

Extinction, for clarinet and fixed media (2022)
Program Notes

Extinction is a monodrama for clarinet and fixed media. The recorded materials include exaggerated and processed vocal sounds that help unfold the narrative of the piece. In addition to playing the instrument, the clarinetist is asked to narrate layers of text that progress over the course of the piece, expressing growing frustration at the intractability of the climate crisis. This concert recording was performed by Ben Fingland.

Eric Chasalow is a composer, sound artist, multi-instrumentalist, record producer, teacher, and advisor to non-profits. Current projects incorporate oral histories and environmental sound to comment on a number of global themes, including the cultural effects of climate change and species extinction.

He is Irving G. Fine Professor of Music at Brandeis University, and Director of BEAMS, the Brandeis Electro-Acoustic Music Studio. Eric holds the D.M.A. from Columbia University where his principal teacher was Mario Davidovsky. He studied flute with Harvey Sollberger. He has been honored by the Guggenheim and Koussevitzky Foundations, the American Academy and many others.

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