

S.A.R — Seismic / Atmospheric Radio

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S.A.R is an artistic research system that explores the San Andreas Fault as a living territory, where deep geological processes and complex social dynamics coexist, overlap, and mutually affect one another.

The San Andreas Fault is not merely a tectonic structure; it is a historical, political, and human corridor that cuts across cities, agricultural regions, deserts, critical infrastructures, and Indigenous territories. Along this axis, planetary-scale seismic forces coexist with scientific monitoring systems, extractive economies, migratory flows, regimes of control, structural inequalities, and everyday forms of resilience.

S.A.R approaches this region as a multiscale field of tensions. On one hand, it captures electromagnetic, seismic, ionospheric, and atmospheric signals associated with the accumulation and release of energy within the Earth's crust. On the other, it integrates social layers of information: demographic, historical, and contemporary data related to migration, agricultural labor, surveillance, control policies, protest movements, and the living conditions of the communities inhabiting the fault corridor.

The system interface also incorporates archival materials, cartographic layers, and anthropological references that situate these signals within the broader historical and cultural landscape of the region, allowing geological activity and social memory to be read together as part of the same territorial narrative.

The project does not seek to predict earthquakes nor to frame catastrophe as spectacle. Instead, it proposes an expanded mode of listening to the territory, where physical anomalies and social frictions are understood as expressions of the same unstable system. Earth, atmosphere, and society emerge as interdependent domains, traversed by slow and fast rhythms, visible and invisible forces.

S.A.R operates through a local and autonomous infrastructure: antennas, sensors, open datasets, and analytical systems that transform these multiple signals into sound. Through sonification and algorithmic composition, the project turns the San Andreas Fault corridor into a geosocial score, where each segment of territory activates sonic processes shaped both by its geophysical behavior and its human context.

From this perspective, sound does not function as illustration or warning, but as an epistemological and sensitive tool—a way of perceiving complex relationships that cannot be reduced to maps, charts, or linear narratives. The result is a living instrument that articulates science, politics, and aesthetic experience, inviting reflection on how we inhabit unstable territories and how deep tensions—both geological and social—shape our ways of living.

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