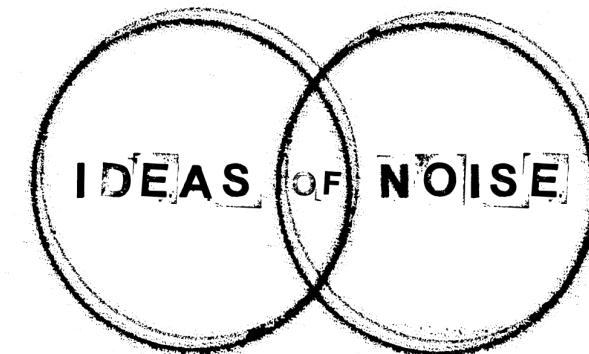


- 1 Hill Top/Herionville Rd.
- 2 Charlemont Estate
- 3 Carter's Green
- 4 Yew Tree Estate
- 5 Top Rank
- 6 Patent Shaft Steelworks
- 7 Snobs
- 8 GPO/BT West Bromwich
- 9 Harvills Hawthorn Primary School
- 10 Walsall Gala Baths
- 11 GPO/BT Horseley Heath
- 12 Priory Estate (home)
- 13 Dudley Town Hall
- 14 Lakeside Road

Things my parents said about childhood

James Banner



Things my parents said about childhood

Commissioned for ION Shorts 2020

James Banner - double bass

duration 20 - 30 minutes

I gratefully acknowledge my parents for giving their time and words to this project and their continued support over many many years



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www.ideasofnoise.com
www.jamesbanner.com

Rather than try to abstract or conceptualise the idea of childhood, I chose to focus on a few every day experiences of my parents, Julie and Chris, who grew up in the Black Country in the 1960s and 70s:

games, aspirations, food, school, work, nights out

The interview took place on 22nd January, after which I listened to the recording quite intensely for a few days - the A2 paper shows some of my transcriptions of and thoughts about a selection of the words.

I wanted to allow the unique Black Country accent influence the improvisation in an organic way purely based on its sound - rhythms, pitches/intervals, inflections/articulation - the stories themselves providing an additional non-musical source of inspiration.

Therefore the notes are not a score that's read during performance, but documentation of a short study, something that was intended to force me to try to access new ideas on my instrument.

The map overleaf shows some of the important locations from my parents' childhood and shortly thereafter.