

“*Silence is...*”, *Machine For Making Sense (1994-2008)*
a film by Stephen Jones.

Machine for Making Sense performed at the Sydney Opera House in late 1994 and I was invited to record the performance. Using two video cameras, Stuart Lynch and I shot the entire performance. Jim Denley of MFMS then cut Julian Knowles' sound recording down to a twenty minute version and I began what turned out to be a very long process of editing and building a visual analogue of the musical performance, e.g. mutating, impressionistic images of city pedestrians and buildings, surging colours or immersed in reflected, fragmenting light. After thirteen years and several attempts to push it along I finally finished in early 2008.

__ Stephen Jones

Machine For Making Sense, a collective comprised of five Australian artists whose work explores relationships between language, text, speech, sound, composition, improvisation, conversation, interaction and music, was co-founded in 1989 by its members: Jim Denley (wind instruments), Chris Mann (poet-composer), Rik Rue (digital & analog tape manipulations), Amanda Stewart (poet-sound artist) and Stevie Wishart (hurdy gurdy, violin, voice). Until 2012, *MFMS* produced tours, performances, site specific events, radio broadcasts, recordings and intermedia collaborations in Australia, the US and Europe.