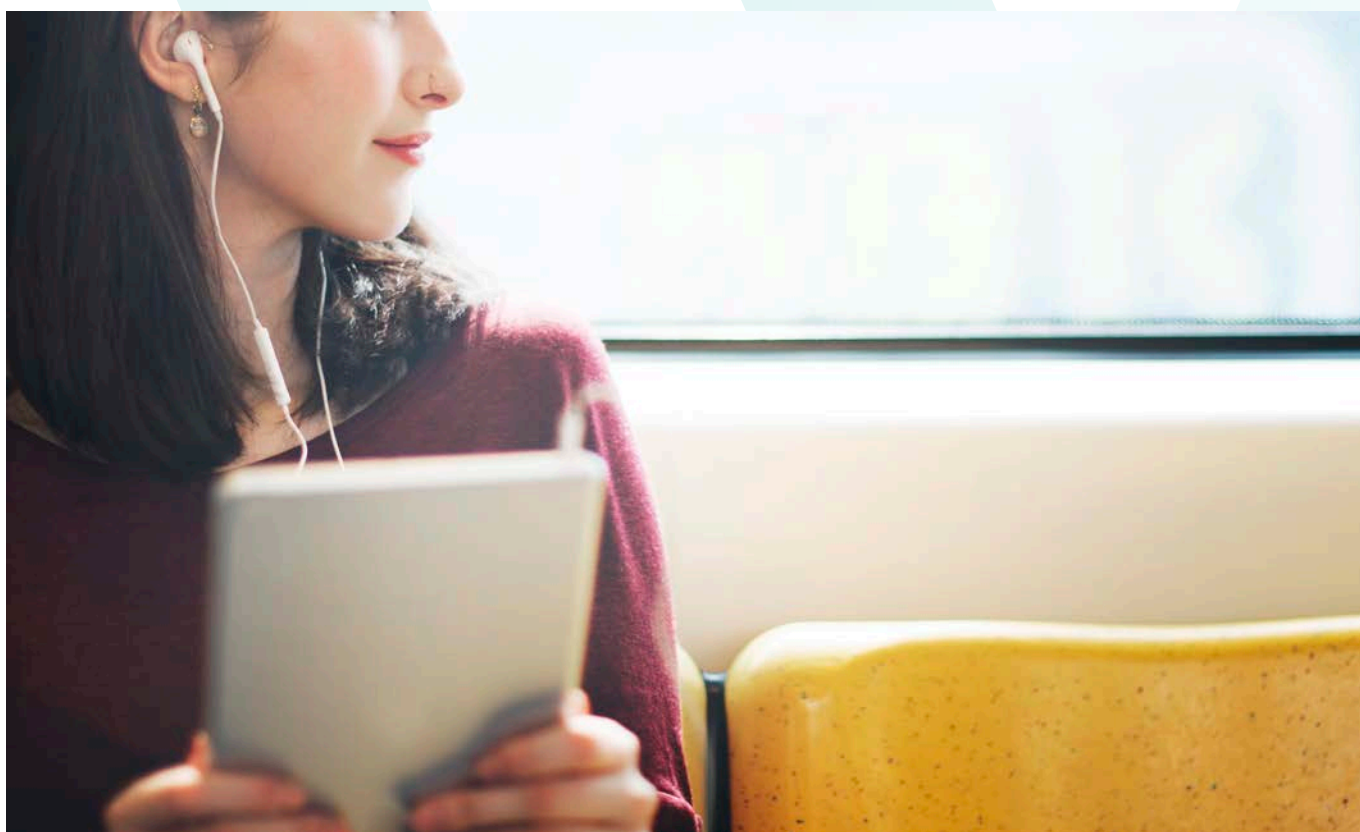


The Rest is Just Noise podcast

The award-winning *The Rest is Just Noise* monthly podcast was set up by Doctors Andrew Mitchell, Francesco Aletta and Tin Oberman in the depths of the pandemic; simply to give them something new to work on and to keep in touch with the soundscape community.



Hosted by Andrew, Francesco and Tin, the podcast has grown and grown, reaching 30 episodes and more than 5,000 downloads. The listener base of predominantly researchers and practitioners, continues to expand and the podcast is gaining more attention. Released monthly, it explores the relationship between sound and cities and in each episode, the hosts are joined by an expert guest from fields including acoustics, architecture, and environmental psychology, to discuss their latest work and introduce listeners to the science, beauty, and noise of urban sound.

With deep knowledge and an engaging narrative, the co-hosts explore various acoustical phenomena and their impact on our lives. Through interviews with experts and immersive soundscapes, this podcast educates and entertains listeners, creating a space where the beauty and significance of acoustics are celebrated.

Andrew said: "Our focus is on the relationship between sound and cities, but we try to approach it from as many perspectives as we can. We've spoken to sound artists, architects, sociologists, psychologists, engineers, and many other experts.

Below: Dr Hasina Begum, leads the 'The Rest is Just Noise' podcast special series on women in acoustics



"Recently, with Hasina Begum's special series on women in acoustics, the topics have broadened outside of urban sound to cover the wider array of topics across acoustics.

"We also cover on-the-ground coverage of acoustic conferences, large and small, from the Acoustical Society of America to the Urban Sound Symposium to the Acoustics of Ancient Theatres Symposium."

Recognition

The Rest is Just Noise was recently awarded the ASA's 2023 Science Communication award in the 'Acoustic Expert Multimedia' category. The ASA judging

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Left:
Podcast
recording with
Angela Lamcraft

panel stated that: *"this podcast, stands out as a remarkable audio journey into the realm of acoustics. With deep knowledge and captivating storytelling, co-hosts Dr Andrew Mitchell, Dr Francesco Aletta, and Dr Tin Oberman explore various acoustical phenomena and their impact on our lives. Through interviews with experts and immersive soundscapes, this podcast educates and entertains listeners, creating a space where the beauty and significance of acoustics are celebrated."*

Special series on women in acoustics,

To celebrate International Women in Engineering Day in June, Dr Hasina Begum, EDI Champion for the UK Acoustics Network (UKAN+), led the first episode of a special series of The Rest is Just Noise podcast, which features exceptional women doing some incredibly exciting work with acoustics.

The Professor Eleanor Stride episode

Hasina interviewed Professor Eleanor Stride, the Statutory Professor of Biomaterials in the Departments of Engineering Science and the Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences. Their conversation about bubble acoustics delved into Eleanor's journey into acoustics, how and why it happened, what particularly interested her and the challenges that she has faced.

Hasina explains that: "This podcast was set up after conversations we had at a UKAN+

EDI meeting when we realised that very few women working in acoustics are championed enough for the great work that they do. I wanted to interview a series of women in the style of an informal chat and understand why there aren't many women pursuing careers in acoustics.

"Professor Eleanor Stride was chosen as the first guest because I wanted someone who was very well established in their career and who had gone through the higher education and academic system (In Eleanor's case, all the way to professorship).

"I wanted to discuss her experiences of having a successful career and ask her if there were any secrets to having such a strong work ethic while still being able to balance family life."

Initially this was only supposed to be a very short, trial series of three or four women talking about their careers in acoustics and some of the challenges they might have encountered, but with such positive feedback from the first episode the team may extend this and interview more women.

Hasina said: "Future guests lined up include a mix from industry and academia. We want to target those that are quite established in their careers, how they have become so successful and what advice they would give to younger women that have ambitions to emulate that success."

Challenges

Although this project has been quite time intensive for Hasina, travelling back and forth to UCL where

the recordings take place, while juggling her responsibilities and commitments as a research fellow at Warwick, she said that it has been an incredibly rewarding and insightful experience for her.


However, it hasn't been without challenges, she said: "I have found that a lot of the women that have agreed to take part in the podcast come from a particular background; white and middle class and this leaves me slightly conflicted as the whole reason I started this process was to promote equity, diversity, and inclusion.

"It's made me realise that there is not enough diversity among the women that are currently working in acoustics.

"We hope to address this by expanding our pool of invitations to guest speakers that are at international institutions as we aim to raise awareness and encourage women from all (and under represented) backgrounds to pursue a career in acoustics.

Listen to the podcast here:

<https://www.justnoisepod.com/>

Listen to Hasina's episode with Professor Eleanor Stride here: <https://www.justnoisepod.com/1438372/13064708-wia-special-series-bubbles-everywhere-with-eleanor-stride> 



Above:
Professor
Eleanor Stride

@JustNoisePod

**The Rest
Is
Just
Noise**

UNDERSTANDING SOUND AND CITIES

Below:
Podcast recording
with Helen Sheldon

