

# Sounding Out! Podcast #20: The Sound of Rio's Favelas: Echoes of Social Inequality in an Olympic City

## Sounding Out! Authors

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## Abstract

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD: The Sound of Rio's Favelas: Echoes of Social Inequality in an Olympic City  
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PODCAST TRANSCRIPT: Join Andrea Medrado for a sound tour of Rio as she explores the nooks and crannies of the city's favelas.

## Keywords

Music (Subfield), Acoustic Ecology, Acoustics, Capitalism, Class, Cultural Studies



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*"To Live in the Favela is an Art" – Tile Mosaic Staircase by the artist Jorge Selaron at Lapa, Rio de Janeiro.*



*A view of Rio's famous Sugar Loaf.*



*"White Evictions. favela, model of what?" Protest signs at the Santa Marta Favela*

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**PODCAST TRANSCRIPT:**

[Transcript of Sounding Out! Podcast #20- The Sound of Rio's Favelas- Echoes of Social Inequality in an Olympic City](#)  
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Join Andrea Medrado for a sound tour of Rio as she explores the nooks and crannies of the city's favelas. Lingeringly above the narrative is the sense of competition and gentrification which the Olympics will bring to the city itself. As the rivalry of sport comes to town, this podcast focuses on the many ways that the contours of sound have been engineered by the city to further isolate and pacify the city's poorer residents. But, even as the Olympics churn sonic borders, Medrado keeps a keen ear to ground and points out moments of resistance, hope, and enchantment in the 'marvelous city.'

Featuring: Andrea Medrado, Maria dos Camelôs, Maurício Hora, Renata Souza

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[Dr. Andrea Medrado](#) is a Lecturer at the Media School of Bournemouth University in the UK. She has an extensive academic background in media studies as well as professional experience in advertising as a creative writer. Andrea is also an experienced ethnographer. Her current research delves into issues of social exclusion, analyzing the ways in which the favelas (slums or shanty towns) are featured in the “promotion” of Rio as an Olympic city to a global audience. One of the key questions is: how are the favelas making themselves heard during the preparations for the mega events through the sounds that the residents produce? Her doctoral thesis (University of Westminster, 2010) was an ethnographic study about the practices of daily listening in a Brazilian favela. Outside of academia, she has worked as a creative writer in both advertising agencies and a number of political campaigns in Brazil. Her research interests include auditory culture and sound studies, alternative and community media, political communications, and media ethnography. You can contact her at [amedrado@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:amedrado@bournemouth.ac.uk); [ammedrado@hotmail.com](mailto:ammedrado@hotmail.com).