

**scènes, rendez-vous**  
(for my father)

**Pete Stollery**

When I was young, I remember my father telling me about a film which consisted of a sports car driving at incredibly high speeds through Paris at dawn, from the Boulevard Périphérique all the way to the Baslique Sacré-Cœur in around 9 minutes. The film was shot from the front of the car and the soundtrack was the sound of the car's engine. The film was *C'était un Rendez-vous* shot by Claude Lelouch in 1976.

Much as I enjoyed the soundtrack, I would watch (as a tourist) all these famous Parisian landmarks flying past and wonder about the real soundscape of these places. One Sunday in June 2006 I walked the route which Lelouch's car takes, recording sounds in various places along the way – some are general soundscapes which reflect the different acoustic properties of the spaces, some are particular sounds (cars running over drain covers, ambulance, street musicians).

I took various “restrictions” from Lelouch's film:

- Lelouch had only 10 mins of film in his camera – I limited myself to 1 hour of recording time;
- Lelouch's film was one take only – I would use only sounds from the single sound walk;
- Risk – Lelouch had no idea what would be in his way – I had no idea what sounds I would come across.

The piece consists of six “scenes” which are untreated field recordings which are interspersed with acousmatic episodes derived from the sounds of the scenes and from aspects of Lelouch's film.

Introduction

(scène) Boulevard Périphérique

épisode 1

(scène) Avenue Foch

épisode 2a

(scène) Rue de l'Opéra

épisode 2b

(scène) Ste Trinité

épisode 3

(scène) Avenue Junot

episode 4

(scène) Sacré-Cœur

*scènes, rendez-vous* was created entirely in Paris in June 2006 and realised in Studio A of the Groupe de Recherches Musicales.