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AES Audio Engineering Society - Pacific Northwest Section

Around the Puget Sound, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.

March Meeting Notice Diversity & Inclusion within the AES PNW Section

**Presented by
Dr. Angela Dane
Teacher, Writer, Musician, Producer
and the
AES PNW Section
ZOOM MEETING 6:00PM PST (UTC -8)
Wednesday, 10 March, 2021**

In 2012, Karrie Keyes and Michelle Sabolchick Pettinato participated in the "*Women of Professional Concert Sound*" panel at the AES 133rd Convention in San Francisco; *SoundGirls* was then established to provide women working in professional audio a community to come to for support and advice, and for empowerment and inspiration.

Dr. Angela Dane, our presenter, thinks the PNW Section could provide similar mentorship programs, perhaps in conjunction with the Audio Production Certificate program at UW, of which she is currently a student. As of now, there are zero women or people of color as instructors in the program.

Dr. Dane created the Facebook group Womxn & Audio (Seattle), to connect women and non-binary engineers and audiophiles and to learn from others' wisdom and experience without fear of intimidation or inherent bias. It began as a small group of 5 and quickly grew to 200. They have invited legendary engineers like Susan Rogers to speak to their group as well as holding masterclasses on the basics of audio, mixing, and mastering. Professionals in the field, like Latin Grammy nominee Maria Elisa Ayerbe, have given demos of their mixing techniques and methods. On January 14th, Leslie Gaston-Bird, author of *Women in Audio* was interviewed by our group to discuss her research as well as the lack of representation of women of color in the field. Seattle is no exception in this regard. The group is extremely productive and encouraging, clearly responding to a demonstrated need within the community.

Dr. Dane's band, *Atrocity Girl*, built their own DIY studio at home, due to unfortunate incidents with male engineers in Seattle studios, including one who threatened their bassist, another who

hit on their guitarist, and another who sent inappropriate Facebook messages and another commented — the moment the band walked in — "women are always wasting time talking." This immediately made everyone feel insecure and guarded. These four instances occurred in 2020, weeks apart, as they attempted to find a fit for their all-girl band to record their debut album.

"Representation is imperative to inspire the next generation of engineers from all backgrounds and genders. We cannot be what we cannot see, and it is imperative to try to change a narrative that refuses to include women," says Dr. Angela Dane.

About our Presenters

Dr. Angela Dane lives in Seattle, Washington, and teaches Women's Studies at the local community college. Her book, *Sabina Spielrein: The Woman and the Myth* was selected for the Gold Medal in Adult Nonfiction by Foreword Reviews in 2017. She is a Staff Writer and Editor for Tom Tom Magazine, the only publication in the world dedicated to female and non-binary percussionists. She owns and operates the only female and black-owned drum studio in Seattle dedicated to empowering women through the drum kit, Atrocity Drums. Additionally, she is the drummer for the all-female heavy rock band *Atrocity Girl*, whose members are recording and engineering their own debut album through a self-built home studio under the auspices of their LLC. She is currently enrolled in the University of Washington's Audio Production Certificate Program in order to learn the ropes of recording and started Seattle's *Womxn & Audio* Facebook Group to connect to and collaborate with others in the community.

Johnny Angel (Maria Garcia) is a small engine mechanic in Everett, Washington. She is a multi-instrumentalist, producer, and short film director. She is the frontwoman of *Atrocity Girl*.

Ryan Lee is a live sound engineer and barista from Seattle, Washington. Also a multi-instrumentalist, Ryan fronts two bands in addition to playing bass for *Atrocity Girl*. She is a videographer and brand consultant.

Lillian Blair (moderator) is a producer and engineer (and occasional session pianist) working out of the Seattle area. She is currently a staff engineer at The Vera Project Studios, where she chairs the Audio Committee and is slowly consolidating her power. Lillian interned at the historic London Bridge Studios, where she trained under Jonathan Plum, Geoff Ott, and Eric Lilavois. She also interned at The Vera Project, where she trained under Jeffery McNulty. Lillian received her education in audio engineering from Shoreline Community College (A.A.A.S.) and in creative writing from the University of Washington (B.A.).

THIS EVENT IS FREE, OPEN TO ALL, AND AES MEMBERSHIP IS NOT REQUIRED

[EventBrite Link](#)

PNW AES Zoom Meetings

We started holding our meetings via Zoom beginning with the April 2020 meeting. Zoom has dramatically increased our reach, well beyond our Section's geographic area. Since doing this, we've had attendees from Canada, and as far away as Indonesia, and Australia. Zoom gives the ability to record our meetings, and those recordings will be posted in our past meetings Archive. For now, video from our Zoom meetings can be found (mostly) at Dan Mortensen's [YouTube channel](#).

We use EventBrite to manage our free tickets to meetings. You need to RSVP for yours via the following link. The Zoom URL will appear on the virtual ticket for the event. Copy it down!
[EventBrite Link](#)

When you register at EventBrite and when you enter the Zoom meeting, please use your real first and last names so we can get to know each other. You do NOT need to create an EventBrite account to register.

Please Note

In order to maintain decorum and avoid interruptions, even unintended ones, we have established a few ground rules for meeting attendees:

1. We want to see your full name on display in Zoom at the meeting.
2. The presenter will determine if they can accept questions during the presentation, or wait until specific Q&A times, and that will be announced at the beginning of the meeting. (We often use the "chat" feature to allow attendees to ask questions when they think of them, with moderators passing them on to the presenter at the appropriate time.)
3. Please mute your microphone when not talking (a moderator may mute you if you haven't muted yourself, if they do, Zoom won't let you un-mute until a moderator clears you again.)
4. Based on our experience with no-shows, we reserve the right to issue more tickets than available slots. We don't want to turn people away based on inaccurate estimates of attendance, but we do have budgetary limits to the number of slots we can make available. If we reach capacity before you log in, we regret that we have no way to expand capacity at the last minute.
5. Some presenters are distracted when confronted by a sea of video faces or other images, so for some meetings we may ask that you turn your camera/images off during the presentation. If you forget, one of our moderators may do it for you, and you may or may not get a private chat note informing you.
6. During the meeting, there is the matter of your camera. We're going to leave that up to the presenter; whether they want to see their audience while they present or not. If they want to see who they're talking to, then you can leave your camera live or not, as you prefer, however if the presenter doesn't want to see the audience, then we'll ask you to turn your video off.
7. Moderators have the ability to globally turn everyone's video off, however turning it back on is troublesome; we are forced to turn cameras back on manually, one by one. There is no way for you to override that. You'll need your camera live later in the meeting for the self-introductions.

8. Best is that if we ask for cameras to be on or off, that you do this individually on your own.
9. It would be good if you watched the chat stream during the meeting. Not only is it a way to submit questions to the presenters, but it's also a way for others to contact you personally. You have the option there to direct your comment to anyone who is part of the meeting as well as to one person in particular.

Finally, in the rare instance of behavior by an attendee that moderators believe is disruptive, we reserve the right to immediately eject such attendees.

Tea* Time Topics **every Saturday, 3:30pm (Pacific) to 6:30pm** **A Virtual Zoom meeting**



Former Chair Dan Mortensen started the custom of people introducing themselves at our meetings. The breadth and depth of your skills and interests led to Dan wanting a more in-depth kind of presentation but without the preparation needed for a full-on meeting.

The idea behind these events is that "Audio" is a big subject with many specialties, and at our meetings we all focus together on one subject. When we do our self-introductions as part of our meetings, it's ALWAYS fascinating to hear about the kinds of things our audience members do to manifest their love of audio.

Dan thought it would be fun to create an event where the meeting IS the audience members' descriptions of what you do, preferably with pictures/recordings/movies or whatever will help you convey to us what you're up to/interested in/want to learn more about.

Format

The TTT meetings take place each Saturday afternoon via Zoom, and will continue for the foreseeable future, if not beyond. If things open up and people start getting busy again, we'll adjust the schedule. We've been doing this for several months now, and the topics have been varied and interesting. Here is a [summary \(click here\)](#) of the topics we've explored since we began in May.

Registration to attend Tea* Time Topics

You will need to register by contacting Dan via email. When you register, please give your real first and last name.

Note that these Tea* Time Topics events are in addition to our normal 10 times/year (not in July or August) Section meetings and not a replacement for them.

Footnote: *This is Dan's normal time for tea. You may have whatever refreshments you wish, but if you get unruly/belligerent you'll be bounced without apology.

Greg Dixon

AES PNW 2020-2021 Section Chair

n.b. *The material presented at our meetings is the opinion of the presenter and not necessarily that of the Society. You are encouraged to conduct your own research and to form your own opinions before adopting the presented material as Truth.*

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