

**A Guide to the Soundwalk**

# Sonic Sedimentation at Tanner Springs Park





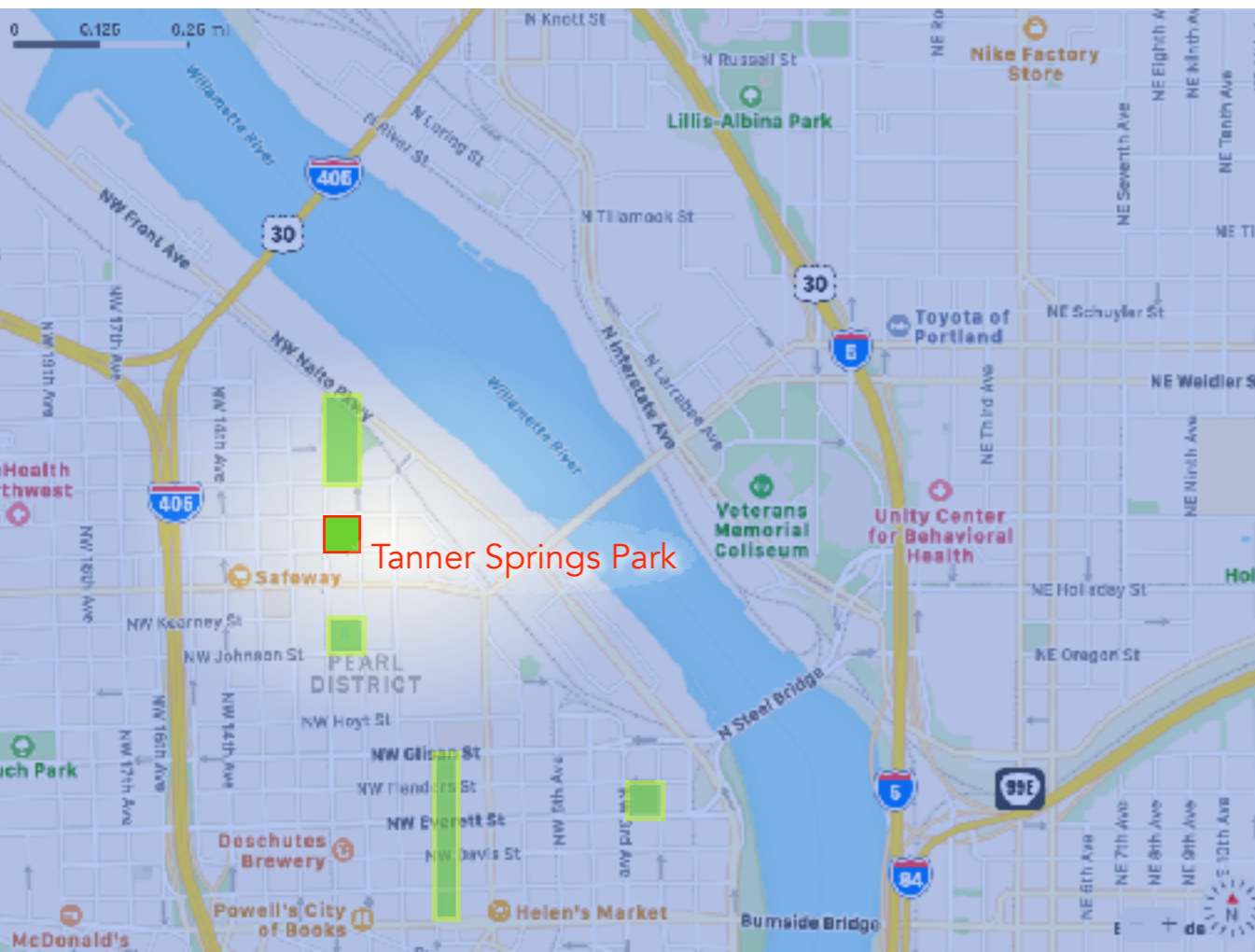
# Sonic Sedimentation

Tanner Springs Park  
Released Dec 15, 2020  
Portland, OR

*Yuan-Chen Li imagines the process of sedimentation in this musical composition.*

Tanner Springs Park is one of a series of parks just north of downtown Portland. Streetcars surround it on three sides, near highways, a train station, and the Willamette River. Wetlands and history were the themes of the park's undertaking.

Yuan-Chen's 40-minute acoustic soundwalk promenades through six "stations." They guide the listeners with musical signposts through moments of turbulent environmental sound, the harmony of singing water, and the joy of human interactions. *Sonic Sedimentation* encourages one's inner thoughts to unfold.





station **1**

**0:00**

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# Urban Park

Though Tanner Springs Park is one of millions of Urban Parks around the world, it retains a Portland sensibility. In fact, on many maps Tanner Springs Park is simply labeled: Portland Park.





station **2**

**7:05**

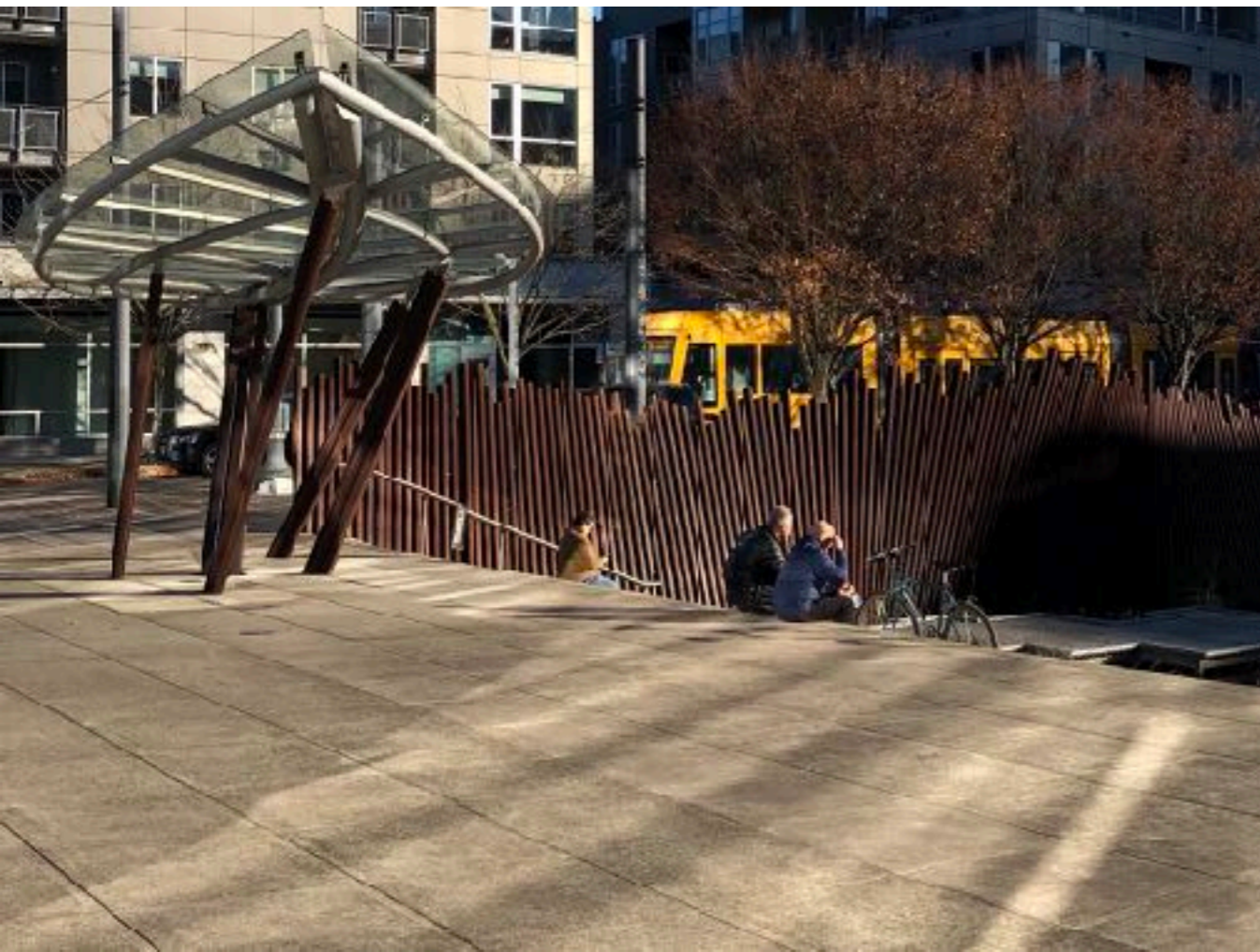
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# Dancing in the Rain

The rain came and went, leaving traces on the metal park bench as well as on the sonic canvas.







station **3**

**15:00**

## Three Musics in Portland Park

The northwest corner of the park is not only the best spot for sun bathing, but also great for musical ethnography. What is the song played from the car passing by?





*"A spring bubbles up at the top of a large open grassy meadow, trickling down to a wetland pond, sunken 6 feet below street level."*

- GreenWorks



station **4**

**22:36**



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# Meditation at the Spring





*"The springs connect the park to Tanner Creek that at one time flowed openly through this area; today it flows through large pipes beneath the city streets."*

- Portland Parks & Recreation

station **5**

**28:44**

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## The Creek at Night







station **6**

**36:00**

## Instrumental Finale

Inspired by the soundscape of Tanner Springs Park, the composer wishes to share with the audience that the musical elements of this “station” are reminiscences of the following:

- Harmony of Portland’s Traffic Noises
- Pitch collection of streetcars
- Rhythm section of the water



# Credits

*Yuan-Chen Li*

[soundcloud.com/composerycli](https://soundcloud.com/composerycli)

Audio Production: field recordings, editing, and mixing

Performance: digital instruments

Composition and improvisation

Words and photography

Concept and guide book design

*Joe Lambke*

[KidCities.org](https://KidCities.org)

Photography and graphics

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[www.openfieldrecording.com](https://www.openfieldrecording.com)

Audio mastering

# Special Thanks & Support

Third Angle New Music

[thirdangle.org](https://thirdangle.org)

Portland Parks and Recreation

[portland.gov/parks](https://portland.gov/parks)



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