

Örjan Sandred

The Golden Spike

for 4-channel tape (2008).

“The Golden Spike” relates to the early concept of Musique Concrète. A realistic sound world is transformed into abstract “paintings” of sound. The same sound world is viewed from three different angles, resulting in three different “images”.

The piece is a stylized snapshot of Winnipeg, Canada. I moved to Winnipeg in 2005. When I first arrived in the city I was driven around on a tour of the city. The long freight trains that we passed on several occasions impressed me. They gave the city a unique characteristic appearance. Impressive in their length, they remain a memory of the city’s history. Winnipeg could not have grown without the trains.

The title “The Golden Spike” refers to the last, ceremonial spike driven specifically to mark the completion of a railroad line.