

rec-on.org



HOW SOFT IS THE POWER OF VOICE?

The research was commissioned by the TIMES project "pitch, pigeon, puerta". Antye Greie-Ripatti conducted interviews with traveling musicians, asking about source, territory and power of voice.

The interviews can be listened here:
<https://rec-on.org/voice.html>

body (evolutionary)

voice

MEANING

space

intimate

private

political

intimitating

psychology of voice

soft

power

scream

singing

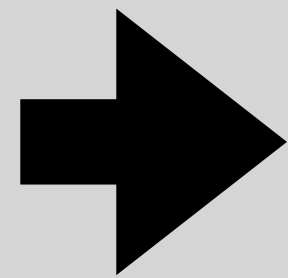
multiplication

amplification

song

choir

LEARNING HOW TO MEAN



voice & migration

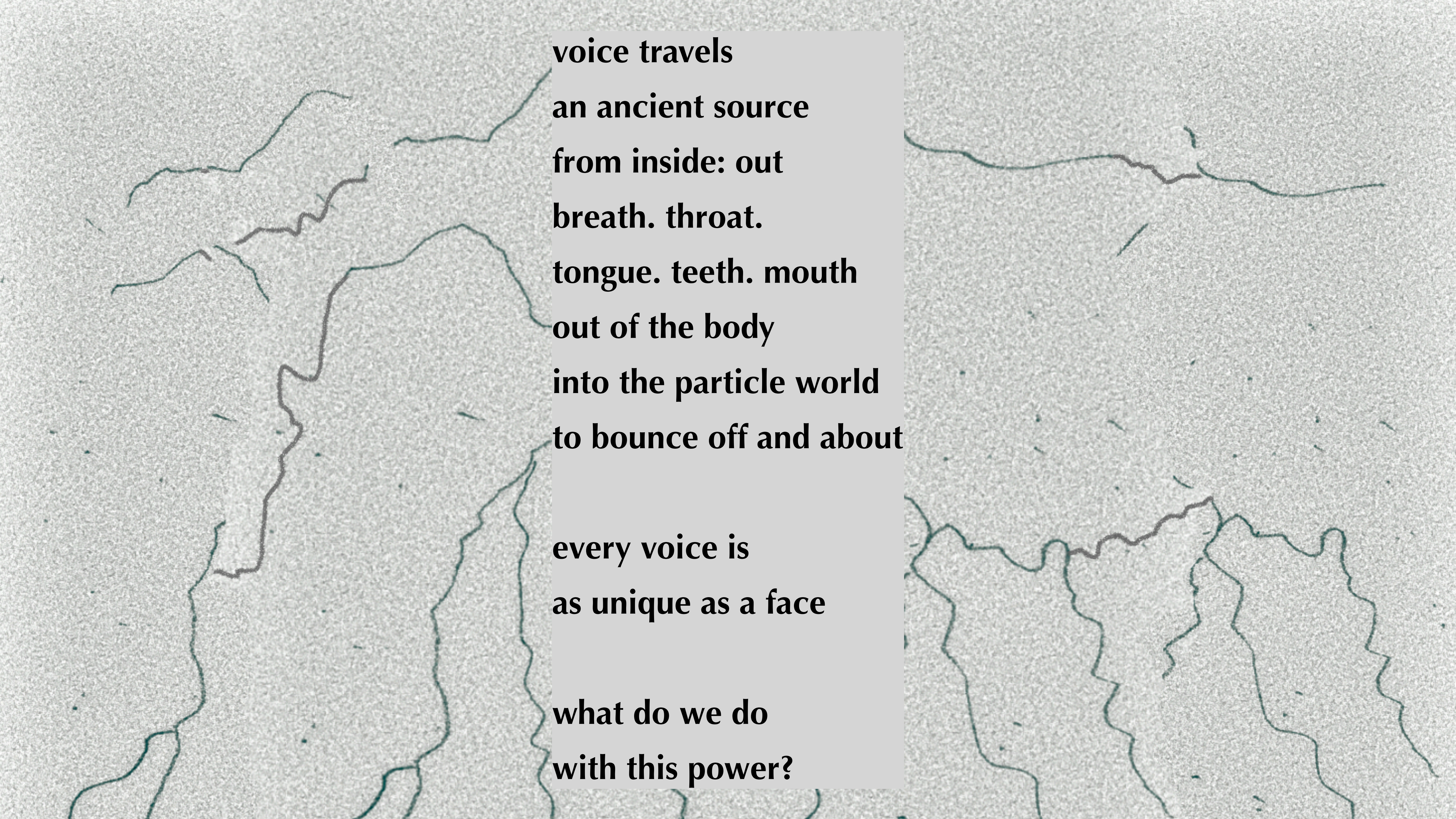
artistic research: <https://rec-on.org/voice.html>

audio essay: https://rec-on.org/audio/VoiceMigration_ESSAY.mp3

writing: <https://rec-on.org/pdf/howsoftisthepowerofvoice.pdf>

drawing: <https://rec-on.org/img/voicePencil.png>





**voice travels
an ancient source
from inside: out
breath. throat.
tongue. teeth. mouth
out of the body
into the particle world
to bounce off and about**

**every voice is
as unique as a face**

**what do we do
with this power?**

materiality

**Amanda Weidman:
Anthropology & Voice
2014**

dissonance

**Susan Bickford:
The Dissonance of
Democracy -
Listening, Conflict, and
Citizenship 1996**

gender

**Hannah Bosma:
The Electronic Cry
- Voice & Gender
in Electroacoustic
Music 2019**

voiceblind

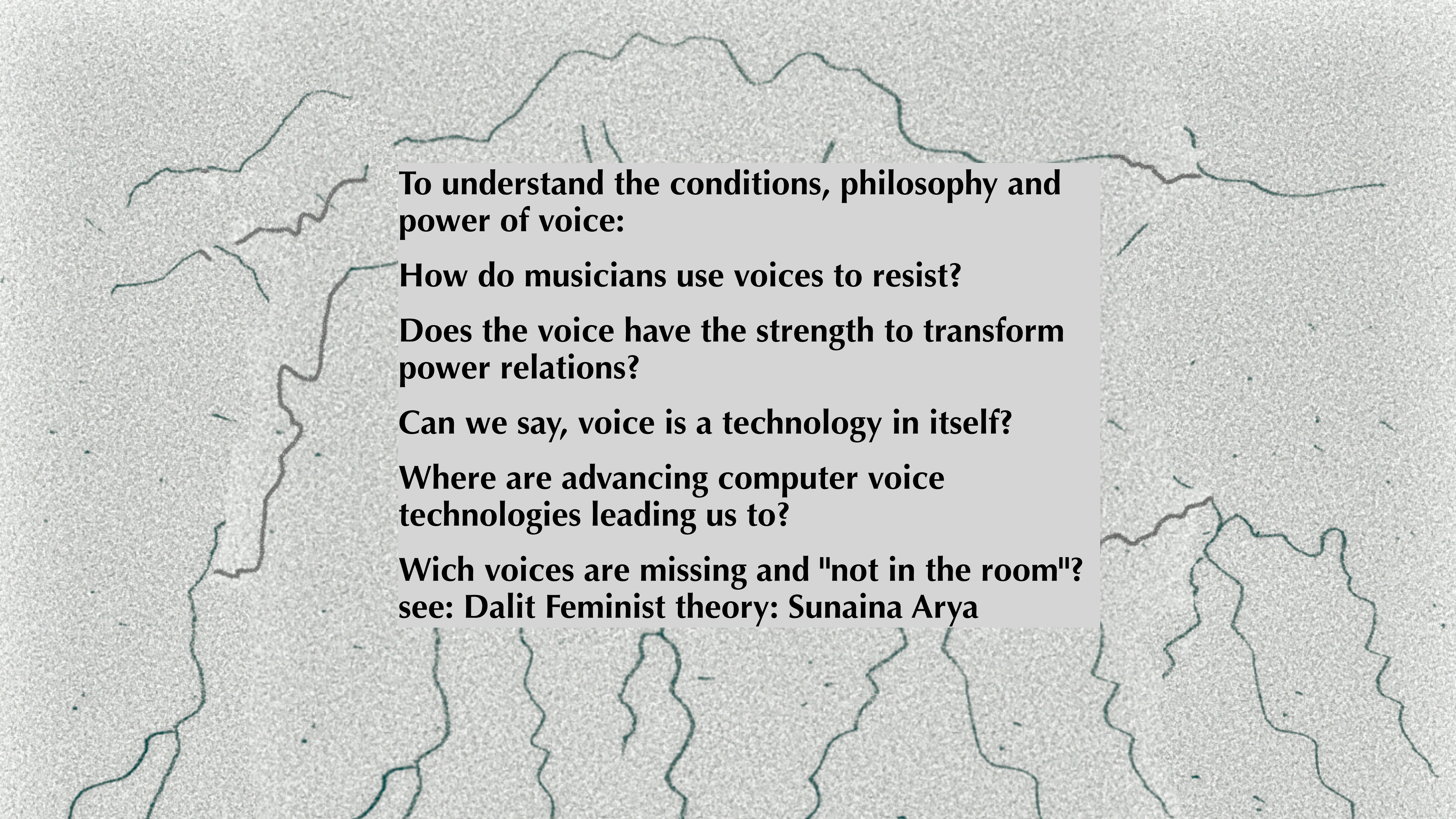
**Nick Couldry:
Voiceblind: On Some
Paradoxes of the
Neoliberal State 2013**

race

**Nina Sun Eidsheim:
The Race of Sound -
Listening, Timbre,
and Vocality in
African American
Music 2019**

flattening

**Sybille Krämer:
Cultural Techniques of
Flattening" Aesthetics
& Epistemology 2022**



To understand the conditions, philosophy and power of voice:

How do musicians use voices to resist?

Does the voice have the strength to transform power relations?

Can we say, voice is a technology in itself?

Where are advancing computer voice technologies leading us to?

**Which voices are missing and "not in the room"?
see: Dalit Feminist theory: Sunaina Arya**

DALIT FEMINIST THEORY

A Reader

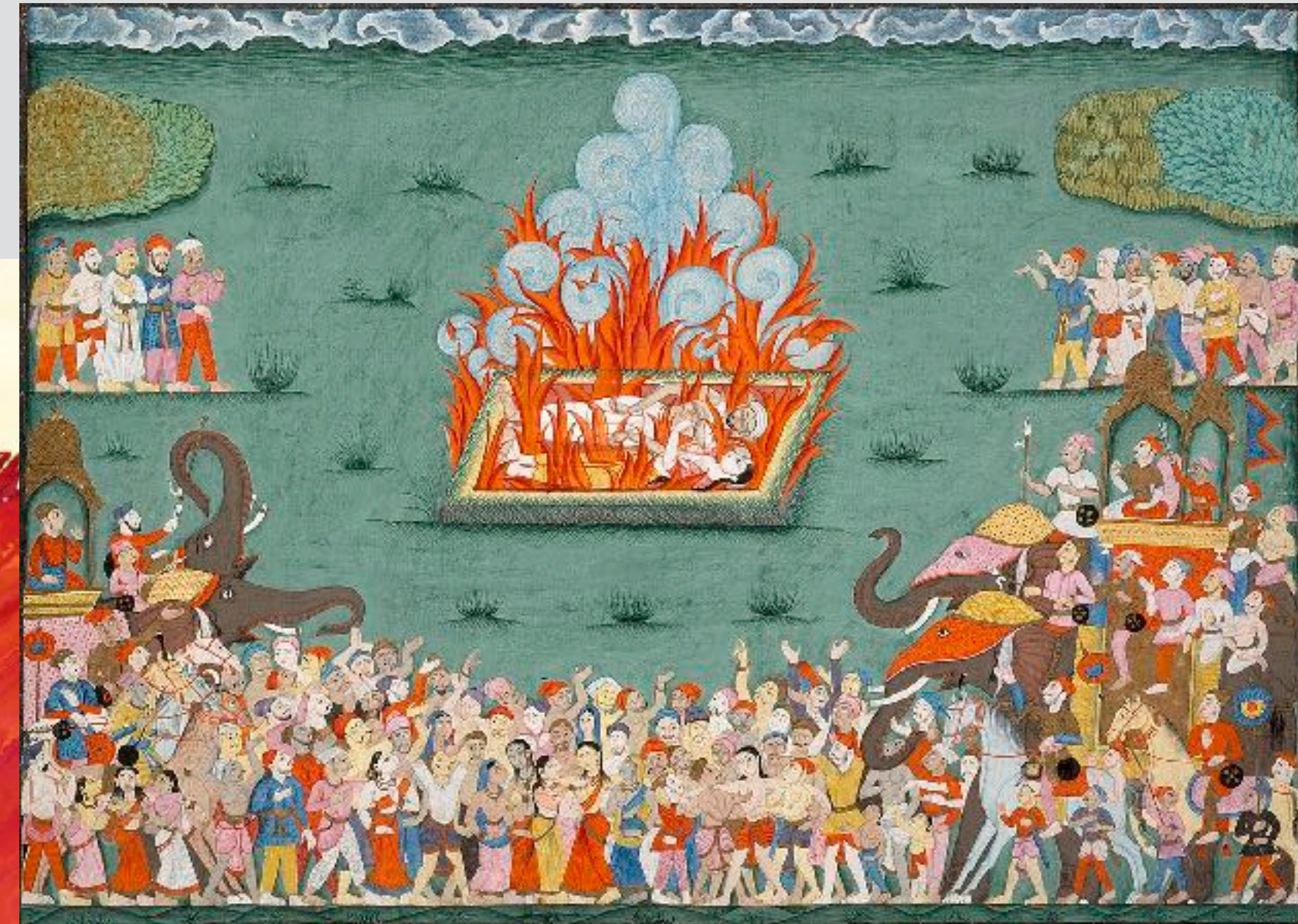
EDITED BY SUNAINA ARYA
AND AAKASH SINGH RATHORE



Women's voices and their liberation is the first step toward democratic society



ROUTLEDGE



Maniere dont les FEMMES se BRULENT aux INDES apres la Mort de leurs EPOUX.

How voice is eliminated!

Nick Couldry argues in his 2010 "Why Voice Matters: Culture and Politics after Neoliberalism" the crisis of the voice (value) in our current democracy is severe, voice is given and then retracted, endorsed and then made empty.

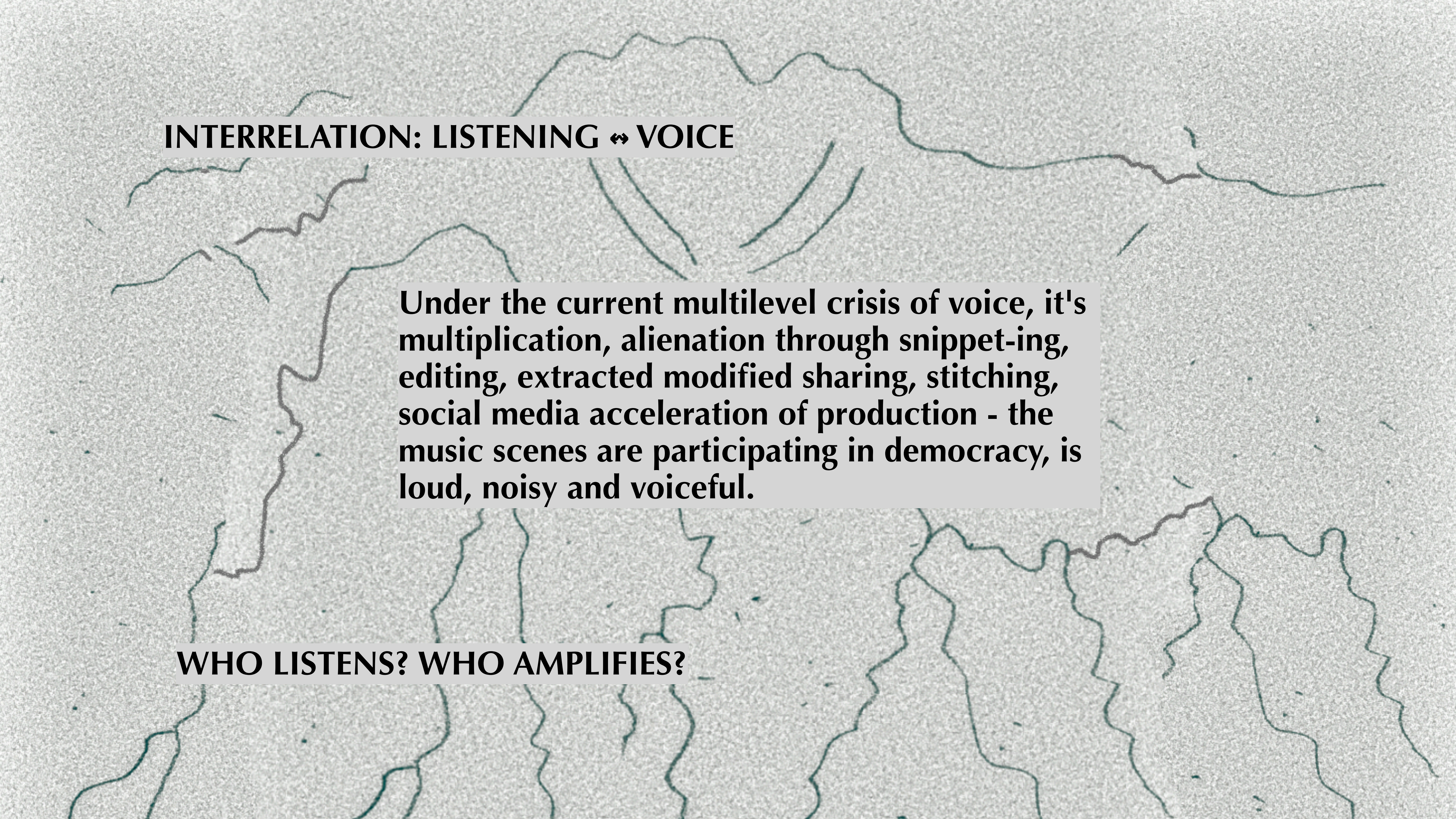
Couldry argues that there will be made more and more space for the voice, but it will matter less and less.

The CEO of Palantir, the most powerful data company Alex Karp recently said in an on screen interview out loud that AI will undermine the influence of “highly educated, often female voters” <https://futurism.com/artificial-intelligence/ceo-palantir-ai-women>

How voice is FULLY suppressed!

Hidden Songs » آواز پنهان «





INTERRELATION: LISTENING ↔ VOICE

Under the current multilevel crisis of voice, it's multiplication, alienation through snippet-ing, editing, extracted modified sharing, stitching, social media acceleration of production - the music scenes are participating in democracy, is loud, noisy and voiceful.

WHO LISTENS? WHO AMPLIFIES?

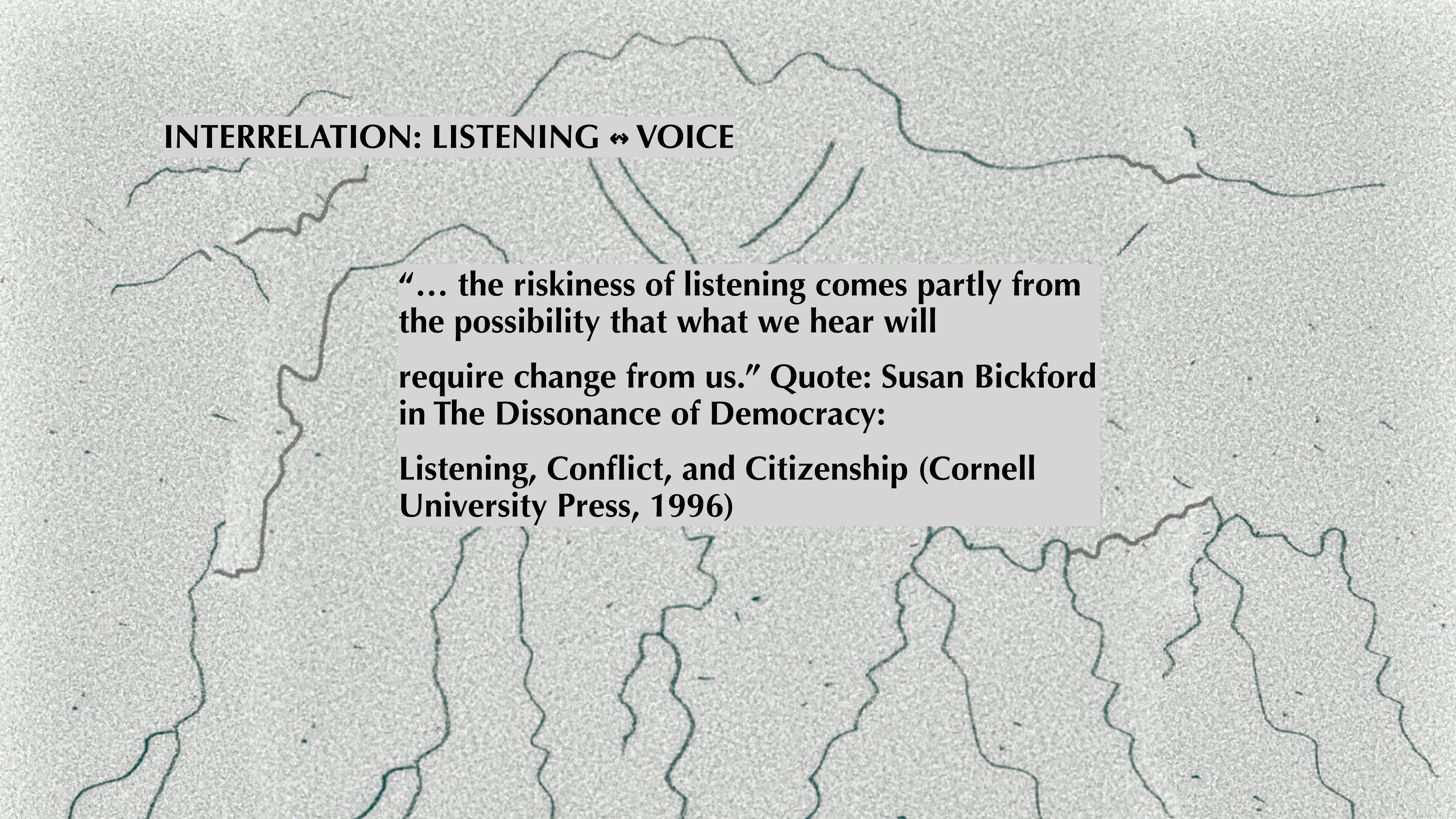
When voice ends ...



woman & the gun Sky Deep feat. Hevi



<https://soundcloud.com/sky-deep/woman-and-the-gun-feat-hevi>



INTERRELATION: LISTENING ↔ VOICE

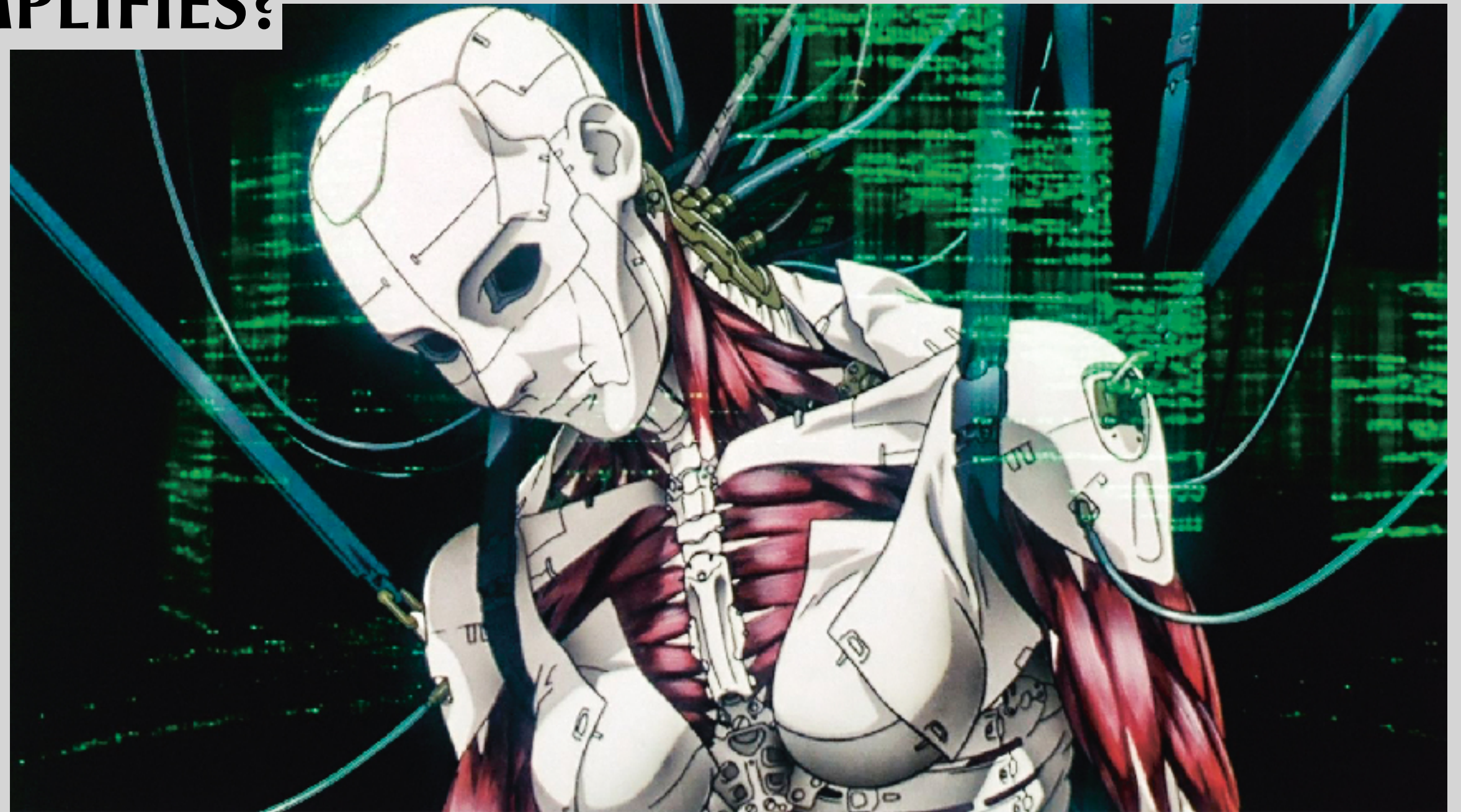
“... the riskiness of listening comes partly from the possibility that what we hear will require change from us.” Quote: Susan Bickford in *The Dissonance of Democracy*:

Listening, Conflict, and Citizenship (Cornell University Press, 1996)

real bodies vs bots



WHO LISTENS? WHO AMPLIFIES?



capture, cooption, manipulation, vocal engineering

How voice travels!

Separating the voice from the body raises concerns about theft, extraction and alienation.

The effort to grab the human voice for the techno ownership class (Musk, Thiel, Durov) is a way to control the narrative. It is a way to influence and to be algorithmically direct "voice" at will.

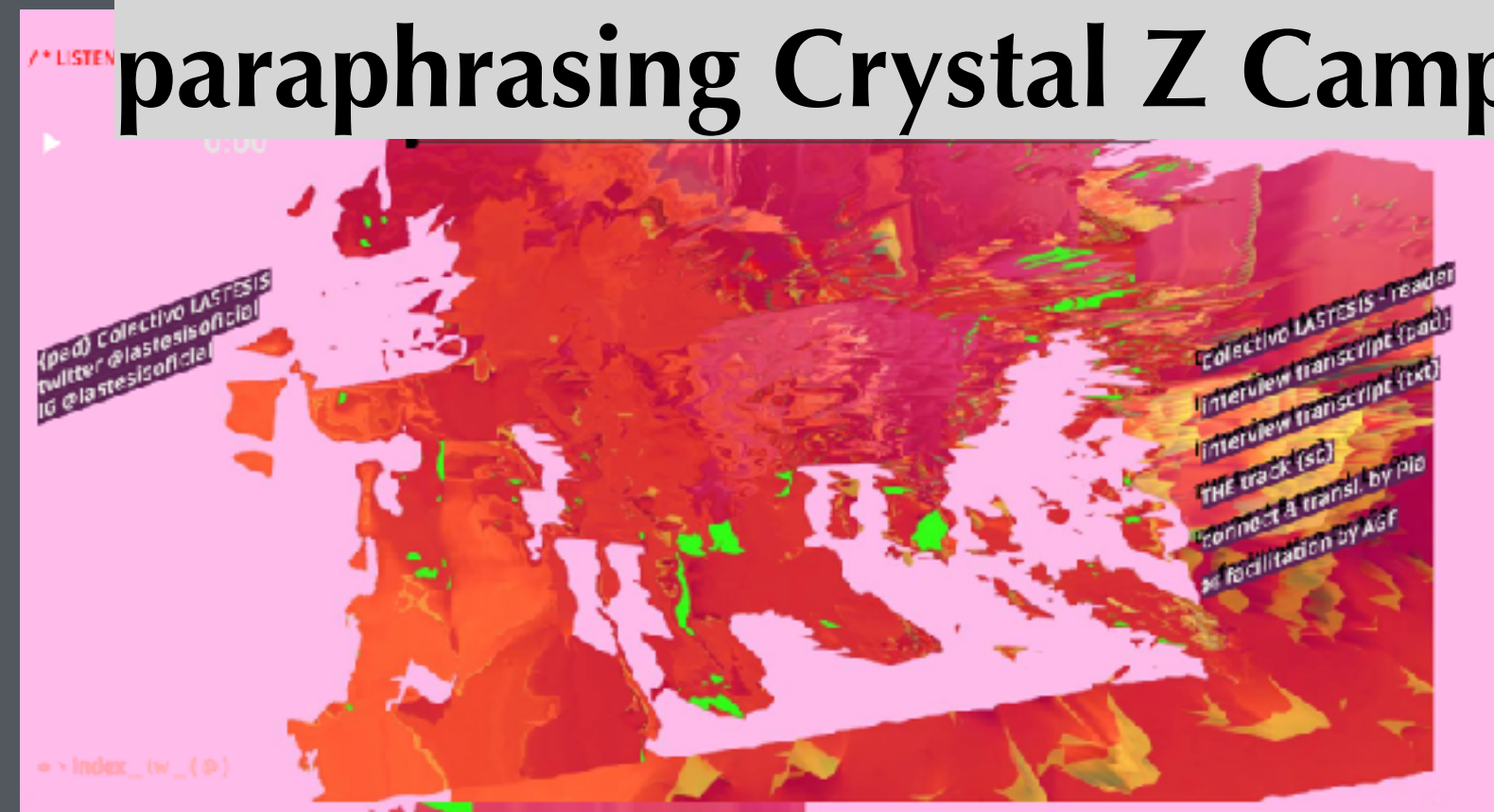
It can control the masses and replace true self-expression and freedom of speech.

Have the audio artists contributed or resisted this? How to react to this form of cooption and appropriation of our creativity?

voice in sound arts & music

'Artists are important transmitters of forgotten "none-state" knowledges.'

paraphrasing Crystal Z Campbell



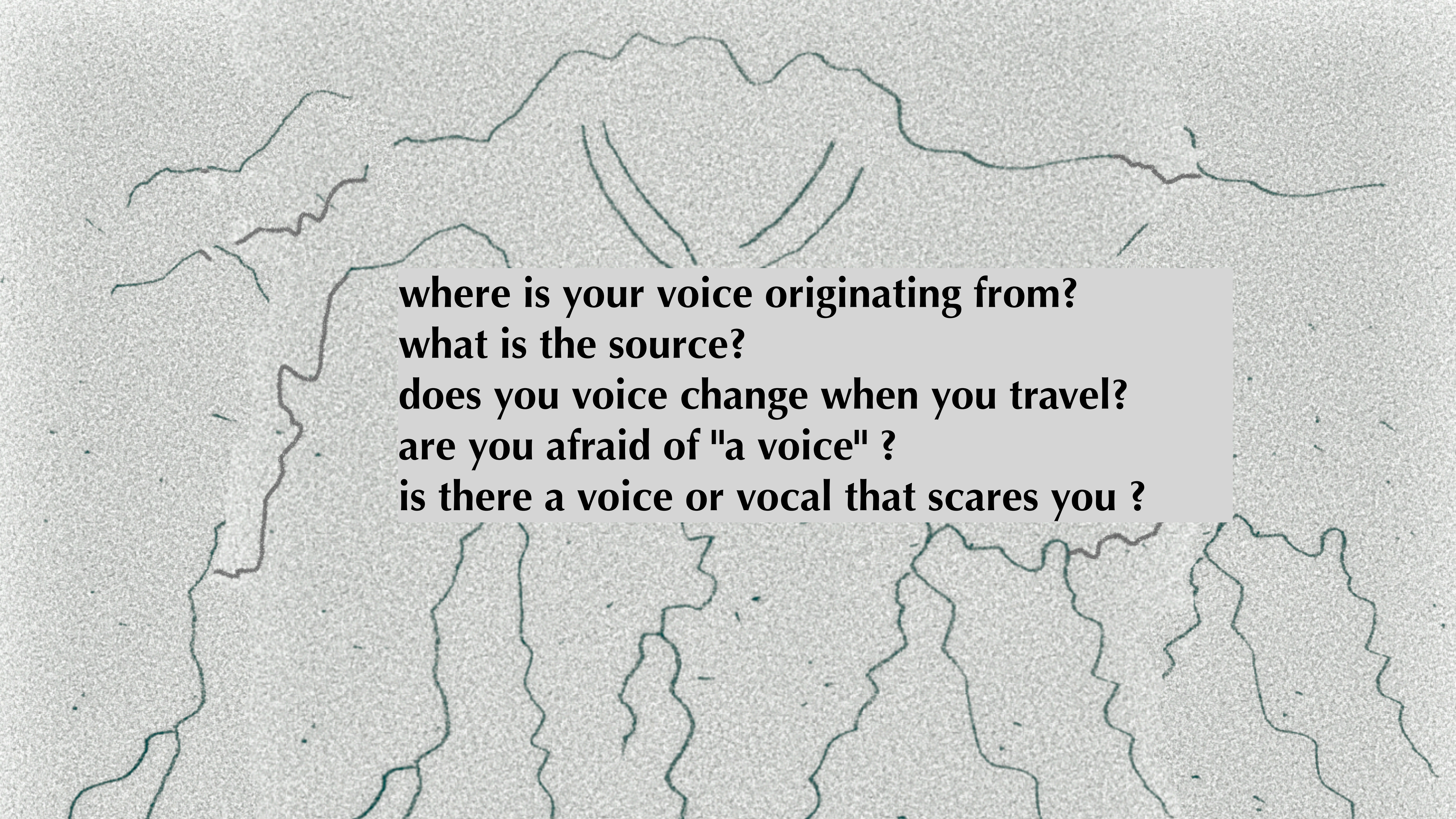
#lastesis



resist the dehumanisation

<https://rec-on.org/lastesis.html>





**where is your voice originating from?
what is the source?
does your voice change when you travel?
are you afraid of "a voice" ?
is there a voice or vocal that scares you ?**

During the range of interviews with vocalists I conducted, the answers are rich:

Yasia' Andriana-Yaroslava Saienko: "I sing and pull the power from the land"

Lido Piemento: "I sing from my people and family, my people, it is guttural."

Bint Mbareh: "I sing myself into the future, from community, my mother, and the water body."

Alejandra Cárdenas: "My voice as testimony"

Aydrey Chen: "I sing with the intention to free myself."

Kianí del Valle: "The voice becomes a weapon"

Aleksandra Popovska: "I am not sure the voice is mine, but we belong to ourselves"



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@poemproducer

music: AGF