

Fleeting Voices. Preserving Acoustic Heritage in the Archives and the Arts

Experimental Conference

Date: October 1-3, 2025

Venue: University of Applied Arts Vienna – Expositur Rustenschacherallee
Rustenschacherallee 2–4, A–1020 Vienna

Organising institutions:

Department Media Theory – University of Applied Arts Vienna
Phonogrammarchiv – Austrian Academy of Sciences
Cultural Heritage Studies – University of Vienna (Faculty Center for Transdisciplinary and Cultural Studies)
supported by Support Art and Research – University of Applied Arts Vienna

Scientific Committee:

Nadia Al-Bagdadi, Clemens Apprich, Ricarda Denzer, Noémie Etienne, Elena Gómez Sánchez, Kerstin Klenke, Simon Kunz, Thomas Y. Levin, Thomas Macho, Stephan Puille, Dirk Rupnow, Jens Schröter

Concept: Katrin Abromeit, Laura Bohnenblust, Eva Kapeller-Hallama

Funding: Austrian Academy of Sciences, University of Vienna, University of Applied Arts Vienna; MA 7 Stadt Wien

Homepage: sonime.at/fleeting-voices

Contact: fleeting.voices@uni-ak.ac.at

Registration: <https://pretix.eu/fleetingvoices/110/>

Conference Programme

Permanent Installations

Jean-Hugues Chenot & Jean-Etienne Noiré: *Bring Your Own Voice Record 2025!* INA Saphir station for digitising your private direct cut discs

Rozina Pátkai: *Memory Dialogues* – interactive sound installation

Natascha Muhic und Christoph Freidhöfer: *Cut your own record!* Vinylograph Recording Booth

Day 1, 1st of October, Wednesday

12:30 Registration and Coffee

13:00 **Welcome**
Clemens Apprich
Noémie Étienne
Kerstin Klenke
Katrin Abromeit, Laura Bohnenblust and Eva Kapeller-Hallama

13:30 **MADEYOULOOK: On Reverb and Return: Voice as worldmaking**
Chair: Laura Bohnenblust

14:30 Coffee Break

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| 14:45 | Panel 1: Politics of Listening Chair and discussant: Isabel Frey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Senta Hirscheider: <i>Humble Listening to the Frequencies of Empire</i> - Cristina Sá Valentim: <i>Engaging with sound through alternative modes of listening. A decolonial approach to an Angolan folk song recorded in the 50s during Portuguese colonial rule.</i> - Hippocrates Cheng: <i>A curated listening session — Echoes of Displacement: Revoicing Chinese Diasporic Speech</i> |
| 16:15 | Coffee Break |
| 16:30 | Thomas Levin: Vocamat, Voice Records, Registon: Alexander Lissiansky and the Pre-History of the Voice-O-Graph Automatic Recording Booth Chair: Eva Kapeller-Hallama |
| 17:30 | Coffee Break |
| 18:00 | Panel 2: Present Voices – Absent Histories in Colonial Archives Chair and discussant: Noémie Étienne <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - William Carruthers & Fayrouz Kaddal: <i>Intermittent Presences: Tracing Nubia's Sounds and Voices</i> - Lina Ounissi: <i>Echoes of Coexistence: Malouf, Memory and the Politics of Voice in Colonial Constantine</i> |
| 19:00 | Bread & Wine |
| Day 2, 2nd of October, Thursday | |
| 9:00 | Coffee & Bread |
| 9:30 | Panel 3: Recorded Voices - Preserved Voices Chair and discussant: Carolin Bohlmann <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Katrin Abromeit and Johann Hinterstoisser: <i>Material Analysis in the SONIME project</i> - Carmen Rodríguez Godino: <i>Ernest Berk Sound Archive: Restore, Preserve, Engage</i> - Barbora Benetková: <i>White bloom - Understanding the degradation of brown-wax phonograph cylinders</i> |
| 11:00 | Coffee Break |
| 11:15 | Conservation Talk: Cellulose nitrate lacquers in direct cut discs Friederike Waentig, Elena Gómez-Sánchez, Simon Kunz and Katrin Abromeit Chair: Martina Griesser-Stermscheg |
| 12:15 | Lunch Break |
| 13:45 | Panel 4: Sending Voices Chair and discussant: Kristina Pia Hofer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eva Kapeller-Hallama: <i>"This is my tape!!! You hear!" Listening to audio letters in the SONIME Project</i> |

- Luc Marraffa: *Listening to Lieneke's 'Aether Letters': Domesticity and Colonial Silences, listening session*
- Ferenc János Szabó: *The idea and realization of the 'voice message' in the history of Hungarian private recordings on gramophone records*

15:15 Coffee Break

15:45 **Panel 5: The Voice between Documentation and Intimacy**

Chair and discussant: Stephan Puille

- Lauren Walker: *Correspondence Etched in Blue: Audograph Discs of Erle Stanley Gardner*
- Jean-Baptiste Masson: *Tapes as sonic log books: the case of Paul-Emile Victor during his polar expeditions*
- Heidi Fial: *Reflecting the convergence of amateur film and sound recordings*

17:15 Coffee Break

17:45 **Thomas Macho: Fremde Stimmen**

Chair: Isabel Kranz

Day 3, 3rd of October, Friday

9:00 Welcome with Coffee & Bread

9:30 Andrea Gunnlaugsdóttir, Claudia Lomoschitz and Crystal Wall: *Unearthing Grounds – Digging Deep*

10:00 **Panel 6: Voices in Artistic Practice**

Chair & discussant: Ricarda Denzer

- Julia Lajta-Novak, Claire Palzer, Shefali Banerji and Rachel Bolle-Debessay: *Listening to Poetry: Rethinking Sound in Literary Criticism*
- Laetitia Kozlova: *Exhibiting the Sound of the Intimate*

11:00 Coffee Break

11:15 Naima Hassan: *Notes on a Distributed Person: On Xirsi, and other incantations for Mohamed Nur*

12:00 Coffee Break and Snacks

12:30 **Round Table Discussion "Fleeting Voices"**

with Gabriele Jutz, Rodrigo Chocano, Julia Sawitzki and Jens Schröter
Chair: Laura Bohnenblust

14:00 End of Conference