



Technologies of Listening

Workshop presented as part of The Listening Project

Thursday 31 July 2008, 9 am - 6 pm

Blackfriars Campus, University of Technology,
Sydney

Conveners:

Dr Justine Lloyd (Macquarie) & Associate Professor
Kate
Crawford (UNSW)

Sponsored by the ARC Cultural Research Network and the
Trans/forming Cultures Research Centre, University of Technology,
Sydney

© The Listening Project and named authors



UNIVERSITY OF
TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

TfC

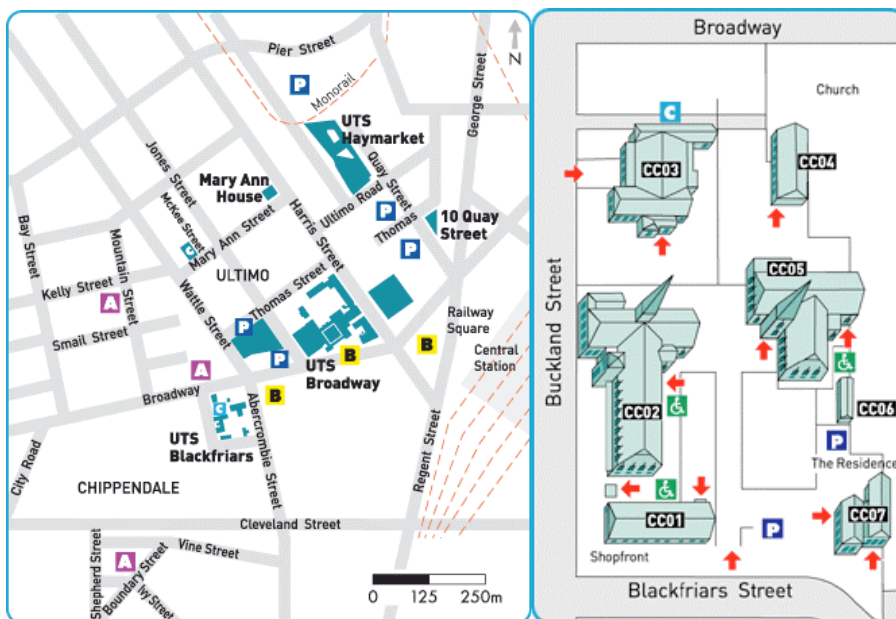
Transforming Cultures
Research Centre

Workshop Location

The workshop is being held upstairs in building CC05 at the Blackfriars Campus of the University of Technology, Sydney (room CC.05.01.05). You can enter the campus from Blackfriars St, which is parallel to Broadway.

People walking from Mercure, Valentine or Central Station: walk down the left hand side of George Street/Broadway (heading away from the CBD), turn left onto Abercrombie Street, then right onto Blackfriars Street and enter the campus via the main gate. Please see maps below for location of the campus and building.

Parking: there is no parking on Blackfriars, pay parking available at building 10, undercover, multi-story enter from Thomas Street, or in open parking.



Workshop Program

9.00am: Coffee and arrivals

9.30am: Introduction from Justine Lloyd and Kate Crawford.

10.00am: SESSION ONE

Presenter: Jonathan Sterne (30min)

Respondent: Zoë Sofoulis (10-15min)

Questions, group discussion (45 min)

11.30am: SHORT TEA BREAK ! *grab tea/coffee & danish while new session starts*

11.45am: SESSION TWO

Presenter: David Goodman (30 min)

Respondent: John Tebbutt (10-15 min)

Discussion (45 mins)

1.15pm: LUNCH ! *if weather permits, downstairs on veranda*

2pm: SESSION THREE

Presenter: Ingrid Richardson (20 mins)

Respondent: Jean Burgess (10-15 mins)

Discussion (50 mins)

3.30-3.45: *short coffee break*

3.45pm: SESSION FOUR

Open, speculative session (introduced briefly by JL & KC) which aims to outline future research agenda for technologies of listening ! what new ideas are emerging? What areas need further work? Is there room for collaborative projects in this area? What happens when the emphasis on speaking/communicating/broadcasting is shifted to an emphasis on listening? Please see framing questions below.

5.30: session ends with closing remarks by Stephen Muecke

7pm: Please join us for dinner in Chinatown, venue tbc.

The Listening Project: Background

The Listening Project is a program of collaboration that will generate sustained discussion and publication around the politics, technologies and practices of the cultural literacy of 'listening'. The project develops a new area of study through an innovative model of networking, bringing together researchers across a range of disciplines as well as media and cultural producers. The program will examine the neglected dynamics of 'listening', an emerging focus in Media Studies and citizens' media interventions. Habitual critiques of representation and the politics of 'speaking' (or giving voice to the voiceless) are giving way to investigation of more active possibilities for social inclusion and change based on recognition, dialogic engagement and acceptance.

Tanja Dreher, Justine Lloyd and Penny O'Donnell, Project Conveners

Roundtable Workshops

Five afternoon tea workshops will be held in 2008, leading to a multi-authored publication around the theme of 'listening' in 2009. The discussion will be structured to lead to the identification of potential collaborative projects and papers for publication. Future workshops:

Conflict, Democracy & Listening

26 September 2008, Monash

Mark Gibson (Monash)

Disability, Democracy, Media & Listening

October 2008, UNSW

Gerard Goggin (UNSW) and Rosemary Kayess (UNSW)

Listening Practices

17 October 2008, USyd

Penny O'Donnell (USyd) and Juan Salazar (UWS)

Publications Workshop

14 November 2008, UTS

Workshop Rationale

This workshop will allow for the investigation of the crucial role of technology in listening. The focus will be on the cultural forms of listening that bring together material objects with social practices, collective formations and subjectivities. The emphasis on listening will allow participants to explore common themes and problems: to what extent have technologies embodied already existing modes of listening and to what extent do they produce new ones? What sonic networks and flows do contemporary material cultures reinforce, and how do local sound cultures redraw and reconstitute themselves in a digital environment? What is the function of shared spaces of listening in relation to individual environments, such as MP3 players and mobile phones?

Framing Questions

1. How have technologies embodied already existing modes of listening?
2. How do they produce new ones?
3. Which sonic networks and flows are reinforced by contemporary material cultures?
4. How do local sound cultures redraw and reconstitute themselves in a digital environment?
5. How do particular listening formats (e.g radio, vinyl, CD, MP3) provide different frameworks for listening, and does this move beyond questions of sound quality?
6. What is the function of shared spaces of listening in relation to individual environments, such as MP3 players and mobile phones?
7. What might this mean for music performers and sound artists?
8. What is the role of 'noise' in listening?
9. How can researchers best account for listening practices and politics?
10. To what extent are technologies of listening also technologies of commodification?

Participants

Justine Lloyd	Workshop Convenor, Macquarie University
Kate Crawford	Workshop Convenor, University of New South Wales
Tanja Dreher	Project Convenor, University of Technology, Sydney
Penny O'Donnell	Project convenor, University of Sydney
Cate Thill	Project Officer, University of Technology, Sydney
Mark Gibson	Node convenor, Monash University
Eurydice Aroney	University of Technology, Sydney
Jean Burgess	Queensland University of Technology
Collin Chua	University of New South Wales
Alex Davies	University of New South Wales
Ruth Fazakerley	University of South Australia
David Goodman	University of Melbourne
Gareth Jenkins	University of Wollongong
Caleb Kelly	University of Western Sydney
Stephen Muecke	University of Technology, Sydney
Aneta Podkalicka	Swinburne University of Technology
Pierre Proske	
Ingrid Richardson	Murdoch University
John Scannell	Macquarie University
Greg Shapley	University of Technology, Sydney
Zoë Sofoulis	University of Western Sydney
Jonathan Sterne	McGill University
John Tebbutt	La Trobe University
Michael J Walsh	Monash University