

Sonic Borders Virtual Panel: Theo Cateforis's "No Control, or: How I Learned to Start Worrying about Sound" from IASPM-US

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Abstract

In high school I was that guy. The one who spent every spare penny at the local record stores. The one who would make you a mixtape or tape a whole album to cassette for you. The one who would host listening parties around the stereo in his parents' living room.

Keywords

Music (Subfield), Sonic Borders Forum, IASPM-US, Popular Music, Sonic Borders, Sound

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In high school I was *that* guy. The one who spent every spare penny at the local record stores. The one who would make you a mixtape or tape a whole album to cassette for you. The one who would host listening parties around the stereo in his parents' living room. Listening to music was a social activity, but it was also, I now recognize, a form of control. It was important, for instance, that I held those listening parties at my house because I was familiar with my records and stereo system, and I knew exactly how the music would sound. There would be no surprises. Likewise, to make a mixtape meant not only arranging a selection of songs, but ensuring that the recording levels and overall sound flowed from one song to the next. A good mixtape revealed not only an intimate knowledge of one's record collection, but also the mastery of one's tape deck. . . . [[Reblogged from IASPM-US.net](#)]

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Sonic Borders Schedule

1/21 – [Liana Silva](#), *Sounding Out!* – “I’m on My New York Sh*t”: Jean Grae’s Sonic Claims on the City

1/28 – [Regina Bradley](#), *Sounding Out!* – I Like the Way You Rhyme, Boy: Hip Hop Sensibility and Racial Trauma in *Django Unchained*

2/4 – [Marcus Boon](#), *Sounding Out!* – One Nation Under a Groove?: Music, Sonic Borders, and the Politics of Vibration

2/6 – [Barry Shank](#), IASPM-US – “On Popular Music Studies”

2/11 – [Tavia Nyong’o](#), *Sounding Out!* – “Freedom Back: Sounding Black Feminist History, Courtesy the Artists”

2/13 – [Theo Cateforis](#), IASPM-US – “No Control, or: How I Learned to Start Worrying About Sound”

2/18 – [Tara Betts](#), *Sounding Out!*

2/20 – [Shana L. Redmond](#), IASPM-US

2/25 – [Art Jones](#), *Sounding Out!*

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2/27 – [Devon Powers](#), IASPM-US