of 8’ (Rainforest, Ecuador, Sound Recorded at height: 1.39m, 9.78m, 22.59m, 30.79m and 37.26m) for 5.1 surround sound, 16 mins looped, 2015.** Courtesy Galerie Barbara Thumm, Berlin.

**Mariele Neudecker at Film at Art Basel in Miami Beach 2015**

Mariele Neudecker is creating a surround sound piece which will be played at the Film at Art Basel in Miami Beach this December (2nd-5th). The Artists Surround Sound Project is curated by David Gryn/Artprojx and will also feature the work of Sofie Alsbo, Alice Jacobs and Camille Norment. On each night of the fair, one artist will have their work played continuously between 6-8pm on a sound system made up of over 160 speakers in Miami’s Soundscape Park, part of Frank Gehry’s New World Symphony Centre. (Note - Mariele Neudecker’s work will be played on the 2nd December).

Neudecker’s *Figure of 8* aims to create a sound experience of a night in the jungle with a soundscape artificially collaged from 3-dimensional sound recordings taken from an Ecuadorian rainforest at the heights of 1.39m, 9.78m, 22.59m, 30.79m and 37.26m.

Tiputini Biodiversity Station in Ecuador, where the sound recordings were captured, is one of the most bio-diverse forests in the world. Its sounds never stop. At the time of capture, the sound recordings observed and corresponded with the circadian rhythm of the rainforest. The sound implies a physical shift through a physical space and horizontal timeline. Moving beyond the image, Neudecker at times works with classical music and sound ‘data’, exploring the pathos and evocative power of audio that is rooted in ‘ground truth’ – a term used in remote sensing to describe data collected on location. In this particular location no image – moving or still – can capture what sound manages to convey.

The sound recordings were taken as part of the development of a permanent, commissioned artwork for the new Cancer Centre at Guy’s Hospital Arts Programme, curated and delivered by Futurecity. As part of the *Hanging Gardens* commission, Neudecker will create an audio-visual piece in the passenger lifts highlighting the parallels between dense urban spaces and the internal structures of a rainforest. With the introduction of a window in the main lifts, passengers will be able to see the urban landscape as they travel up and down the building. At the same time - and in synchronization with the lift movement - a video monitor set alongside the window will show a similar journey taken through the Ecuadorian rainforest, from the forest floor right up to the jungle canopy.

*‘With the three visitor lifts set into a glass-shaft, I immediately saw the opportunity to use them as mobile and constantly shifting viewing-posts, out to the cityscape and also into ‘another world’, which is both comforting and engaging’.* Mariele Neudecker

The Arts Programme is funded by Guy’s & St Thomas’ Charity and managed by Guy’s & St Thomas’ NHS Trust. The new Cancer Centre building in London Bridge which is designed by Rogers Stirk + Partners and Stantec will bring together the

majority of Guy’s & St Thomas’ Hospital Cancer Services under one roof and is due to open late 2016.

**Credits:** Sound Recording in Tiputini, Ecuador: **Laurie Lax** and **John Taylor**.

Mic used: Sennheiser MKH30 and MKH40 mic in a Rycote basket and suspension - cardiod and figure 8 mic in MS configuration.

*Other credits for making this work possible:* **Guy’s and StThomas’ NHS Hospital Foundation Trust**, London, UK **Guy’s and St Thomas’ Charity,** London, UK **Bath Spa University,** Bath, UK **Tiputini Biodiversity Research Station,** Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Ecuador **Manus Pitt**, BBC Natural History Unit, Bristol, UK **Galerie Barbara Thumm**, Berlin, Germany.