

EVENT TITLE. Sound and Story: McSweeney's Audio Issue

DESCRIPTION. Join us for a discussion about and live performance of *McSweeney's Quarterly's* first ever audio issue—a riotous exploration of audiovisual storytelling, coproduced with Radiotopia from PRX. We'll talk about the way sound and text can come together to create an immersive experience of story, and experience live excerpts of a handful of pieces in the issue. With Andrew Leland, Andy Slater, Rion Amilcar Scott, and Shayla Lawz.

EVENT CATEGORY. Multiple literary genre reading.

EVENT MODERATOR. Andrew Leland, senior producer of the *Audio Issue*.

EVENT PARTICIPANTS.

Andy Slater: Andy Slater is a media artist, researcher, and disability advocate living in Berwyn, IL. He is a 2022 United States artist fellow and a 2022-2023 Leonardo Crip tech fellow.

Rion Amilcar Scott: Rion Amilcar Scott is the author of the story collections *The World Doesn't Require You* and *Insurrections*, which was awarded the 2017 PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize for Debut Fiction. He teaches creative writing at the University of Maryland. His work has appeared in the *New Yorker*, *Kenyon Review*, *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy*, and *Crab Orchard Review*.

Shayla Lawz: Shayla Lawz is a writer and artist from Jersey City, working at the intersection of text, sound, and performance. She has received fellowships from Jack Jones Literary Arts, Cave Canem, the Center for African American Poetry and Poetics, and the Digital Studies Center at Rutgers University, Camden. She lives in Brooklyn, where she teaches at Pratt Institute. Her debut poetry collection, *speculation, n.*, is now out with Autumn House Press.

INTRO. Andrew introduces the *McSweeney's Audio Issue*, its partnership with Radiotopia, the role of sound and accessibility in the project.

THREE MAIN PRESENTATIONS.

Andy Slater will present the findings of his piece in the issue, “Crypto Acoustic Auditory Non-Hallucination.” He’ll also share a few sound bites from the piece.

Rion Amilcar Scott will read an excerpt from his short story in the issue, “Percy and the Fire Plums.” He’ll then play an excerpt of the audio from the piece.

Shayla Lawz will perform an excerpted and adapted version of her piece in the issue, “speculation, n.”

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION. Andrew will lead the participants in a discussion about their pieces and the role of sound in their work.