



Elemental Art Residency

Nature as Process

Julien PHILIPPON



About the artist

Musician/composer/producer

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I'm a musician, multi-instrumentiste, composer and producer, I create immersive sonic environments that invite listeners inward. Through composition, sound design, and texture, I explore the emotional language beyond words, creating spaces where each listener can encounter their own feelings, memories, and inner landscapes.

Underground Weather is the meeting point of my compositions, where sitar, voice, keyboards, electronic beats, and ambient textures merge into a layered, exploratory sound.



Inquiry

Question/observation/insight

My initial intention in coming to the Vinyasa residency was to create more space for my art and creativity, and to allow myself to step more fully into my identity as an artist. I wanted to open up room for exploration, and find a greater sense of legitimacy in my practice.

I was drawn to the idea of meeting other artists—sharing processes, listening to different approaches, exchanging ideas, collaborating and learning from one another.

I was also curious about what it would feel like to spend ten days with new people in nature, and how being immersed in that environment might influence and shape our work



Process

Brief Breakdown of the process

I start walking in nature, recording sounds from the outside with a portable zoom recorder especially rain and thunder.

I also started to work on the exercise we had with Rohit on the 2nd day, which gave me a statement for the upcoming release:

- starting with an image
- add key words, and think about a structure for the song.
- go in nature, have a break, eating
- and then start the work of composition

The rest of the time was going back and forth in the same frame: go to nature , have a break, work on my music and exchange with my residency coworker.



Shift

self doubting

Of course, there were moments of resistance. I had many things to create, and at times I lost confidence in what I was making. I believe that's a natural part of the creative process. Taking a walk, talking things through with the guidance of Abishek, Sankalp, or my colleagues, or simply sharing a meal with people whose company I enjoy helped me return with a clearer mind and reconnect with the idea I was developing.



Outcome

Create and perform a song about Mosson

For the performance, I decided to create a musical piece that reflects my thoughts and emotions during my walks in the forest. The piece is called **Felt**.

Felt is inspired by the Mosson, the rain, and the thunder. It explores the coexistence of calm and stillness with heaviness, electricity, and the chaos that emerges during a storm.

My goal was to find a balance between emotional, melodic sounds and slower, distorted, glitch-based textures. I chose to work with a piano as the central instrument, layering it with glitched electronic beats that evoke thunder, immersive soundscapes, and field recordings of rain and thunder that I captured at the beginning of the residency with my recorder in the forest near GlampeCo.

We decided with abishek to perform in front of the mountain (that was a great idea) close to the yoga area.



Closing thoughts

I came here looking for a sense of legitimacy as an artist, as well as a space to create. I am leaving with something more: the feeling that this is simply how it is—that creating music is natural, and this is what I do, and that there is no longer any need to question it.

I also discovered new creative processes, developed different working routines, and realized that taking breaks is an essential part of the creative process. Some of my best ideas emerged while spending time in nature, with nothing to do but observe. Those moments nourished my work and allowed me to return to it with fresh perspectives.

Observing my colleagues was another great source of inspiration. Through conversations with them and by witnessing their ways of working, I learned a great deal and broadened my own approach to creating.

Vyniasa helped me quiet my mind, focus more deeply on my work, and become more confident in what I was doing. It also taught me that sometimes we build our own walls—barriers that keep us from creating freely.



