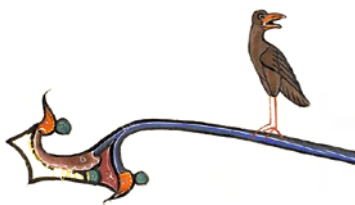


# BETWEEN ULM AND JERUSALEM



Sound and Hearing  
Cultures in Mutual  
Perception (500–1500)



Orient-Institut Istanbul  
Online Conference

21–23 October 2022

## BETWEEN ULM AND JERUSALEM

Sound and Hearing Cultures  
in Mutual Perception (500–1500)

Whether music, speech, or everyday noise, sounds – and also their absence in the form of silence – represent an essential means of communication and identification in human cultures. By appreciating sounds or silencing them, we connect to real or imaginary places and spaces, people, rituals, social structures, and natural environments, and develop wishful thinking and desires. Sounds and noise evoke or express emotions. By evaluating these and by communicating our interpretations in various media, feelings of belonging are formed, and social or cultural communities are demarcated. Just as we identify ourselves through our sonic expressions, we also take in the culture of “others” with all its acoustic phenomena, adding interpretations, evaluations, and (pre-)judgments. In intercultural encounters, these sonic images of “self” and “other” are put to the test, renegotiated, fought over and against, overturned or consolidated.

The conference traces the multidimensional processes of perception and interpretation of sonic cultural encounters in the millennium between 500 and 1500 from a transregional perspective. For this purpose, we follow travel routes through diverse geographical and cultural, but also imaginary, spaces. Leading questions are: how do the travelers perceive, evaluate, and describe their own as well as the foreign acoustic environment? How do they move and stage themselves in “other” sound cultures? Which musical phenomena are adopted and with which motivations? Which prejudices and desires develop in the interplay of their own and “foreign” sound perception? And what expression do these mental constructs find in concrete social (sound) action?

An interdisciplinary and multi-perspective approach including an intermedial, multisensory understanding allows us to examine different cultures and their sound spheres, and to discuss the multidimensionality of their social and individual perception as well as their social, aesthetic, and emotional effects.

The conference will take place online via Zoom. In order to attend, [register with your name, e-mail, and affiliation.](#)

Organizers:

Judith I. Haug (Orient-Institut Istanbul)

Margret Scharrer (University of Bern)

Julia Samp (RWTH Aachen University)

Richard Wittmann (Orient-Institut Istanbul)

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the Chair of Medieval History at RWTH Aachen University,  
and the Boğaziçi University Byzantine Studies Research  
Center.



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Image credits: Marginal drôleries from a 13th-century French Vulgata manuscript, MS Saint-Omer 5, ff. 14r, 92r, 246r, 272r. Bibliothèque numérique d'agglomération de Saint-Omer – Abbaye de St. Bertin

## Program

All times are Istanbul local time (GMT+3)

### Friday 21 October

14.00–14.30	<b>Welcome Addresses</b> Christoph K. Neumann Richard Wittmann, Deputy director of the Orient-Institut Istanbul Julia Samp, Margret Scharrer, Judith I. Haug, Conference organizers
14.30–15.30	<b>Keynote Speech</b> <i>Chair: Julia Samp (RWTH Aachen University)</i>  Nikolas Jaspert (Heidelberg University) Mobility–Alterity–Acoustics: The Challenges and Potentials of an Epistemological Area of Intersection
15.30–16.00	Coffee Break
16.00–17.30	<b>Sources from Latin Europe</b> <i>Chair: Margret Scharrer (University of Bern)</i>  Julia Samp (RWTH Aachen University) I came, I saw, I touched, and I heard?! Felix Fabri's Pilgrimage as an Auditory Experience  Christoph Schanze (University of Giessen) <i>dā von ich niht mē besunder kan gesagen als ein kint.</i> Multisensory Perception and Imagination of the "Holy Land" in Walther von der Vogelweide's "Palästinalied"  Daniel Jütte (New York University) Jews and the Politics of Music in Late Medieval and Early Modern Italy
17.30–19.00	Apéro
19.00–20.00	<b>Focus on Performance</b> <i>Chair: Nihan Tahtaışleyen (Orient-Institut Istanbul)</i>  Thilo Hirsch (University of Bern/University of the Arts Bern) and Mehtap Demir (Istanbul University State Conservatory) The Skin of the Others: Skin-Covered Bowed String Instruments Between Central Asia and Europe

### Saturday 22 October

10.00–12.00	<b>Byzantine Soundspaces</b> <i>Chair: Will Sumits (Orient-Institut Istanbul)</i>  Flora Kritikou (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens) The Latin Communion in Local Repertoires of the Venetian Eastern Mediterranean: A first Evidence of the Musical Syncretism in Crete and Cyprus during the 15th Century  Michael Grünbart (University of Münster) The Silence of the Emperor – A Ruling Principle at the Byzantine Court (9th – 12th Centuries)  Nina-Maria Wanek (University of Vienna) When Gestures Become Music: The Practice of Cheironomy in Byzantine Chant  Koray Durak (Boğaziçi University, Istanbul) Sights and Sounds from the Bilad al-Rum: Representation of the Byzantine World Through the Senses in Medieval Arabic Sources
12.00–13.00	Lunch break
13.00–14.30	<b>Arabic and Anatolian Perceptions</b> <i>Chair: Salih Demirtaş (Orient-Institut Istanbul)</i>  Yehoshua Frenkel (University of Haifa) Sonic Expression and Community in Mamluk Cairo  Eyad Abuali (Humboldt-University of Berlin) Music and Meditation: Sound, Visions, and Belonging in Medieval Sufism  Ulaş Özdemir (Istanbul University State Conservatory) Tracing the Sound of Singer-Poets: Reflections on Music, Poetry, and Performance in Medieval Anatolia
14.30–15.00	Coffee break
16.00–18.00	<b>Participation in the Vespers service at the Ecumenical Patriarchate</b> Followed by a lecture and conversation with Archon Protopsaltis Panagiotis Neochoritis (live participants only)
19.00	Conference dinner

### Sunday 23 October

9.00–10.30	<b>Imaginations of the "Other": "Alien" Soundspaces and their Reception in Poetry, Ritual, and Music</b> <i>Chair: Martin Greve (Orient-Institut Istanbul)</i>  Margret Scharrer (University of Bern) "Singing Hebrews" and "Saracen Giants": Imaginations of the "Other" in 15th Century Burgundian Court Festivals  Dinko Fabris (University of Basilicata) The Renaissance Recovery of Ideas on Sound and Moral Importance of Music in the Pseudo-Plutarch <i>De musica</i> in the Commentary by Andrea Matteo Acquaviva (Naples, 1526)  Judith I. Haug (Orient-Institut Istanbul) Travels Reimagined: Modern Reconstructions of Musical Encounters
10.30–11.30	<b>Conference resumé</b> Jan-Friedrich Missfelder (University of Basel)
11.30–12.30	<b>Closing discussion</b> <i>Chair: Judith I. Haug (Orient-Institut Istanbul)</i>