

Ways of Hearing

Discussion questions for episodes 5 & 6

Episode 5

1. At the beginning of this episode, Krukowski asserts, “the marginal-the rejected-the repressed-is whatever the powerful have decided is of no use at the moment.” What does he mean by this statement? He goes on to ask, “But might it [the marginal-the rejected-the repressed] not be a key to alternate approaches-to art, to society-to power itself?” (“Marginalized” is an adjective that describes a person, group, or concept that is treated as insignificant or peripheral.)

What is he trying to get at with this question? How does music indicate the differences between the powerful and the marginalized?

2. How are the music listening experiences enabled by *Forced Exposure* different from those that Paul Lamere is working on with platforms like Spotify?
3. What distinctions does Krukowski draw between being “surprised” by music and “discovering” music? What are the differences between these experiences and according to Krukowski, why are they important?

Episode 6

1. According to Krukowski, what is noise? What is signal? Why are these distinctions important?
2. What central idea about noise does this episode convey? Why is it significant?
3. How does this episode relate to other episodes?