

Or Is This Not Music?

# Listen

TOMAS SERRIEN

Did you ever listen to Hindustani Dhrupad music, a Gisalo from Papua New Guinea or the chants of the Blackfoot people? Does it mean anything to you to listen to a piece of music that lasts 639 years? Followed by the noise experiments of Maso Yamazaki? Or do you think that this is not music?

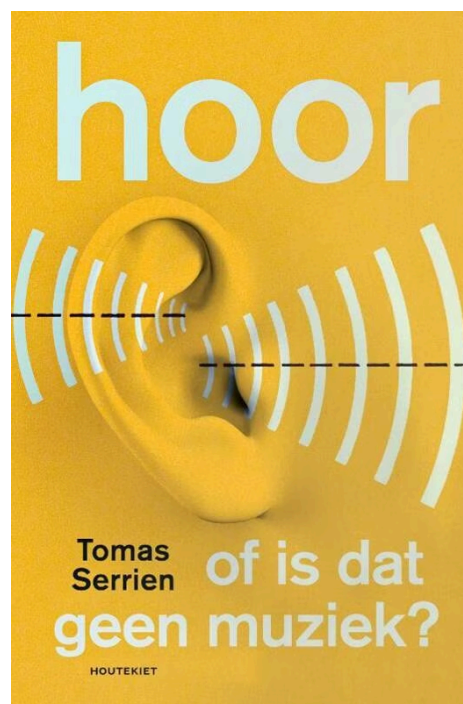
**A very interesting read for those who want to clean out their preprogrammed ears!**

KLARA

In this book, Tomas Serrien tries to find out why we prefer to listen to sounds that sound familiar to us. He uses a wide range of musical pieces and bundles them in easy accessible online playlists (all of which add up to more than 130 hours of music). In this way, the author gives the reader the opportunity to discover how certain expectations are influencing our musical experiences. By embracing this musical adventure, Tomas Serrien hopes that the reader learns to listen differently to music that was previously thought of as 'disturbing', 'silent', 'strange', 'plagiarized', 'noisy', 'boring', 'ugly', 'uneasy' or 'exotic'.

Drawing on the latest insights of music philosophy, he aims to show how biological patterns, cultural norms and prejudices intervene in our preference for certain types of music.

This book contains a wealth of sounds and thoughts that will help you better understand what it means to experience the richness of music.



## AUTHOR



**Tomas Serrien** (1992) writes about music, society and philosophy. In 2015 he won the Geert Grote Pen, a prize awarded to the best Dutch master's thesis in philosophy. His thesis was the inspiration for his debut book *Sound* (2017), which deals about the topic of music philosophy. In 2019, he wrote a book about the contemporary political and philosophical implications of the Age of Enlightenment. This book was written in collaboration with imam Khalid Benhaddou and political philosopher Patrick Loobuyck. In 2022, he published his third book *Listen*, a sequel to 'Sound' and a deepening of his writings about music. Tomas regularly gives lectures, works on various interdisciplinary projects about music and is a drummer in several bands.

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