

[Recording of the week: Listening to Sun Ra in the year 4000](#)

Publicity shot of Sun Ra, 1973. Distributed by Impulse! Records and ABC/Dunhill Records. Photographer uncredited. Public domain. Throughout his long career the pianist, composer, bandleader and Afrofuturist pioneer Sun Ra (1914-1993) released over one hundred albums, many under his own record label Saturn Records. His sprawling recorded output is matched..

[Recording of the week: Lenny Bruce \(1925-1966\)](#)

Many of you will have seen a fictionalised version of comedian Lenny Bruce in the streamed comedy-drama *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*. Although the series has no pretensions to documentary accuracy, actor Luke Kirby has clearly done his research. He gives an impressively convincing and charismatic performance. Working in the late..

[Recording of the week: You havin' a bubble, mate?](#)

This week's selection comes from Jonnie Robinson, Lead Curator of Spoken English. Last month, while preparing for a panel discussion at the Modern Cockney Festival, I stumbled across a Guardian interview with John Cooper Clarke discussing his poem 'I Wanna Be Yours'. Reflecting on his career, Clarke notes he was...

[Recording of the week: Herbert](#)

Beerbohm Tree as Falstaff

The famously successful actor and theatre manager Herbert Beerbohm Tree (1852-1917) made this recording in March 1906. It was one of a set of five 10-inch discs recorded for release by the Gramophone Company. These were originally issued in a 'special envelope' (which we don't have) which included the texts...

Recording of the week: The sound designer: the theatre as an experimental stage

Photograph of an actor on stage. Photograph by Antonio Molinari on Unsplash. In this 2004 interview from British Library collection 'Theatre Archive Project' (C1142/350), sound designer Ross Brown describes the process of sound creation in theatre. Listen to Ross Brown Download Ross Brown transcript Sound design is, among many things,...