

CREATIVETIME



Arts & Design

4

Since 1985

September 3rd – October 5th, 2025

If you hear something, free something will play every 15 minutes in the mezzanines at the listed stations. The 24 poetic announcements are divided into 4 movements with 6 new announcements released each Sunday. The sonic interventions demonstrate the way sound, voice, and music are used to remind us that public modes of communication are changeable and may even be used to build community.

From September 3 – October 5, experience *If you hear something, free something* in the mezzanines of the following stations:



Manhattan

1. Fulton St (4 5)
2. 14 St-Union Sq (4 5 6)
3. 42 St-Bryant Pk/5 Av (7)
4. Grand Central-42 St (S)
5. 163 St-Amsterdam Av (A C)

Queens

6. Court Sq (7 G)
7. 74 St-Broadway (7)
8. Mets-Willets Point (7)

Brooklyn

9. Clinton-Washington Aves (G)
10. Fort Hamilton Pkwy (F G)
11. York St (F)
12. Atlantic Av-Barclays Ctr (2 3 4 5)

Bronx

13. 167 St (B D)
14. Westchester Sq-E Tremont Av (6)

A public art project in sound by Chloë Bass



For more information visit:
mta.info/hear-free
creativetime.org/hear-free

What do we hear when we ride public transportation? Who is speaking to us, and what are we being asked to do?

Artist Chloë Bass debuts her first sound work, *If you hear something, free something*, a public art commission presented by Creative Time in partnership with MTA Arts & Design. The MTA serves millions of New York City residents daily, spanning every single neighborhood and social boundary. It is where every denomination of New York City meets. A monumental but fleeting gesture, Bass makes use of New York City Transit's PA system with a series of sonic artworks consisting of 24 poetic announcements that build a practice of everyday care and question the usual purposes of public address.

The sonic artworks—in English, Spanish, Arabic, Bangla, Haitian Kreyòl, and Mandarin—will play intermittently from September 3 to October 5, 2025 in key station mezzanines, reaching hundreds of thousands of riders. To move beyond courtesy and into connection, Bass plays critically with two well-known campaign slogans: “If You See Something, Say Something” and “Courtesy Counts.”

Bass aims to break growing feelings of fear and distrust, and instead to offer moments of surprise, reflection, levity, and connection. If you hear something, free something hopes to shift our quick responses to moments of stress, to build accountability to each other, and to connect the everyday to the big picture. In a city of millions of people, this work incites kindness between strangers and awareness between neighbors.



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