

Welcome / Editorial Note

Dear YAN members,

As we move into the final months of 2025, the YAN community is buzzing with new ideas, collaborations, and a strong sense of connection. From inspiring conference sessions to innovative research projects, this season is all about momentum and creativity in acoustics.

The Young Acousticians Newsletter Team

Your Turn !

Last month, we asked:

“What motivated you to join the YAN?”

Here are some of your answers:

- “To connect with other young professionals in acoustics.”
- “To learn and stay updated on the latest research.”
- “Because I wanted to be part of a global community passionate about sound.”

This month’s question:

“If you could change the soundscape of any public place, which one would it be – and how?”

Send us your answer (just a few words!) and we’ll feature some of them in the next issue.

Reply

Newsletter's Summary

Agenda

Get a reminder on upcoming events and deadlines. Feel free to contribute if you become aware of any change!

News

From a repurposed nuclear plant turned acoustic testing hub in Washington to plants that “hear” bees through vibrations, this month’s highlights reveal how acoustics bridges technology, biology, and innovation—looking ahead to Forum Acusticum 2026 in Graz, Austria.

Job announcements

Find your dream job in this fresh list of opportunities! If you wish to announce a position, please email the [YAN team](#).

Publications

This month, find a publication titled *“Exploring the Relationship Between Urban Acoustic Environments and Mental Wellbeing,”* co-authored by Alexandra L. Montenegro, Gera Leal, Antonio Zumelzu, Marie Geraldine Herrmann-Lunecke, Gastón Vergara, Cristóbal Heskia, Mariana Estrada, and Gaetano Licitra.

Upcoming Events!

December 2025

1st- 5th The joint ASA/ASJ meeting

[Honolulu, Hawaii](#)

24th- 25th International Conference of Acoustics and Vibration

[Tehran, Iran](#)

Upcoming Deadlines!

December 2025

16th International Conference of Acoustics and Vibration

Paper Submission Deadline. [Submission](#)

January 2026

16th BNAM 2026

Abstract Submission Deadline. [Submission](#)

31st DAGA 2026

Early Registration Deadline. [Registration](#)

February 2026

31st DAGA 2026

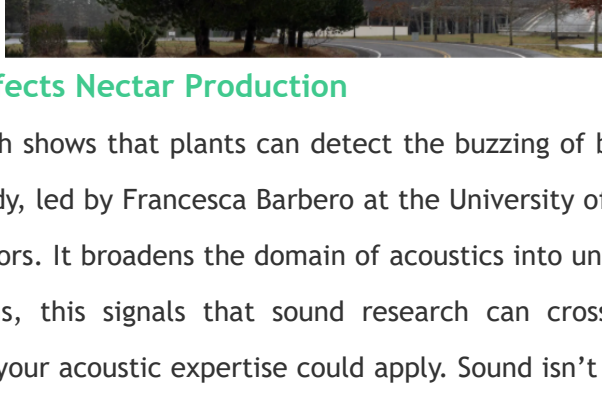
Deadline for abstract submission of “late posters” Deadline. [Submission](#)

News !

Repurposing a Power Plant into a World-Class Acoustics Lab

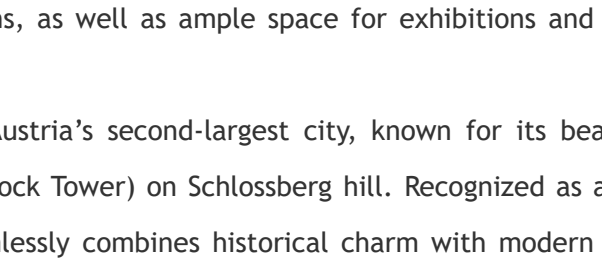
At the former WNP-3 / WNP-5 cooling towers in the Satsop Business Park, Washington State, a remarkable transformation has taken place: an unused nuclear power plant site has become a high-end acoustical testing facility. Thick concrete walls, isolated spaces, and massive structures render it an ideal testbed for acoustic materials, speakers, and immersive systems.

It illustrates creative reuse of unconventional spaces for acoustics research and development, and highlights the technical, logistical and environmental dimensions of large-scale acoustic infrastructure.



Plants “Hear” Buzzing Bees — Sound Affects Nectar Production

A fascinating piece of interdisciplinary research shows that plants can detect the buzzing of bees (via vibro-acoustic signals) and respond by producing more, and sweeter, nectar. The study, led by Francesca Barbero at the University of Turin, suggests that plants may use vibrational cues to preferentially attract efficient pollinators. It broadens the domain of acoustics into unexpected territory — bio-acoustics, ecology and mechanobiology. For early-career acousticians, this signals that sound research can cross into biology, agriculture and environmental applications. Keep an open mind about where your acoustic expertise could apply. Sound isn’t just for human spaces — it can influence plant-insect interactions, ecosystems and bio-engineering



Forum Acusticum 2026 - Graz, Austria

The next Forum Acusticum will be held from 6 to 12 September 2026 in Graz, Austria. The event will take place at the Stadthalle Graz | Messe Congress Graz, a modern and spacious venue perfectly suited for a large international audience. Participants can look forward to excellent facilities for both plenary and parallel sessions, as well as ample space for exhibitions and poster presentations — all easily reachable by public transport.

Home to around 300,000 residents, Graz is Austria’s second-largest city, known for its beautifully preserved medieval old town, diverse architectural heritage, and iconic Urturm (Clock Tower) on Schlossberg hill. Recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2009 and a UNESCO City of Design since 2011, Graz seamlessly combines historical charm with modern innovation. With six universities and a vibrant academic community, where nearly one in five residents is connected to higher education, Graz offers an inspiring setting for Forum Acusticum 2026 — a city where culture, creativity, and science meet.



Job Announcements

Acoustic Engineer/Audio Engineer

Studio Sound Service s.r.l.

[Impruneta, Italy](#)

Underwater Acoustic Engineer Scientist

Optics11

[Amsterdam, Netherlands](#)

Global Audio Engineer Graduate

GN Group

[Ballerup, Denmark](#)

Project Engineer: Building Acoustics /

Room Acoustics [DE]

MNP Ingenieure GmbH

[Lübeck, Germany](#)

Research Fellow in Acoustics and Audio

Signal Processing

University of Southampton

[Southampton, UK](#)

PhD Studentship: Phase Discrimination

using Resonant Ultrasound Spectroscopy

University of Cambridge

[Cambridge, UK](#)

Acoustic Consultants

Quantum Acoustics

[London/Surrey, UK](#)

Senior (PhD) Research Scientist

Spotify

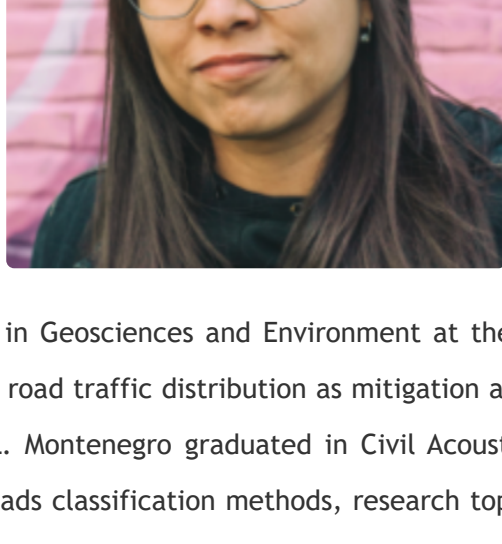
[Stockholm, Sweden or London, UK](#)

Publication

Exploring the relationship between urban acoustic environments and mental wellbeing

Urban acoustic environments are generally perceived in terms of annoying or pleasant sounds. The study of environmental noise and soundscape has established some links with people’s physical and mental health, suggesting that it may indeed influence well-being. However, this broader concept has not been sufficiently explored in relation to the acoustic environment. Here a mixed methodology was designed and applied in a neighborhood in Valdivia, southern Chile, with the aim to explore the relationship between urban acoustic environments and mental well-being. Urban road traffic noise and annoyance were quantified through noise mapping and measurements. Perceived soundscape of visitors in the neighborhood was assessed through guided soundwalks under deep listening and surveys. Self-reported mental well-being was evaluated based on the perceptions of the residents in walking interviews. We found that biophony and geophony sounds induced positive states of mental well-being, and urban places with highest prevalence of such sounds were mostly assessed as vibrant, with positive levels of pleasantness and eventfulness. Nevertheless, the most common source of urban noise was road traffic noise, which had a negative impact on mental well-being by evoking emotions of annoyance and discomfort. Despite this, in places where the soundscape was conducive to a mental well-being, road traffic noise was informationally masked. Investigating the acoustic environment through its noise and soundscape permitted to better understand and relate the self-reported emotions found in the well-being interviews. Likewise, collecting perceptions of visitors and residents independently provided coherent results, suggesting an equivalent perception of the soundscape by both groups.

About the Author



Alexandra Lyselott Montenegro is a PhD student in Geosciences and Environment at the Earth Sciences Department of the University of Pisa. Their research project aims to optimize the road traffic distribution as mitigation action for road traffic noise exposition on sensitive receivers in the urban environment. Alexandra L. Montenegro graduated in Civil Acoustics Engineer at the Universidad Austral de Chile (UACH) in 2018 with a thesis focused on urban roads classification methods, research topic which they explored in depth in their master’s studies in Acoustics and Vibration completed at UACH by 2020. During their young research career, they had the opportunity to learn and collaborate with researchers from Latino America, North America and Europe combining Environmental Acoustics, Urbanism and Transportation Planning. In parallel they also worked as a Project Engineer and later became RDI Manager in an Acoustic consultancy, where they evaluated the environmental acoustic impact of projects throughout Chile and developed new technologies for the sector. They have been involved as a student volunteer in organizing activities for different acoustics international conferences. Alexandra is currently an active member of the events committee of The Young Acousticians Network (YAN). Alexandra’s main interests are interdisciplinary research and women/LGBTQ+ inclusion in science and technology. They also love playing drums, gastronomic tasting and participating in electronic music events.

Final Notes...

From concert halls to classrooms, from echoes to soundscapes —

may your autumn resonate with new insights and bright ideas!

All the best,

The YAN Editorial Team

Young minds. Sound ideas.

Our editorial team members:

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