

ASTA/NJ Chamber Music Institute at Kean University



Say What!? Music Perception Research at Kean University

Summary: According to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (2010) approximately 26 million Americans between the ages of 20 and 69 have high frequency hearing loss - the result of leisure activities or exposure to loud sounds or noise in the work place. Musicians, in particular, will experience significant sound exposure resulting in some degree of music-induced hearing loss (Chasin, 1996). This presentation will provide participants with an overview of how the ear receives sound and the brain processes music; types of hearing loss; as well as safety precautions musicians can take in order to better protect themselves from long term effects of significant sound exposure. The presentation will include an update on the joint research project between Kean University's Music Conservatory and School of Communication Disorders and Deafness, that is investigating how people with Cochlear Implants perceive music and improve their music perception with training. Participants will also have the opportunity to experience the inner ear via Kean University's Cave Automatic Virtual Environment (CAVE), an immersive virtual reality environment where projectors are directed to three walls of a room-sized cube.