

Programme

Sounds of a Lifetime: Exploring Life Writing in Audio Media 29-30 January 2026, HOEK 38, Leuvenseweg 38, 1000 Brussels

DAY 0: January 28

15:00–16:30 at Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Pleinlaan 2, Building C, 3rd floor, room 3C.204):

Pre-Conference Workshop: **Marit MacArthur, University of California, Davis**: *Slow Listening: How to Study Audio Recordings as Vocal Performance?*

Please register here: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/DKGR0i8sCV

DAY 1: January 29

9:00-9:20: Registration

9:20-9:30: Introduction

9:30–10:30: Keynote: **Julia Lajta-Novak, University of Vienna:** *Memoirs in Sound:* "Reading" Anthony Joseph's Auto/Biographical Jazz Poetry

10:30-11:00: Coffee Break

11:00–12:30: Panel 1: Personal and Collective Narratives on Radio (3 papers x 20 min + 30 min Q&A)

- Iana Nikitenko, Vrije Universiteit Brussel: Memories of Our Fathers: The Poetics of Family Life Writing in German Radio Drama (1970s–1980s)
- Matilda Jones, Freie Universität Berlin: Sounding Sororal Subjectivities in Kaitlin Prest's 'SISTERS'
- Lukas Kosch, University of Vienna: The Individual Voice Against Collective Forgetting: On the Function and Form of Jean Améry's Radio Essays

12:30-13:30: Lunch

13:30–15:30: **Panel 2: Sonic Self-Narratives and Autotheory** (4 papers x 20 min. + 30 min Q&A)

- Desirée Henderson, University of Texas Arlington: What Does a Diary Sound Like? The Sonification of the Diary in Nonfiction and Fiction Audiotexts
- Kim Fox, The American University in Cairo: Sonic Testimonies: Student Audio Diaries as Intimate Life Narratives
- Hannah McGregor, Simon Fraser University: Scholarly Podcasting as Audible Autotheory
- Patricia Frazis, Australian National University: Narratorial Authority and Identity in Autobiographical Fiction: Listening to Lost Children Archive



15:30-16:00: Coffee Break

16:00–17:00: Keynote: **Matthew Rubery, Queen Mary University of London:**

Fraudiobooks?: Audio Fraud from the Analog Era to Al

19:00: Conference Dinner (Les Petites Oignons; Regentschapsstraat, 25, 1000 Brussels)

DAY 2: January 30

9:30–10:30: Keynote: **Jarmila Mildorf, University of Paderborn:** A Life in Music: Ror Wolf's Radio Ballad Leben und Tod des Kornettisten Bix Beiderbecke aus Nord-Amerika

10:30-11:00: Coffee Break

11:00–12:30: Panel 3: Music and Creative Sound as Forms of Life Writing (3 papers x 20 min + 30 min Q&A)

- Valeriya Lindström, Lund University: Russian Anti-War Music and the Creation of Counter-History
- Ingibjörg Ágústsdóttir, University of Iceland: Rewriting Anne Bonny: Karliene's Musical Tribute to a Pirate Queen
- Manon Houtart, University of Namur: Les Rizières Duras (2003): Sonic Forms of Biographemes in Franck Smith's Radio Essay

12:30-13:30: Lunch

13:30-15:00: Panel 4: Experiments and Collaborations (3 papers x 20 min + 30 min Q&A)

- Virginia Madsen, Macquarie University: The audio portraiture of Kaye Mortley: 'the self, told, is at once a fiction'
- Louisa Léo, Sorbonne Nouvelle: The Radio Interview as Life Story or Selfnarrative?
- Tien Phat Nguyen, Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen: The Audio Construction of Identities and Memories in A Man of Two Faces by Viet Thanh Nguyen

15:00-15:30: Coffee Break

15:30–17:00: Panel 5: Diasporic and Indigenous Voices (3 papers x 20 min + 30 min Q&A)

- **Bénédicte Ledent, University of Liège:** From Biography to Autobiography: Caryl Phillips's Radiophonic Lifewriting
- Jason Wiens, University of Calgary: Exploring an Indigenous Literary Audio Archive as Individual and Collective Autobiography
- Preenika S., Anu Kuriakose, NIT Trichy: Podcasting as Feminist Life Writing: Resisting Gendered Public Spaces in Kerala, India

17:00–17:30: Concluding Remarks