

# ALEXANDRA E. HUI

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., History, University of California at Los Angeles, 2008.  
M.A., History, University of California at Los Angeles, 2003.  
B.A., Physics with Astronomy/Astrophysics Concentration, Pomona College, 2001.

## ACADEMIC CAREER

2019 - 2024, Co-Editor for the History of Science Society, overseeing *Isis*, *Osiris*, *Isis Current Bibliography*, and *HSS Newsletter*.  
2019 - 2021, Teaching Division Councilor, American Historical Association Executive Council.  
2014 - present, Associate Professor of History, Mississippi State University.  
2008 - 2014, Assistant Professor of History, Mississippi State University.  
2005 - 2008, Teaching Fellow, General Education Cluster, University of California at Los Angeles.

## HONORS and FELLOWSHIPS

William E. Parrish Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award, Department of History, Mississippi State University, 2018-2019 and 2015-2016.

Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship for Experienced Researchers, to conduct research at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, Germany and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Munich, Germany, Summers of 2017-2019.

Dean's Eminent Scholar Award, The College of Arts and Sciences, Mississippi State University. 2015-2016.

Visiting Scholar, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, Germany, Spring-Summer, 2015.

Fulbright U.S. Scholar Grant, to conduct research at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim, Norway, Fall, 2014 through Winter, 2015.

Society for the History of Psychology (Division 26 of the American Psychological Association) Early Career Award, 2014.

National Science Foundation Scholar's Award for project titled "The Science and Technology of Threshold Sounds in Public and Private Spaces" (Award # 1256966). Awarded through the Science, Technology and Society Program, Summer, 2013 through Spring, 2014.

Visiting Scholar, History Department, University of California at Los Angeles, Fall, 2013.

Visiting Scholar, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, Germany, Fall, 2013.

European Society for the History of the Human Sciences (ESHHS) and Journal for the History of the Behavioral Sciences (JHBS) Early Career Award, 2010.

Dibner Library Resident Scholar, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C., May, 2010.

Humanities and Arts Research Fellow, The College of Arts of Sciences and the Institute for Humanities, Mississippi State University, 2010 and 2013.

Mississippi State University State Pride Award for Faculty Excellence, 2010.

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) Research Grant for pre-doctoral research at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, Germany, Fall, 2006.

Cecil Short Memorial Prize in Music, Pomona College, 2001.

### **MONOGRAPHS and CO-EDITED VOLUMES**

In preparation: *Listening to Nature: Standardized Soundscapes and Imagined Ecologies, 1900-2000*. Anticipated completion, 2021.

In preparation: *Sonifying Space: A History of the Science of Background Music, 1910-2010*. Anticipated completion, 2019.

*Testing Hearing: Music, Science, and Industry*, co-edited with Mara Mills and Viktoria Tkaczyk. (Oxford University Press, in press).

*Music, Sound and the Laboratory from 1750-1980*, *Osiris*, 28 (2013), co-edited with Julia Kursell and Myles Jackson.

*The Psychophysical Ear: Musical Experiments, Experimental Sounds, 1840-1910* (The MIT Press, 2012).

## REFEREED ARTICLES and BOOK CHAPTERS

"Murmurations and Other Sounds of Acclimatization," in Peter McMurray and Priyasha Mukhopadhyay, *Acoustics of Empire* (under review with Oxford University Press).

"Listening to Extinction: The silences of species at the end of the Holocene." (under review with *The American Historical Review*).

"Testing the Underwater Ear: Hearing, Standardizing, and Classifying Marine Sounds during the Cold War," co-authored with Lino Camprubí, in Alexandra Hui, Mara Mills, and Viktoria Tkaczyk, eds., *Testing Hearing: Music, Science, and Industry*. (Oxford University Press, in press).

"Ernst Mach's Piano and the Making of a Psychophysical Imaginarium," in John Preston, ed., *Interpreting Mach: Critical Essays* (University of Cambridge Press, in press).

"From 'wuh wuh' to 'hoo-hoo' and the rituals of representing bird song, 1885-1925," in Tord Larsen, Michael Blim, Ted Porter, Kalpana Ram, and Nigel Rapport, eds., *Objects and Standards: On the limitations and effects of fixing and measuring life* (Carolina Academic Press, in press).

"Imagining Ecologies through Sound: a historic-ecological approach to the soundscape of the Mississippi Flyway." *MUSICultures*, 45, 1-2 (2018).

"The Naturalization of Timbre: Two Case Studies," in Emily Dolan and Alexander Rehding, eds., *Oxford Handbook of Timbre* (Oxford University Press, published online, May 2018).

"First Re-Creations: Phonographs and New Cultures of Listening at the Beginning of the Twentieth Century," in Christian Thorau and Hansjakob Ziemer, eds., *The Handbook of Music Listening in the 19th and 20th Centuries* (Oxford University Press, 2018).

"Walter Bingham und die Universalisierung des individuellen Hörers," Netzwerk Hör-Wissen im Wandel (Hrsg.), Koordiniert von Daniel Morat, *Wissensgeschichte des Hörens in der Moderne* (Walter de Gruyter GmbH, 2017).

"Aural Rights and Early Environmental Ethics: Negotiating the Post-War Soundscape," in Aaron Allen and Kevin Dawes, eds., *Current Directions in Ecomusicology: A Field Guide* (Routledge, 2016).

"'Muzak-While-You-Work': Programming Music for Industry, 1919-1948," *Historische Anthropologie*, 22 (2014):364-383.

"From the Piano Pestilence to the Phonograph Solo: Four Case Studies of Musical Expertise in the Laboratory and on the City Street," in Daniel Morat, ed., *Sounds of Modern History: Auditory Cultures in 19th and 20th Century Europe* (Berghahn Books, 2014).

"Origin Stories of listening, melody, and survival at the end of the nineteenth century," in James Kennaway, ed., *Music and the Nerves, 1660-1945* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014).

"Lost: Thomas Edison's *Mood Music* Found: New Ways of Listening," *Endeavour*, 38 (2014): 139-142.

"Changeable Ears: Ernst Mach's and Max Planck's studies of accommodation in hearing," in Alexandra Hui, Julia Kursell, and Myles Jackson, eds., *Music, Sound, and the Laboratory during the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*, *Osiris*, 28 (2013):119-145.

"Sound Objects and Sound Products: Creating a New Culture of Listening in the First Half of the Twentieth Century," Special Issue on Objectification, Measurement and Standardization, *Culture Unbound: Journal of Current Cultural Research*, 4 (2012):599-616.

"The Bias of 'Music-Infected Consciousness': the Aesthetics of Listening in the Laboratory and on the City Streets of Fin-de-Siècle Berlin and Vienna" *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, 28 (2012):236-250.

"Instruments of Music, Instruments of Science: Hermann von Helmholtz's Sound Sensation Studies, his Classicism, and his Beethoven Sonata," *Annals of Science*, 68 (2011):149-177.

#### **ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS**

"My Pet Cloud: DIY cloud chambers at the dawn of the Atomic Age," in Dolly Jorgensen and Finn Arne Jorgensen, eds., *In the Clouds* (Museumsforlaget, in press).

"Mimicking the Voices of Nature: The Sounds of Hunting in Twentieth-Century America," essay contribution to the Sound and Science: Digital Histories digitization project of the Epistemes of Modern Acoustics research group, at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (posted June 12, 2018). <https://acoustics.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de/contributor-essays/mimicking-voices-nature-sounds-hunting-twentieth-century-america>

"Wissenschaftsgeschichte," "Aufzug," and "Labor," contributions to Daniel Morat and Hansjakob Ziemer, eds., *Handbuch Sound* (J. B. Metzler, 2018).

"Persuasion in the Air: Background music and the authenticity of happiness," Guest Research Post on Hidden Persuaders blog, the Hidden Persuaders research project is based at the University of London, Birkbek and funded by the Wellcome Trust (posted March 9, 2017). <http://www.bbk.ac.uk/hiddenpersuaders/blog/persuasion-in-the-air-background-music-and-the-authenticity-of-happiness/>

"The Naturalization of Built Environments: Two Case Studies," *Ecomusicology Review*, 4 (2016).

"Przedmioty dźwiękowe i produkty dźwiękowe: standardy nowej kultury słuchania w pierwszej połowie XX wieku," tr. By Justyna Stasiowska, *ER(R)GO* 33 (2016):135-150. \*Translation of "Sound

Objects and Sound Products: Creating a New Culture of Listening in the First Half of the Twentieth Century," originally published in *Culture Unbound*.

"Muzak-mens-du-jobber: Muzikkprogrammer i industrien, 1919-1948," tr. by Victor Szepessy, *Arr Redaksjonen* (2015):13-27. \* Translation of "'Muzak-While-You-Work': Programming Music for Industry, 1919-1948," originally published in *Historische Anthropologie*.

"A Timeline from the Prepared Ear to the Present," a solicited contribution to the catalogue of the exhibition in the Polish Pavilion of the 2013 Venice Biennale, *Everything Was Forever, Until it Was No More* (Mousse Publishing, 2013).

Book Reviews in *Open Inquiry Archive*, *Physics Today*, *Technology and Culture*, *The Journal of World History*, and *History of Humanities*.

### **COLLABORATIVE SCHOLARSHIP**

2015-2017, Co-organizer of the "Testing Hearing: Science, Art, Industry" Working Group, part of the "Epistemes of Modern Acoustics" Research Group at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, Germany. <http://www.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de/en/research/projects/RGTkaczyk>

2011-2015, Member of the "Cultural Logic of Facts and Figures: Objectification, Measurement, and Standardization as Social Processes" Research Group, based at the Department of Social Anthropology and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU). Funded by the Norwegian Research Council (NRC) through 2015. <http://www.ntnu.edu/sosant/cuff>

2009-2016, Member of the interdisciplinary and international Berlin Wissenschaftliches Netzwerk "Hör-Wissen im Wandel: Zur Wissensgeschichte des Hörens in der Moderne" based at the Freie Universität. Funded by the German Research Council (DFG) through 2016. <http://www.hoer-wissen-im-wandel.de/>

2011-present, Core Faculty of the Center for the History of Agriculture, Science, and the Environment in the South (CHASES) at Mississippi State University. <http://www.chases.msstate.edu/>

### **RECENT PAPERS PRESENTED and INVITED TALKS**

"Huxley's Loudspeaker: Dystopian Sounds of Control During the Cold War," presented at the Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, Utrecht, Netherlands, July 23-27, 2019.

"The Field Science of Environmental Composition," presented at the "Opening the Doors of the Studio" workshop, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, Germany, June 24-25, 2019.

"Calling the Wild: The psychoacoustics and ethics of mimicry in modern duck hunting," presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Seattle, Washington, March 13-17, 2019.

Invited talk, Hearing Science Symposium, "Three pianos: Musical instruments in Hugo Riemann, Hermann Helmholtz, and Ernst Mach's science of sound," part of the Mid Winter meeting of the Association for Research in Otolaryngology, Baltimore, Maryland, February 7-10, 2019.

Invited talk, "In the Clouds" ArtScience workshop, "My Pet Cloud: DIY cloud chambers at the dawn of the Atomic Age," Stavanger Norway, January 24-26, 2019.

Invited talk, Cambridge University, "Murmurations and Other Sounds of Acclimatization," presented at the Acoustics of Empire Workshop II, Cambridge, England, December 7-8, 2018.

Invited talk, Der Ohrenmensch: Radiophonic Explorations, "Dislocated Sounding Bodies: Sounds of the wild in conservation radio," Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany, November 1-3, 2018.

Invited talk, Wesleyan University Center for the Humanities Lecture Series, "Form(s of) Listening from Edison to Muzak and Beyond," Middletown, CT, September 24, 2018.

Invited talk, Deutsches Museum's "New Approaches to a Cultural History of Organology" Lecture Series, "Making Duck Calls and Calling Ducks: The science and culture of wood in everyday soundmaking in early 20th century America," Munich, Germany, June 14, 2018.

Invited talk, Vossius Center for the History of the Humanities and Sciences Lecture Series, University of Amsterdam, "Imagined Ecologies and the Sounds of Extinction, 1900-1945," Amsterdam, Netherlands, June 12, 2018.

"An Audible House Organ: The RCA Plant Broadcasting System, Personhood, and Panoptic Listening, 1943-1945," presented at the Productive Sounds in Everyday Spaces: Sounds at work in science, art, and industry, 1920-present, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, Germany, April 27-28, 2018. \*Co-organizer of this conference.

Invited talk, Cambridge University, "Murmurations and Other Sounds of Acclimatization," presented at the Acoustics of Empire Workshop I, hosted by Cambridge University at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, Germany, March 16-17, 2018.

"Beyond Disciplines: From Knowledge Communities to Mensch-Hood," part of the Presidential Roundtable: Thinking with Ann Johnson, Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, Philadelphia, PA, October 26-29, 2017.

Invited talk, Hagley Research Seminar Series, "Making *Muzak* Natural: The sounds of life, death, and the lyre bird in the built environment, 1950-1970," Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, DE, September 14, 2017.

"Dystopian Sounds: from pillow-talk with the State to Huxley's loudspeaker, the sounds of control during the Cold War," presented to the Epistemes of Modern Acoustics Research Group Colloquium, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, Germany, May 9, 2017.

Invited talk, Departments of Music, German, and Science, Technology, and Society, Pomona College, "Listening to Nature: Standardizing Soundscapes and Imagined Ecologies, 1900-1945," Claremont, CA, April 4, 2017.

Invited talk, History of Science Colloquium, University of California at Los Angeles, "Listening to Extinction: Imagined ecologies in the first half of the twentieth century," Los Angeles, CA, April 3, 2017.

Invited talk, Cambridge University, "'The ripening harvest of comparative musical science': Representative tonometrics and mental measurement in the first decades of the twentieth century," presented at After Idealism Conference, Cambridge, England, March 17-18, 2017.

"Testing the Mood: Surveying listening preferences in American homes and factories, 1920-1950," presented at the History of Science Society (HSS), Atlanta, GA, November 3-6, 2016.

"Training the Underwater Ear," presented at the Cheiron/European Society for the History of the Human Sciences (ESHHS) joint conference, Barcelona, Spain, June 27-31, 2016.

"Listening to Extinction in the Twentieth Century," presented at the Southern History of Science and Technology (SoHOST) Conference, Auburn, AL, April 15-16, 2016.

Invited talk, Barwick Colloquium, Department of Music, Harvard University, "Sonifying Space: Background music and new forms of listening in the first half of the twentieth century," Cambridge, MA, March 28, 2016.

Invited talk, Max Kade Center for European and German Studies, Vanderbilt University, "From *Vogelflöte* to *wichity wichity wichity*: Standardizing the sounds of nature in the first decades of the twentieth century," Nashville, TN, February 3, 2016.

## **SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

2009-present, Head of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine "Node of Excellence" research group, Department of History, Mississippi State University.

2013-present, Associate Series Editor, *Nexus: New Histories of Science, Technology, Environment, Agriculture, and Medicine*, University of Alabama Press.

2011-present, Core Faculty of the Center for the History of Agriculture, Science, and the Environment in the South (CHASES), Mississippi State University.

2010-2013, Content Consultant, Project SSILTT (Science and Social Studies Integration, Literacy, and Technology for Teachers) Summer Institute for Teachers. Funded by Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning and organized by the MSU Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education, Starkville, MS.

2011-2013, Co-Chair, Maroon Edition Freshman Book Selection Committee, the University-wide committee tasked with selecting the book for the annual community reading program.

2012-2013, Co-Chair, Maroon Edition Freshman Book Programming Committee, the University-wide committee tasked with developing and organizing programming associated with the annual community reading program.

### **COURSES DEVELOPED**

The History of Science in Six Ideas (HI 1003); Early Western World (HI 1213); Modern Western World (HI 1223); History of the Holocaust (HI 3773); History of Science and Technology (HI 4653); History of Modern Germany (HI 4763); Readings in European History, 1789-1914 (HI 8523); Graduate Colloquium on Late Modern Europe (HI 8803); Graduate Colloquium on the History of the Holocaust (HI 8803); Graduate Colloquium on the History of Modern Environmental Science (HI 8803); Graduate Colloquium on Sensory History (HI 8803); Graduate Colloquium on Modern Germany and Austria (HI 8803); Graduate Seminar in European History after 1789 (HI 8863); Graduate Seminar in History of Science and Technology (HI 8873); Graduate Historiography (HI 8923)

### **SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS**

American History Association  
American Society for Environmental History  
Cheiron/European Society for the History of the Human Sciences  
German Studies Association  
History of Science Society  
Society for the History of Technology  
World Forum for Acoustic Ecology