

[In the depths of a wasp nest](#)

Cheryl Tipp, Curator of Wildlife & Environmental Sounds writes: The Common Wasp (*Vespula vulgaris*) gets a pretty bad rap. We're all in love with bees but, when it comes to wasps, we're not so enamoured. To be fair, they don't help themselves. They fall into your pint, pester you at...

[Recording of the week: Sheila Girling describes fellow painter, Helen Frankenthaler](#)

This week's selection comes from Camille Johnston, Oral History Assistant Archivist. To celebrate the launch of Voices of art we're listening to artist Sheila Girling's (1924-2015) description of fellow painter, Helen Frankenthaler (1928-2011). Helen Frankenthaler was an American abstract expressionist artist. Girling gives a detailed illustration of Frankenthaler's gestural and...

[Sound Seating: Colin St John Wilson's Library Furniture](#)

In 1995, the British Library began documenting oral histories of British architects through the National Life Stories series Architects' Lives. The following year the project looked close to home and published an interview with the architect of the library's St. Pancras location. In twenty-seven parts available on the BL's Sounds...

[Acrostic Challenge](#)

UOSH Volunteer and poet Amy Evans Bauer invites you to write your own creative response to the WordBank: Calling all listers, logophiles, poets,

crossworders and puzzlers! The sheer variety of spoken English in the UK and beyond befits a celebration in kaleidoscopic form, so we've decided to host our first...

Recording of the week: a duet for Ugandan lyres

This week's selection comes from Tom Miles, Metadata Coordinator for Europeana Sounds. This song, recorded in Kamuli, Uganda in 1954 by the pioneering ethnomusicologist Klaus Wachsmann, is of two ntongoli players, Kaija and Isake Ibande, from the Soga culture. Abe Waife (BL reference C4/39) The ntongoli is a type of...