

Veranstalter:	Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich, M. A.
Thema:	The Politics of Sound: Reading Poetry and Music [AA-A3, ENG-7, AA-W]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar Ib
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53-565
Zeit:	2h, Do 10 - 12
Raum:	Phil 701
Beginn:	21. Oktober 2010



Course Description

This course approaches “the sister arts” of poetry and music at their most obvious, but rarely studied, phenomenological and aesthetic intersection: SOUND. To do so, we will study musical features of poetry, interactions between prosody and lexicon, and the interplay of textuality and orality/aurality, and the impact of new recording technologies. We will also discover and discuss the multitude of artistic forms in which poetry and music have been linked, merged, and combined historically, but also in contemporary artistic practices, collaborations, and intermedia performances.

Starting from concrete examples, i.e. the particular aesthetic experience of texts, recordings, and performances, we will get acquainted with a set of critical theories to broaden our understanding of the political potential inherent in particular aesthetic forms. Exploring how notions like “rhythm”, “voice”, and “melody”, but also “silence”, “noise”, and “Klangfarbenmelodie”, or “riffing”, “honking”, and “syncopation” apply to poetry and music respectively, we will study selected works of poets and musicians as diverse as: EMILY DICKINSON and EZRA POUND, T.S. ELIOT and AMIRI BARAKA, TOM WAITS and JOHN CAGE, NIKKI GIOVANNI and BRUCE ANDREWS, STEVE MCCAFFERY and ZACK DE LA ROCHA.

Course Requirements

- regular attendance and active(!) participation
- oral presentation/response paper
- term paper (10 pages)



All poems and theoretical texts will be assembled in a reader, which can be obtained in the first meeting. Sound and video recordings will be provided online (via AGORA).

Sprechstunden:	nach Vereinbarung
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