



EVELYN GLENNIE | **TECHNOLOGY QUESTIONS**

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Evelyn Glennie

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When you were learning music did you use any technology? If so how much did it help/hinder you?3

Have you seen any recent developments of technology that could help more of the deaf community to delve into music?3

What technology that is used for the deaf community do you feel could be tweaked or altered to assist musicians?3

When you were learning music did you use any technology? If so how much did it help/hinder you?

I used normal hearing aids which were more of a hindrance due to the fact they boosted the sound but did not give clarity. It was better for me to remove the aids in order to hear less through the ears but hear more through the body. I wore a phonic ear to hear speech in a classroom. I removed the covers from speakers in order to rest the speaker against my thighs and tummy and placed my hands on the cone of the speaker. There were no other means of technology used when learning music.

Have you seen any recent developments of technology that could help more of the deaf community to delve into music?

I need to understand whether your question refers to being the participator of music or the listener. There have been many examples of visually showing music through sound waves, moving art work, signers, subpacs, vibrating chairs, vibrating wrist watches and several other wearable devices as well as the advancement of hearing aids and cochlear implants and also the advancement of loop systems in public spaces such as concert halls and cinemas. Advancements in headphones and ear protection devices are also used by certain people with a hearing-impairment. It is not possible to imagine all deaf people requiring the same support mechanisms as it depends very much on their hearing loss and sound tolerance as well as musical preferences. More awareness has also been made towards acoustics of spaces and building design (curved corners, flooring materials, walls, ceiling etc) in order to eliminate as much unwanted sound as possible. This is for everyone's benefit, not only hearing-impaired people.

What technology that is used for the deaf community do you feel could be tweaked or altered to assist musicians?

This question is rather broad to answer. If I am playing alone I don't need any extra technology to help me. If I am playing alone with a click track I then require a certainly frequency, sound colour and volume for the click. If I am performing as a soloist with a conductor I need to position myself at a 90% angle to the conductor in order to see him/her and vice versa but no technology is required. If I am giving a recital with my pianist I

require in-ears in order for me to hear the piano but I still reply on seeing the pianist. There are so many scenarios that one ultimately relies on instinct and stretching all senses in order to connect. What may work for one person may not be great for another. All the things I have listed in the previous question are all being developed and improved on which will hopefully assist more people. It is worth saying that there are strides in combining student audiologists and musicians together in their degree courses so that each can learn from the other as regards to the difference between hearing and listening and how this can affect how we relate to sound. A very deaf individual can be a very acute listener.

If you have any more questions, take a look at the range of student booklets we have available divided into topic sections. Still can't find what you're looking for? Email pr@evelyn.co.uk with your questions.

Where to find Evelyn?



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