

Sympathetic Vibrations: Sound, Communities, Environments

8th Biennial

Yale Graduate Music Symposium

March 4-5th, 2022

Yale University

Call for Papers

How does music bring people together in community? How do the environments we live in shape our sonic practices? The organizing committee of the 2022 Yale Graduate Music Symposium welcomes abstracts on the topic “Sympathetic Vibrations: Sound, Communities, Environments.” This symposium is built on three pillars: sound as a musical, material, and aural phenomenon; communities that are constructed around specific musical practices, identities, and histories; and environments both physical and intangible. These three pillars are co-constitutive of one another, forming a relationship which we are calling “sympathetic vibrations.” We borrow this term from the field of acoustics to highlight the potential resonances between these three themes and the ways in which they activate each other. This theme also emphasizes the potential for this conference to activate “sympathetic vibrations” across disciplinary and geographic boundaries, as we see this conference as a gathering for collaboration and exchange. We hope that this conference will foster a rich exchange of critical perspectives on the theme by bringing together graduate students representing a variety of intellectual disciplines and backgrounds.

We conceive of this theme quite broadly. Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Music in/of marginalized communities
- Liveness, presence, and mediation
- Music and Critical Race Theory
- Communities of music pedagogy
- ‘Vibing’ as embodied practice
- Environmental / historical soundscapes
- Digital environments
- Music and the Anthropocene
- Site-specific and virtual performance practices
- Oral traditions and histories
- Music as colonizing force / music as protest
- Afrofuturisms
- Animal vocalisations
- Negotiating public and private sound spaces

Submission Guidelines

We welcome submissions from all graduate students engaged in research on music and sound; we look forward to hearing from students in departments such as music, sound studies, English, Film and Media Studies, American Studies, Religious Studies, Medieval Studies, History of Art, and other disciplines within the humanities and social sciences. All submissions will be reviewed anonymously. All proposals must be submitted electronically by Wednesday 1 December, 2021 at 11:59pm, and must include the following components:

1. A PDF file that contains only:

- the paper's title
- an abstract of no more than 300 words
- where appropriate, links to relevant sound recordings, scores, or other supplementary materials

2. An email sent to ygms@yale.edu containing:

- "YGMS Abstract Submission" as the subject field
- the author's name, contact information, and academic affiliation
- a list of any audio-visual requirements
- the PDF file as an attachment

3. Formats for presentation include:

- 20-minute papers or audiovisual presentations with 10 minutes for discussion
- 30-minute composers' colloquia, performances, or lecture-recitals, with 15 minutes for discussion
- All presentations may be delivered remotely or in-person.

For more information visit our website at campuspress.yale.edu/ygms

Queries regarding submissions should be directed to Áine Palmer at: ygms@yale.edu.

