

# 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 Puisse, 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

**Homepage:** [sonime.at/fleeting-voices](https://sonime.at/fleeting-voices)

**Contact:** [fleeting.voices@uni-ak.ac.at](mailto: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: Song as worldmaking**  
Chair: Laura Bohnenblust

14:30 Coffee Break

14:45 **Panel 1: Politics of Listening**  
Chair and discussant: Isabel Frey  
- Senta Hirscheider: *Humble Listening to the Frequencies of Empire*

- Cristina Sá Valentim: *Engaging with sound through alternative modes of listening. A decolonial approach to an Angolan folk song recorded in the 50s during Portuguese colonial rule.*
- Hippocrates Cheng: *A curated listening session — Echoes of Displacement: Revoicing Chinese Diasporic Speech*

16:15 Coffee Break

16:30 **Panel 2: Present Voices – Absent Histories in Colonial Archives**

Chair and discussant: Noémie Étienne

- William Carruthers & Fayrouz Kaddal: *Intermittent Presences: Tracing Nubia's Sounds and Voices*
- Lina Ounissi: *Echoes of Coexistence: Malouf, Memory and the Politics of Voice in Colonial Constantine*

17:30 Coffee Break

18:00 **Thomas Macho: Fremde Stimmen**

Chair: Isabel Kranz

19:00 Bread & Wine

**Day 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> of October, Thursday**

9:00 Coffee & Bread

9:30 **Panel 3: Recorded Voices - Preserved Voices**

Chair and discussant: tba

- Katrin Abromeit and Johann Hinterstoisser: *Material Analysis in the SONIME project*
- Carmen Rodriguez Godino: *Ernest Berk Sound Archive: Restore, Preserve, Engage*
- Barbora Benetková: *White bloom - Understanding the degradation of brown-wax phonograph cylinders*

11:00 Coffee Break

11:15 **Conservation Talk: Cellulose nitrate lacquers in direct cut discs**

Friederike Waentig, Elena Gómez-Sánchez and Simon Kunz

12:15 Lunch Break

13:30 **Panel 4: Sending Voices**

Chair and discussant: Kristina Pia Hofer

- Eva Kapeller-Hallama: *Voice Letters in the SONIME project*
- 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*

15:00 Coffee Break

- 15:30      **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*
- 17:00      Coffee Break
- 17:30      **Thomas Levin: Vocamat, Voice Records, Registon: Alexander Lissiansky and the Pre-History of the Voice-O-Graph Automatic Recording Booth**  
 Chair: Eva Kapeller-Hallama

**Day 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 and Jens Schröter, Chair: tba
- 14:00      End of Conference