

# SOUNDS OF THE NIGHT

- Being a woman in the city -



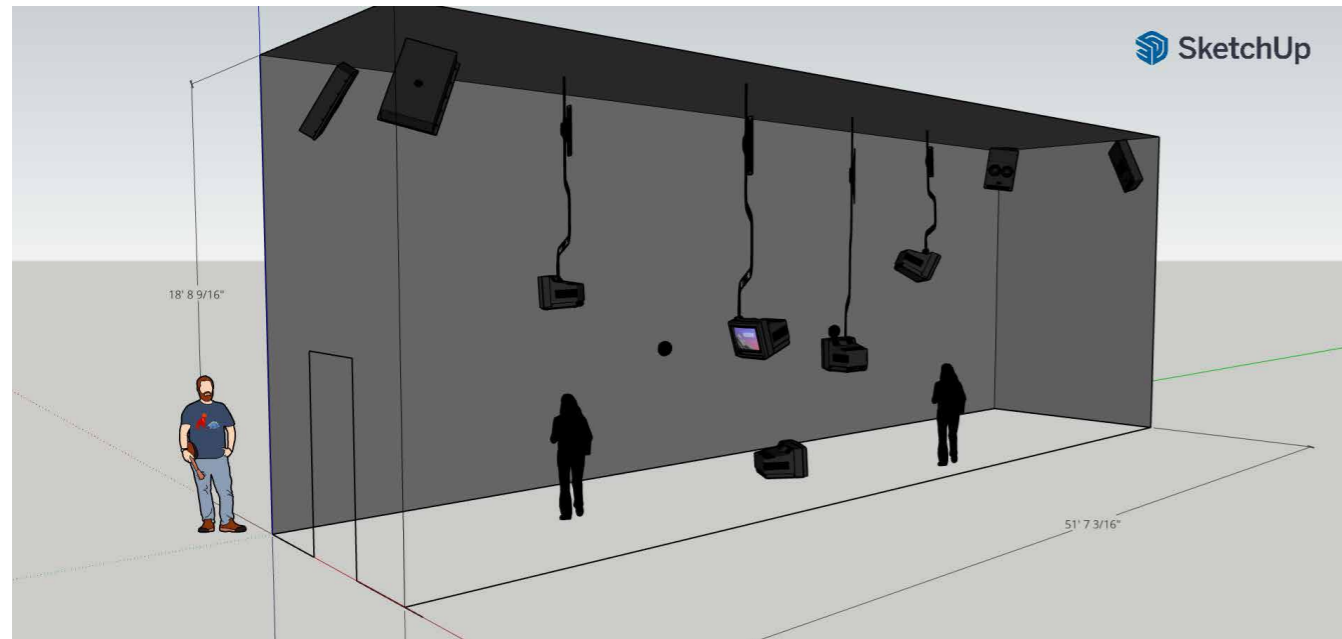
## Project Description

“Sounds of the Night ” is an sound installation to create awareness of urban women’s fears. This sound installation uses the sounds of the night and various female voices as essential elements to illustrate their stifled inner feelings that are often masked and overlooked. The sound installation includes visual elements to depict their trepidations and the need to be responsible for their safety. This installation results from extensive research done with women from various ethnicities, generations and economic backgrounds.

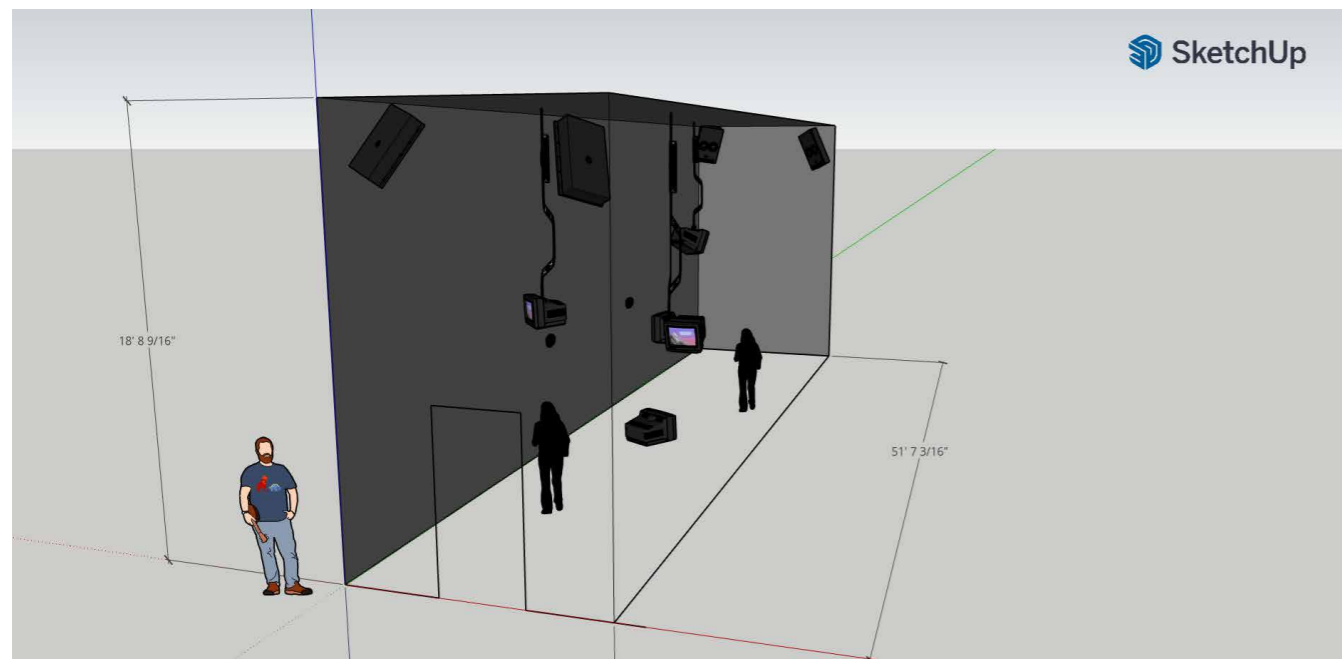
For this sound installation, we recreated a dark room which should simulate the illusion of a street by night. We used various sounds from the city, including footsteps, street sounds and heartbeats, to recreate the sensation of a street from a women’s perspective. Using these sounds as a backdrop, we intend to showcase how the women perceive these noises as an existential threat to their safety. Due to this experience and feeling, women are extremely cautious of their surroundings.

Apart from creating awareness, another key theme explored in this installation is to remind women that they are not alone and allow them to acknowledge that they shouldn’t be solely responsible for their safety. Through the sound installation, we would like to invite the visitors to enter the room of inflection to experience the world from various women’s perspectives for 2 to 20 minutes. Through this experience, we want to showcase to the world the spatial inequalities that still exist in cities for women and in urban areas, as these spaces have not be designed with a women’s perspective in mind.

## Installation Design



Side view of Installation



Front view of Installation

## Installation Design

The room where the sound installation should be installed must be narrow. We are thinking of the following dimension for the space:

Width: 1.50 to 2.00 m  
Length: 3.00 m  
Height: 3.00 to 4.00 m

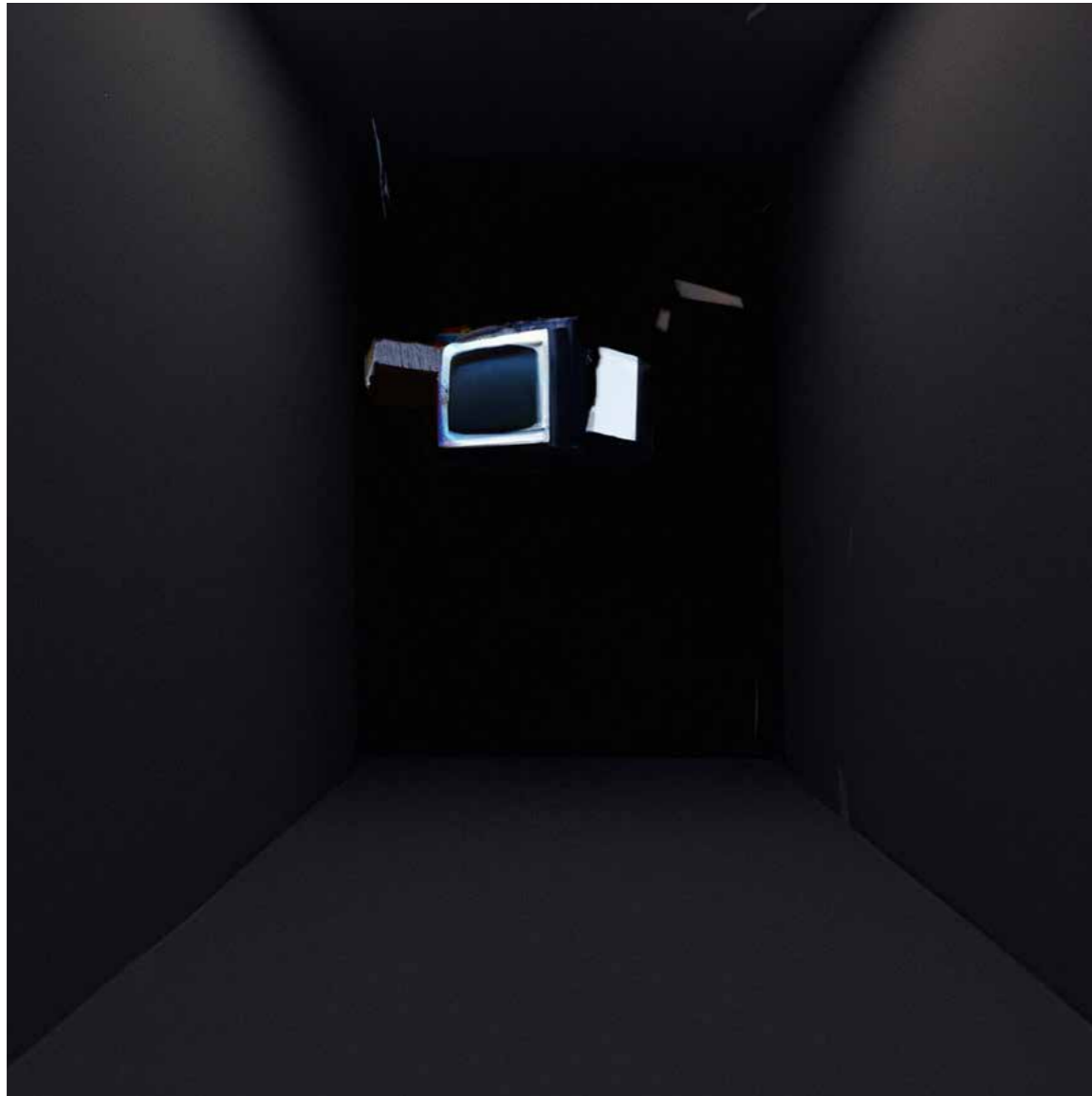
The space will be painted in a night blue or black to simulate the atmosphere of a dark alley. To create an all-immersive experience for the visitor, speakers will be installed in each corner of the room to transport the sound and atmosphere. In the middle of the room, about 5 CRT-TVs will be installed, hanging from the ceiling, and one is placed on the ground. The light from the monitors will simulate the street lighting.

Minimum Equipment:

- 5 CRT-TVs
- 4 TV mountings
- 4 Wall Speakers
- Cable

## The Experience

The visitor should transition from the outdoor street into a domestic/gallery/commercial space and then enter the indoor alley space to experience different feelings in the various areas. In front of the room, there should be a short project description with a warning disclaimer to make people aware that this experience could be distressing or awaken bad memories. Entering the room, the visitor should slowly walk through the room like walking through a narrow alley. By doing this, the visitor will experience the feeling of a woman walking on a dark street and listen to several stories and their experiences in the city. A short animation and a textual visualisation of the woman's stories will be shown on the TVs. The sound will be played for 20 mins and will start again when coming to an end. The spectator can walk to the room for 2 to 20 mins.



Envisioned room atmosphere

# The Artist

Susanne Baumann

Madhurya Katragadda

Yuehan Ren

Shaquéelle Whyte