# Thursday, September 15

10:15-10:45 Introduction

#### Wave / Number

To Explain Consonance and Divide the Octave: **Abstract Doctrines and Their Material Counterparts** H. Floris Cohen Descartes Centre, Utrecht University

Marin Mersenne and the Lost Knowledge of King David's Lyre

Jacomien Prins University of Warwick

12:15-13:15

### Glass / Metal

Music of Metallurgy: Bell-Founding Metal for **Musical Instruments** 

Rebecca Wolf Deutsches Museum, Munich

**Musical Glasses** 

Peter Pesic St. John's College, Santa Fe

Coffee break

#### Stage / Garden

Acoustic and Musical Realities: Performing Kunqu on Historical Stages and in Cultivated Gardens Joseph S.C. Lam University of Michigan

#### Concert

Piano Recital "Music, Science and Nature" Peter Pesic St. John's College, Santa Fe Wayne Foster-Smith Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler, Berlin

# Friday, September 16

Welcome Coffee

#### Air / Machine

Sounding the Voice Box: A History of Reconstructing the Avian Syrinx, 1750-Present Joeri Bruyninckx MPIWG

11:00-11:45

**Birds as Sounding Objects** 

Tiago de Oliveira Pinto University of Music Franz Liszt Weimar & Friedrich Schiller University Jena / São

11:45-12:00

**Physical and Musical Objects: Vacuum Tubes** throughout the Twentieth Century Myles Jackson New York University

Lunch 12:45-13:45

# Ear / Voice

The Ear and Its Objects: A Longue Durée View of Research in Auditory Physiology Julia Kursell University of Amsterdam

14:30-15:15

Inner Voices: A Long History of Soliloquies Viktoria Tkaczyk MPIWG, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Coffee break 15:15-15:45

On the Nightingale: Myth as Sound Object(s) Shane Butler Johns Hopkins University

16:30-16:40 **Closing Remarks** 

Karin Bijsterveld Maastricht University

MPRG EPISTEMES OF MODERN ACOUSTICS Max Planck Institute for the History of Science Boltzmannstraße 22 **D-14195** Berlin **Conference Room** 

To register please contact: Birgitta von Mallinckrodt officeacoustics@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de

## **Organizers:**

Viktoria Tkaczyk (MPIWG / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) **Rebecca Wolf** (Deutsches Museum)

# Working Group Workshop I September 15-16, 2016

# SOUND OBJECTS INTRANSITION:

KNOWLEDGE, SCIENCE, HERITAGE

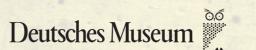


Bells, stringed instruments, theater auditoria, pistols, phonographs, and synthesizers have a long history that is deeply entangled with the production of knowledge, science, and cultural heritage. The Working Group plans to bring these enmeshments to light, with a focus on three forms of sound objects: sound-generating, sound-transmitting, and soundarchiving objects. Alongside materially tangible objects (natural objects, artifacts, objets trouvés), the Working Group also considers immaterial sound objects (musical sounds, sounds of daily life, noise), passed on in written or pictorial form.

The Working Group asks when and how research objects became concrete objects, and what agency these objects have accrued in the domains of knowledge, science, and cultural heritage. We trace the role played by the objects' materiality

in such processes. When did their materials, their value, their sound, their shape change? How did their spatial or cultural embedment mold their use? We are interested in the extent to which sounding objects formed part of codified actions, artistic or technological practices, and social networks. How did they collect or communicate tacit knowledge? At what points did sound objects mark the transition from practical action to scientific research? Did objects circulate between scientific disciplines? And where did sounding objects escape from their scientific contexts to become everyday, communicative, museum, or art objects? How was their sound described, visualized, measured, archived, exhibited, digitized? Finally, we ask where the history of these objects flows into conventional narratives and where they write their very own history over long periods of time.







For more information on the research group "Epistemes of Modern Acoustics"

