

Panel Proposal:

Sounding the Video Essay: On Sound and Music in Videographic Scholarship

Evelyn Kreutzer (Potsdam) and Kathleen Looock (Hannover)

Over the past decade, videographic criticism has come into its own, with over ten peer-reviewed journals now publishing video essays. With the rise of new digital video technologies, affordable film editing software, online platforms, and social media in the new millennium, videographic criticism emerged as a response to film and media studies' longstanding inability to adequately quote their objects, and offered new ways of conducting and communicating research on audiovisual media. Videographic scholars "write" with the very moving images and sounds that constitute their objects of study and translate them into new audiovisual objects, usually referred to as "video essays." Arguably, this is particularly beneficial to sound and music scholars, who no longer rely on insufficient textual descriptions of sounds (Roland Barthes described this as "the problem of the adjective"). This panel focuses on the affordances of videographic work for the analysis of sound and music in audiovisual media and the field of American Studies more generally. How can we use video essays to analyze sound and music in meaningful, creative, or playful ways? How can videographic work contribute to the historical and cultural analysis of sounds and music? How might it open up new interdisciplinary and international academic dialogue and collaborations?

We invite contributions that address (but are not limited to) the following topics:

- film sounds and film music
- music, sound, and affect
- film and TV music as narrative device
- sounds of seriality
- music and memory
- music videos
- star studies and performance studies
- music history
- musical social media
- music and taste
- music and genre media (e.g. war films, musicals, Westerns)

Presentations can be either video essay screenings or oral presentations that include videographic components.

Confirmed Speaker: Jaap Kooijman (University of Amsterdam)

Please send your abstract (max. 250 words) and a short bio to both Evelyn Kreutzer (media.kreutzer@gmail.com) and Kathleen Looock (Kathleen.Looock@engsem.uni-hannover.de).