

# Amble Skuse – Composer & Sound Artist

[amble.skuse@gmail.com](mailto:amble.skuse@gmail.com) [www.ambleskuse.net](http://www.ambleskuse.net)

## Biog

Amble is a composer and sound artist who uses disability theory, body sensor technology, spoken word interviews and electronics to create unique sound works. She is interested in the interface between the disabled body and the exterior world, and has explored this through numerous sound walks using her wheelchair. Amble recently won a Special Commendation Daphne Oram Award for her work in electronic music, and was selected as Scotland's representative for the International Society Contemporary Music Festival 2024.

Amble recently wrote *Divergent Sounds* in collaboration with Kings College London. The piece uses interviews with NeuroDivergent people, electronics, body sensors and a 13 piece orchestral ensemble. It was premiered at the Queen Elizabeth Hall at the Southbank. She was one of five Creative Scotland International Creative Entrepreneurship Fellows, a BBC Performing Arts Fellow, has gained several large scale grants from Creative Scotland to produce work and was a BBC alumni fellow. She was also a Mimu Glove research resident in 2022.

Amble wrote a bespoke piece for instruments and technology for the British ParaOrchestra. Charles Hazlewood described her as a "fierce creative spirit! We couldn't ignore Amble's brilliance (a true sonic adventurer)". Her album *What News with Alasdair Roberts and David McGuinness* was described in *The Guardian* as "Skuse's laptop textures offer slow-burning, elemental accompaniment throughout. So many intricate ideas here, so beautifully done." Her work *We Ask These Questions of Everybody* is a digital opera exploring the lives of Disabled people in the UK. It was premiered at Scotland's Sound Festival and gained a 5 star review from *The i* "Politically important and an artistic triumph".

## Key Commissions

2024 - **"All who are weary and heavy-laden, I will give you rest III" (Video work)**

Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival

2024 - **"All who are weary and heavy-laden, I will give you rest II" (Composition)**

Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival

2024 - **"All who are weary and heavy-laden, I will give you rest I" (Performance with Bosko Begovic)** - Bounce Festival, University of A-Typical & Northern Lights.

2024 - **Artist in Residence** With Bosko Begovic, for Northern Lights, Derry.

2024 - **Artist in Residence** Sruth Mara, Lewis (Hebrides)

2024 - **Sonic Lamp** - Sonica Festival, Glasgow City Chambers

2024 - **Chapels with Splendid Glass Windows** – International Society of Contemporary Music, Scotland's representative for World Music Days. s representative for World Music Days.

2023 - **Interdependent Intersections** Installation – Nantes Bienale with Bosko Begovic  
2023 - Artist in Residence Västernorrland & Hedlandet (Sweden)  
2023 - **Divergent Sounds** - City of London Sinfonia - Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank, London.  
2022 - **Featured on documentary** Champions of the World - In Place of War.  
2022 - **Commission** Zubin Kanga - Cyborg Soloists  
2022 - **Artist in Residence, Britten Pears**, Snape Maltings  
2022 - **Artist in Residence** Pervasive Media Bristol  
2022 - **Artist in Residence** Cove Park Scotland  
2021 - **Artist in Residence** Mimú Gloves  
2021 - **Artist in Residence** Belgrade with iPortunus EU support  
2021 - APO33 Nantes - **Normalised Interfacing sound walk for Nantes**  
2021 - **We Ask These Questions of Everybody** Opera with Hera.  
2020 - **'h0mefile'** developing an ensemble for home based disabled musicians  
2019 - Plymouth *Walking's New Movements* - **Normalized Interfacing (Plymouth)**  
2019 - ZKM My City My Sounds - **Normalized Interfacing (Karlsruhe)**  
2018 - **What News** – Album with Alasdair Roberts and David McGinness.  
2018 - BBC Radio 3 Late Junction International Women's Day Improvisation Session  
2017 - **Balancing Act**  
2017 - British ParaOrchestra Commission – Sound and Music  
2016 – Medulla Obligato collaboration with Psychologists at the University of Groningen  
2016 – AHRC Scholarship for PhD based on Medulla Obligato  
2015 - **Remembered Futures** - Beijing, China  
([www.rememberedfuturesbeijing.tumblr.com](http://www.rememberedfuturesbeijing.tumblr.com))  
2015 - **Tracks and Sleepers** residency in UK, France, Germany, Russia, Mongolia & China.  
2015 - BBC Alumni Award Winner  
2015 - Flip Artists Fellowship  
2015 - Active Encouragement Advisory Group Member – Sound & Music  
13/14 - **Memory Lane** – audio walking tour for Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2014 – Artistic Director (Featured on Radio 3's Late Junction with Max Reinhardt)  
2013 - **Hua Dan Stories** Soundscape of migrant women and left behind children, for Tinderbox & Hua Dan, Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Scottish Storytelling Centre, Edinburgh  
2013 - **Hua Dan Dumpling Dreams Soundtrack** performed at [Hua Dan's](#) 'Dumpling Dreams Monologues' Fan Xing Theatre Village, Beijing  
12/13 - **Remembered / Imagined** - collaboration for emerging composers with Mr McFalls Chamber – Artistic Director  
12/13 - BBC Performing Arts Fellow  
12/13 - International Creative Entrepreneurs Fellowship  
12 - Rarescale Ensemble – *Sligachan & An Ìochdar an Amar Uisge*  
12 - Adopt a Composer, Sound & Music / PRS Foundation / Making Music  
12 - Mr McFalls Chamber Electronics Workshop – *Chapels with Splendid Glass Windows*  
11 - Mr McFalls Chamber Electronics Workshop – *Sea Longing*

## **Conferences & Seminars**

2024 - Crippling the Code. Ubimus conference.,Taiwan.  
2024 - Accessible Composition Masterclass. Nordic Music Days  
2024 - Disability Strategies in Composition. World New Music Festival, Faroe Islands.  
2024 – AHRC Music and Disability Event. Imperial College London – Invited Delegate.  
2024 - Symposium on Disability and Accessibility – University of Leeds – Paper  
“Embodied Sound - Sounds Different to Me”  
2024 – Radical Futures – University College Cork – Paper “The Future is Disabled”  
2023 – Royal Northern College of Music – Disability Week, lecture “The Cyborg, the  
Tryborg and the Crip Tech - Navigating the use of technology interfacing the body”  
2021 - Audio Developer Conference - Accessibility Panel  
2021 - New Music Scotland - Interview of working remotely as a disabled composer  
2018 - University of Glasgow seminar on Disability and Music  
2017 - DHRA, Data Ache, Plymouth University.  
2017 - ISSTA, Dundalk, Ireland  
2017 - First International Conference on Women in Music, Bangor University  
2017 – Edinburgh Festival - Beyond Tickboxes – Disability and Arts Production  
2017 – Inclusive Sound Spaces – Huddersfield University – Inclusivity in Sound Practices  
2017 – Women in Electronic Music Event – Durham University – Paper on Balancing Act  
2017 – Sonic CyberFeminisms Conference – Performance of Balancing Act  
2016 - Performance with OFFAL & Talk on Diversity in the live coding scene -  
International Conference for Live Coding, MacMaster University, Canada.

## **Employment History**

01/11 – Current	Composer
09/17 - Current	Academic - Music and Disability
04/08 – 04/11	Senior Officer for Social Inclusion – Community Council of Devon
04/07 – 04/08	Arts Development Officer – Wren Music
11/06 – 01/08	Co-ordinator - South West Participatory Arts Network
09/05 – 04/07	Assistant Officer Diversity and Inclusion - Arts Council England
03/05 – 09/05	Neighbourhood Arts Administrator - Bristol City Council
07/00 – 03/05	Stage Manager & Sound Technician – Self-Employed

## **Qualifications**

2016 - Current	PhD Composition - University of Plymouth (AHRC scholarship)
15-16	Sonology Postgraduate - Conservatoire Den Haag
04-06	PG Dip - Creative Music Technology - Bath Spa University College.
97-00	BA Hons - Arts Management & Visual Performance (Sonic Installation) – Dartington