

Aural Diversity Workshop 4 | Soundscape and Sound Studies Proposal

abstract

—Background

Perception has been one of the subjects in sound studies; however, how people perceive soundscapes differently is a big mystery to solve. The available accounts on listening experiences are limited and difficult to find while expressing listening experiences through tangible media that other people can learn is challenging. Further, there is a need to comparatively comprehend to what extent aurally diverse people perceive the same stimuli—the same acoustical and radiant energy.

—Aims

I created “In Which to Trust?” to present comparative listening experiences of aurally diverse people through sound-captioned audiovisual installation. It uses sound captions, audio, and visual as artistic methodology to gather and present aurally diverse people’s perceived soundscapes. This arts-based research aims to share listening experiences with a broader range of people through alternative media.

—Methods

I invited five aurally diverse people to collaborate on this project: Bill Davies (autistic listener), Josephine Dickinson (deaf person using cochlear implant), Ed Garland (hard-of-hearing person with tinnitus), Alan Jacques (person with cochlear amusia), and Terry Perdanawati (hearing person). They wrote sound captions on thirty-two short audiovisual scenes with various loudness, texture, and other sonic qualities. I provided captioning guidelines to help reveal the intrinsic quality of sound they perceived, but they were given possibilities of new ways to write captions.

—Results

The sound captions gathered are not only diverse as expected but also showcase various and detailed listening experiences induced by the various audiovisual scenes. The captions also display subjective ways of writing it terms of the used words and punctuation marks.

—Conclusion and Implications

“In Which to Trust?” exhibits aurally diverse people’s comparative, various listening experiences on the same stimuli and possibilities of sharing perceived soundscapes through arts. Instead of limiting, the captions’ brevity—coupled with the audiovisual scenes—reveal the potential of alternative ways for people to learn how we, aurally diverse people, listen.

title

“In Which to Trust?”: An Artistic Way of Presenting Aurally Diverse Listening Experiences

the author’s name

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type of proposal

spoken paper/presentation

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none

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time zone

CDT (Central Daylight Time)/UTC-5