

## Exhibition pieces

### 1. **52 Hertz**

This is the name of the “loneliest whale in the world”, the “52-Hertz Whale”, who sings a song no other whale will answer and travels the oceans alone. This whale of unknown species has been swimming the Earth’s seas for years, ostracized from its own kind thanks to an inability to communicate. Not that it doesn’t try. It does. But the whale sings in a sound frequency that is so high, no other whales will respond. In the language of whales, it’s like speaking Klingon anywhere on Earth outside a Star Trek convention. The loneliest whale has roamed the oceans (possibly looking for friends) but instead caught the attention of the U.S. Navy in 1989 when their instruments picked up its odd frequency. Calling away at 52 Hertz, the unknown whale stood out because other filter feeders call between 15 and 25 Hertz. Its filter-feeding brethren, all use frequencies like those of the lowest notes on a piano, while this whale uses a frequency that’s about eight notes higher. The 52-Hertz whale also calls in a distinctly more rapid rhythm compared to the deeper and more languid blue whale song.

### 2. **Ambrotos**

ORIGIN mid 16th cent.: via Latin from Greek, ‘elixir of life,’ from ambrotos ‘immortal.’

### 3. **Chromophore**

A chromophore is the part of a molecule responsible for its color. Color arises when a molecule absorbs certain wavelengths of visible light and transmits or reflects others. The chromophore is a region in the molecule where the energy difference between two different molecular orbitals falls within the range of the visible spectrum. Visible light that hits the chromophore can thus be absorbed by exciting an electron from its ground state into its excited state.

### 4. **Ganglia**

ganglion |'ga ng glēən|

noun ( pl. -glia |-glēə|or -glions )

1 Anatomy a structure containing a number of nerve cell bodies, typically linked by synapses, and often forming a swelling on a nerve fiber.

- a network of cells forming a nerve center in the nervous system of an invertebrate.
- well-defined mass of gray matter within the central nervous system.
- 2 Medicine an abnormal benign swelling on a tendon sheath.

DERIVATIVES

ganglionic |,ga ng glē'änik| |'gəŋgli'dnɪk| |-'bɪnɪk| adjective

ORIGIN late 17th cent.: from Greek ganglion ‘tumor on or near sinews or tendons,’ used to denote the complex nerve centers.

### 5. **Hesperus**

Hesperus |'hɛspərəs| noun poetic/literary  
the planet Venus.

ORIGIN Latin, from Greek hesperos ‘western,’ (as a noun) ‘the evening star,’ related to Latin vesper ‘evening (star)’ ( see vesper .)

## 6. *Isla*

Gaelic and Scottish for Island - pronounced EYE-la, \*This will be my daughter who will be born later this month's name. It is for her.

## 7. *Kardia*

καρδία prolonged from a primary kar (Latin, cor, "heart")

1. the heart
  - a. that organ in the animal body which is the centre of the circulation of the blood, and hence was regarded as the seat of physical life
  - b. denotes the centre of all physical and spiritual life
  - c. the vigour and sense of physical life
  - d. the centre and seat of spiritual life
    1. the soul or mind, as it is the fountain and seat of the thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, affections, purposes, endeavours
    2. of the understanding, the faculty and seat of the intelligence
    3. of the will and character
    4. of the soul so far as it is affected and stirred in a bad way or good, or of the soul as the seat of the sensibilities, affections, emotions, desires, appetites, passions
  - e. of the middle or central or inmost part of anything, even if inanimate

## 8. *Kermit*

Refers to Kermit the frog - popular Jim Henson character that I enjoyed during my childhood - who sang; "Its not easy being green".

## 9. *Madhu*

In Hinduism, honey (Madhu) is one of the "five elixirs of immortality". In temples, honey is poured over the deities in a ritual called Madhu abhisheka. The Vedas and other ancient literature consider the use of honey as a great medicinal and health food.

## 10. *Midas*

From Greek mythology: Bacchus offered Midas his choice of whatever reward he wished for as a reward for helping Silenus. Midas asked that whatever he touch be transformed into gold. Midas rejoiced in his new power. He touched an oak twig and a stone; both turned to gold. Overjoyed, as soon as he got home, he ordered the servants to set a feast on the table. "So Midas, king of Lydia, swelled at first with pride when he found he could transform everything he touched to gold; but when he beheld his food grow rigid and his drink harden into golden ice then he understood that this gift was a bane and in his loathing for gold, cursed his prayer".

## 11. *Oleum*

oleum ['ōlēəm]

noun

ORIGIN early 20th cent.: from Latin, literally 'oil.'

## 12. *Orbis*

Latin, meaning: circle, orb, ring, disk, orbit, coil/round/rotation

## 13. *Spore*

In biology, a spore is a reproductive structure that is adapted for dispersal and surviving for extended periods of time in unfavorable conditions. Spores form part of the life cycles of many bacteria, plants, algae, fungi and some protozoa. According to scientist Dr. Steinn Sigurdsson, "There are viable bacterial spores that have been found that are 40 million years old on Earth - and we know they're very hardened to radiation."

#### 14. **Synesthesia**

synesthesia |,sinəs'θē zh ə| (Brit. synaesthesia)

noun Physiology & Psychology

the production of a sense impression relating to one sense or part of the body by stimulation of another sense or part of the body.

- the poetic description of a sense impression in terms of another sense, as in “a loud perfume” or “an icy voice.”

#### 15. **Verity**

A synonym of truth

verity |'veritē|

noun ( pl. -ties)

a true principle or belief, esp. one of fundamental importance : the eternal verities.

- truth : irrefutable, objective verity.

ORIGIN late Middle English : from Old French verite, from Latin veritas, from verus‘true.’