

**ISA**

**SCIENCE**

# SONIC TIES

**RETHINKING COMMUNITIES  
AND COLLECTIVES**

**BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**  
**26 August - 30 August 2023**



**IMI** INSTITUT FÜR MUSIKWISSENSCHAFT  
UND INTERPRETATIONSFORSCHUNG

**IVC**  
Institut für  
Volksmusikforschung  
und Ethnomusikologie

**IKM**  
Institut für  
Kulturmanagement  
und Gender Studies

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### Responsible for content

Andrea Glauser, Marko Kölbl, Stephanie Probst

### Editorial office

Kathrin Heinrich, Valerie Gföhler

### Graphic design

Annija Česka, Claudia Schacher

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## Programme Overview

### Saturday, 26 August 2023

Arrival and Check-in at Hotel Marienhof

- 17.00 Apéro
- 19.30 Concert of the isa23 awardees: A selection of the best young musicians of isa23  
Schloss Reichenau

### Sunday, 27 August 2023

Listening Sessions throughout the conference days:  
Michelle Atherton: *Listening to the Soil*

- 09.00-09.30 Coffee & Registration
- 09.30-10.00 Opening & Welcome Address isaScience
- 10.00-11.15** **Keynote Lecture: Srđan Atanasovski**  
*Chair: Andrea Glauser*  
*Histories of Workers' Songs: Between Communities and Representations*
- 11.15-11.30 Break
- 11.30-13.00** **Panel: Sound, Embodiment, and the Social**  
*Chair: Therese Kaufmann*
- 11.30-12.00 Sophie Zehetmayer  
*Affective Bodies in Time: Synthesizing Relations of Musical and Social Rhythm*
- 12.00-12.30 Andrea Liu (online)  
*Occupy Wall Street's "Human Mic": A Sonic Embodiment of Solidarity*



# Abstracts in alphabetical order

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**Atanasovski, Srđan**

Sunday, 27 August 2023, 10.00-11.15, Keynote Lecture

## **Histories of Workers' Songs: Between Communities and Representations**

Institute of Musicology SASA, Belgrade

In this lecture, I will trace two possible histories of workers' songs: a history of music practices of workers' communities, or organized parts of the working class, and a history of representation of working class in songs. The statement that the labour movement is on its historic low has become a common statement across the political spectrum. Though not the loudest, a cultural argument has been one of the most widespread to address this phenomenon – that the communal experience of the working class, from trade unions activities, benefit societies, to cultural institutions and shared urban quarters, have all but disappeared. However, by tracing histories of workers' songs I will show that disregarding workers' communities as living practices is not only a contemporary phenomenon. I will particularly argue how the ideas of “socialism from above” and conflating workers' movement with antifascist movement have contributed to a readiness to substitute practice for representation. Finally, I will discuss how we can reflect these lessons to current music practices in the organizing on the left.

**Srđan Atanasovski** is a Research Associate at the Institute of Musicology SASA in Belgrade, lecturer at SIT Study Abroad Balkans program in Belgrade and member and vice-president of the Centre for Yugoslav Studies in Belgrade. His research topics include music and nationalism, urban soundscape studies and music in workers' movement in Yugoslavia. Atanasovski was engaged as a fellow of international research projects funded by Swiss Science Foundation and he has received research scholarships from the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research. His articles have appeared in Southeastern Europe, Studies in Eastern European Cinema, Südosteuropa, Musicological Annual, etc., as well as in different edited volumes published by Brill, Ashgate, Transcript and other international academic publishers. He has published two books, *Mapiranje Stare Srbije* (in Serbian, trans. 'Mapping Old Serbia: In the footsteps of travel writers, tracing the folk song'; 2017, Belgrade: Biblioteka XX vek) and *Šubert i rivalstvo kao stvaralački princip* (in Serbian, trans. 'Schubert and rivalry as a creative principle'; 2023, Novi Sad: Akademska knjiga).



