

Thursday, February 11

## Evening Lecture

Venue: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Interdisciplinary Laboratory:  
Image Knowledge Gestaltung, Sophienstraße 22a

19:00 **KEYNOTE LECTURE**

*Introduced by Wolfgang Schäffner, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*

**Patrick Feaster** *Indiana University Bloomington*  
Sound Archives *avant la lettre*: Audio Collections of the  
Nineteenth Century (1850s–1890s)

Friday, February 12

## The Significance of Sound Archives in the Humanities and Sciences

Venue: Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (MPIWG),  
Boltzmannstraße 22

10:00–10:15 Welcome Coffee

10:15–10:30 **INTRODUCTION**

**Carolyn Birdsall** *University of Amsterdam*  
**Viktoria Tkaczyk** *MPIWG / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*

10:30–11:45 **THE SONIC CONSTRUCTION OF THE  
PAST AND PRESENT**

*Chair: Hansjakob Ziemer (MPIWG)*

**Sebastian Klotz** *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*  
Phonogram Archives as Synchronization Machines

**Carolyn Birdsall** *University of Amsterdam*  
Voice Carriers: Sound Archives and the Sources of (Oral) History

11:45–12:00 Coffee

12:00–13:00 **SOUND AND THE MIND**

*Chair: Rebecca Wolf (MPIWG)*

**Julia Kursell** *University of Amsterdam*  
Listening to More Than Sounds: Experimental Recordings at the  
Berliner Phonogramm-Archiv

**Viktoria Tkaczyk** *MPIWG / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*  
Sound Archiving across Psychiatry and Psychology

13:00–14:00 Lunch

14:00–15:00 **SOUND AND LANGUAGE**

*Chair: Carolyn Birdsall (University of Amsterdam)*

**Judy Kaplan** *MPIWG*  
The Acoustic and Archival Study of Living Language

**Mara Mills** *New York University*  
Vocal Features: From *Stimmphysiognomik* to Speech  
Recognition by Machine

15:00–15:15 Coffee

15:15–16:15 **SOUND AND THE HUMAN**

*Chair: Kate Sturge (MPIWG)*

**Britta Lange** *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*  
Anthropology, Race, and Sound: Fritz Bose's  
Investigations during the Nazi Period

**Rebecca Lemov** *Harvard University*  
Twentieth-Century Sound Recordings in the Archives of the  
American Southwest: Presence and Elusiveness

16:15–16:30 Coffee

16:30–17:00 **SOUND AND ANIMALS**

*Chair: Anna Kvíčalová (MPIWG)*

**Joeri Bruyninckx** *MPIWG*  
Samples, Assets, and Trophies: Archiving Bioacoustic  
Specimens

17:00–17:30 **CLOSING REMARKS AND PREVIEW**

**Wolfgang Ernst** *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*  
Sound, Surveillance, and Signal Analysis (project outline)

**Jochen Hennig** *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*  
Conclusions

Saturday, February 13

## The Lautarchiv of the Humboldt- Universität zu Berlin

Venue: Humboldt-Universität, Jacob-und-Wilhelm-Grimm-Zentrum,  
Geschwister-Scholl-Straße 1/3, Auditorium

09:00–09:30 **WELCOME AND REVIEW**

**Carolyn Birdsall** *University of Amsterdam*  
**Britta Lange** *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*

09:30–10:30 **INTERNATIONAL  
PERSPECTIVES I**

*Chair: Irene Hilden (Lautarchiv, Humboldt-Universität zu  
Berlin)*

**Ji-Won Song** *Gugak Center, Seoul*

**Lars-Christian Koch** *Ethnological Museum, Berlin*  
Songs of Longing: Perspectives from Berlin and Seoul on the  
Edition of the Korean Recordings by the Gugak Archive

10:30–10:45 Coffee

10:45–12:30 **INTERNATIONAL  
PERSPECTIVES II**

*Chair: Sharon Macdonald (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)*

**Bodhari Warsame** *University of Gothenburg*

**Anette Hoffmann** *Berlin*  
Towards a Decolonial Reading of Audiovisual Archival  
Material: The Meandering Archival Traces of Mohamed  
Noor's Presence in Germany

**Anandita Bajpai, Heike Liebau, & Larissa Schmid**  
*Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin*  
Voices from World War One: Exploring Sound Recordings of  
Colonial Prisoners of War in Historical Research

12:30–14:00 Lunch

14:00–15:45 **FUTURE PERSPECTIVES  
PANEL DISCUSSION**

*Chairs: Jochen Hennig (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) &  
Viktoria Tkaczyk (MPIWG/Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)*

**Sebastian Klotz, Manfred Krifka, Britta Lange,  
Sharon Macdonald, & Wolfgang Schäffner**  
*Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*



In 1915, the Berlin phonetician Wilhelm Doegen initiated the Royal Prussian Phonographic Commission, one of the most systematic enterprises in early sound archiving. For this project, the phonograph and gramophone served as tools to collect and study a wide range of languages, music, and natural sounds. Contributors to the initiative included researchers based in disciplines such as phonetics, linguistics, Oriental and African studies, musicology and anthropology, zoology, medicine, and criminology. Between 1915 and 1918, over 1,030 Edison cylinders with musical recordings (today stored in the Berlin Phonogram Archive) and over 1,650 shellac recordings of the languages of prisoners of war were produced. Today, this collection forms part of the "Lautarchiv" held at the Hermann von Helmholtz-Zentrum für Kulturtechnik, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

A century after Doegen's project, this conference reexamines the founding, use, and reuse of sound archives in the humanities and sciences. One of its aims is to contextualize pioneering scientific sound archives, and thus the development of recording technologies, archival practices, and new research methods and disciplines. A second objective is to explore the relationship between the history of scientific sound archiving and the role of contemporary sound archives in the creation and dissemination of knowledge. The archive's centenary also prompts questions about the status of sound archives in the present digital era: providing access to sound records opens up possibilities for new research agendas, but inevitably also raises complex ethical and legal issues.

## Histories of Sound Data in the Humanities and Sciences

### ORGANIZERS:

Carolyn Birdsall (*University of Amsterdam*)  
 Jochen Hennig (*Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*)  
 Britta Lange (*Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*)  
 Viktoria Tkaczyk (*Max Planck Institute for the History of Science / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*)

For further information and to register, contact:  
 Birgitta von Mallinckrodt  
 officeacoustics@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de

If possible, please register before February 4, 2016.

### VENUES:

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Interdisciplinary Laboratory: Image Knowledge Gestaltung  
 Sophienstraße 22a

Max Planck Institute for the History of Science  
 Boltzmannstraße 22  
 14195 Berlin  
 Conference Room

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Jacob-und-Wilhelm-Grimm-Zentrum, Geschwister-Scholl-Straße 1/3  
 Auditorium



# LISTENING TO THE ARCHIVE

Histories of Sound Data in the Humanities and Sciences

February 11–13, 2016