



E X P L O R E T H E U N K N O W N

PIVC 2020 Conference Reference Sheet

05/02/2020

EVP: ELECTRONIC VOICE PHENOMENON

Voices from the other side – a historical perspective

By:

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EVP is an acronym for Electronic Voice Phenomenon

- Anomalous voices imprint themselves upon recording media (traditional)
- Anomalous voice communication that derives from technology such as software, applications and ghost box technology (modern)
- A form of Instrumental Transcommunication (ITC)
- Disembodied voices (heard in real-time with your ears without equipment) are not EVP

First recorded Waldermar Borgoras in 1901

- Russian anthropologist who was recording Chuckchee Shaman in a tent
- During ritual drumming, both human and spirits appeared in tent and spoke into the horn of an Edison Phonograph
- Published in 1904 about experience

The Work of Thomas Edison

- Edison was a famous inventor and noted spiritualist
- He attempted to create devices to communicate with the spirit world
 - *I am proceeding on the theory that in the very nature of things, the degree of material or physical power possessed by those in the next life must be extremely slight; and that, therefore, any instrument designed to be used to communicate with us must be super-delicate – as fine and responsive as human ingenuity can make it. For my part, I am inclined to believe that our personality hereafter will be to affect matter. If this reasoning be correct, then, if we can evolve an instrument so delicate as to be affected, or moved, or manipulated – whichever term you want to use – by our personality as it survives in*

the next life, such an instrument, when made available, ought to record something.

- *If our personality survives, then it is strictly logical and scientific to assume that it retains memory, intellect, and other faculties and knowledge that we acquire on this earth. Therefore, if personality exists, after what we call death, it is reasonable to conclude that those who leave this earth would like to communicate with those they have left here. Accordingly, the thing to do is to furnish the best conceivable means to make it easy for them to open up communication with us, and then see what happens.*
- *I have been at work for some time building an apparatus (valve) to see if it is possible for personalities which have left this earth to communicate with us...and I hope to be able to finish it before many months pass.*
- Edison demonstrated one of his devices in 1920 for a group of scientists and spiritualists; there was a write-up on the experiment in Modern Mechanix in 1933 – two years after his death.

Attila von Szalay & Raymond Bayless in 1957

- Attila was a clairaudient medium; Raymond was a parapsychologist with the American Society of Psychical Research
- Sought to record spirit voices and were the first to have done so intentionally
- EVP only heard upon playback
- Published about EVP in 1959 in the Journal of the ASPR

- “This is G.” was the first intentionally recorded EVP

Freidrich Jürgenson in 1959

- Ukrainian born filmmaker who was trying to record bird songs at his cabin in Sweden on his reel-to-reel
- Recorded a male voice talking about the difference between nocturnal and daytime bird songs in Norwegian
- Attempted to record again several times, wound up recording the voice of his deceased mother
- Called the communications “Voices from space”
- First to utilize radio static to help foster communication (1445-1500kHz)
- Published the first book on EVP and techniques for recording them in 1963
Roesterna Fraen Rymden (Voices From Space)

Konstantin Raudive in 1973

- Latvian born psychologist who read Jürgenson’s book; traveled to Sweden to learn the techniques from Jürgenson
- Brought techniques back to Germany and demonstrated EVP communication for numerous friends and scholars
- Recorded EVP in a controlled environment
- Published “Breakthrough!” in 1973 which was the first book on EVP published in English
- Observed certain traits of EVP:
 - The voice-entities speak very rapidly, in a mixture of languages, sometimes as many as five or six in one sentence.

- They speak in a definite rhythm, which seems to be forced upon them by the means of communication they employ
- The rhythmic mode of speech imposes a shortened, telegram-style phrase or sentence
- Presumably arising from these restrictions, grammatical rules are frequently abandoned and neologisms abound
- Was the first to classify “Microphone Voices”
 - **Group A:** Consists of voices that can be heard and identified by anyone with normal hearing and knowledge of the language spoken; no special training of the ear is needed to detect them.
 - **Group B:** Consists of voices that speak more rapidly and more softly, but are still quite plainly audible to a trained and attentive ear.
 - **Group C:** Unfortunately, these can be heard only in fragments, even by a trained ear, but with improved technical aids, it may eventually become possible to hear and demonstrate these voices, which lie beyond our range of hearing, without trouble.

Sarah Estep in 1976

- Read about Raudive’s work and began experimenting in the United States
- Achieved results almost immediately
- Founded the American Association of EVP in 1982 which became the largest EVP organization in the world; she ran it until 2000 when it transferred ownership and became ATransC
- Organized first EVP/ITC conferences in the world
- Created the EVP Classification Scale we still use today:

- **Class A:** Voices can be heard and understood over a speaker by most people. The average listener will hear what you expect them to hear without prompting. Loud does not equal Class A.
- **Class B:** Voices can be heard over a speaker, but not everyone will agree as to what is said. The average person will hear what you expect them to hear with prompting.
- **Class C:** Voices must usually be heard with headphones and are difficult to understand therefore it is usually a vain effort to present these types of EVP as evidence to anyone other than the researcher.

Three Theories on EVP Creation

- **The Psychokinesis Theory** observes that consciousness from living or dead persons affect recording media & radios and this discarnate consciousness can imprint itself in both the sleeping and wake states
- **Transformation Hypothesis** states that background noise can be converted into EVP via stochastic resonance
- **Random Selection Hypothesis** postulates that psi imprints from the communicator to digital devices by imprinting onto digital bits