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Sound takes place

Disability Perspective on Sound Environments

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SOUND TAKES PLACE

Disability Perspective on Sound Environments



This poster presents theoretical findings from the anthology project *Sound Takes Place. Disability Perspective on Sound Environments*. Central is to understand the complexity of the sound environment as a place, and how different places create hinder for people with hearing loss. The argument is based on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and takes as its point of departure 'that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms' in the same way as everyone else.



SOUND ENVIRONMENT

Sound environment is a concept for understanding how people experience different places. It should not be understood as a given phenomenon, but instead as a concept used to problematize and create understandings of places where sound develops and are listened to.

Three themes are highlighted in this anthology:

1. Sound environments as a place focus upon the sound environment as a physical, social and cultural phenomenon, exploring how hinderers may be theoretically and empirically understood in a specific context.

2. The cultural meaning of audism highlights the cultural ideal of the hearing norm in society, and how this norm is privileged and creates hinderers in the built environment as well as in the everyday social interaction.

3. The importance of the body is often overseen, but in the anthology we argue for a disability perspective which explores how 'some spaces extend certain bodies and simply do not leave room for others' (Ahmed 2006).

CONCLUSIONS

In this anthology we emphasize the importance of developing sound environments as a theoretical concept. It gives us better opportunities to understand the limitations that are created in specific sound environments and how to overcome them. A disability perspective may help illuminate the complexity of sound environments and their relation to place, audism and bodies.

Alftberg, Å., Apelmo, E., & Hansson, K. (Red.) (2016). *Ljud tar plats: funktionshinderperspektiv på ljudmiljöer*. Lund Studies in Arts and Cultural Sciences. Download: http://portal.research.lu.se/portal/files/11083069/Ljud_tar_plats_webb.pdf



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