

The Artwork

We've all experienced the jolt of crossing rumble strips on a highway, and the sound they make. You may have noticed that when you cross rumble strips at different speeds, the sound varies. Similarly, maintaining a constant speed, but varying the spacing of the strips will create a change in the sound generated. This is the first component in creating a "sound sculpture" as described in the opening page of *St. Cybi's Well*.

The second component would require testing or computer modeling. Normal rumble strips are created by simply carving a series of straight lines in the pavement, as seen in this simple cross-section:



But, as with the forming of sounds in the human mouth, varying the shape of the cross-section should result in different sounds. Some possible cross-sections:



Combining the two variables should result in the ability to create music or even words audible to the passengers in a vehicle crossing the series of strips at a designated speed. While this would work at any latitude, it is probably only practical in areas which receive little or no snowfall, since snow removal would probably damage the shape of the rumble strips and hence the sculpture.