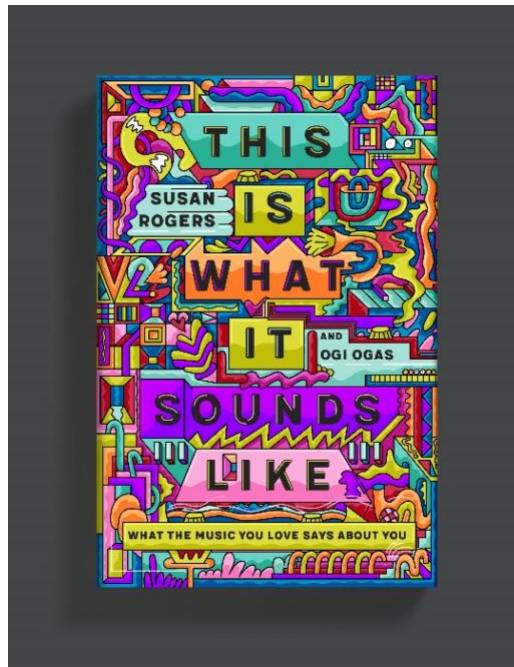


THIS IS WHAT IT SOUNDS LIKE: WHAT THE MUSIC YOU LOVE SAYS ABOUT YOU

Friday, December 2nd

12:30 pm to 1:30 pm, Norden Auditorium



The Listener Profile: A New Model of Music Cognition

Music listening lets us simultaneously occupy two distinct worlds: a real one and an imaginary one. Records are made in the real world but they live in the subjective world of the mind. Two people can listen to the exact same song and report dramatically different accounts of “This is what it sounds like... *to me.*” The sweet spots on your listener profile were formed out of genetic predisposition, cultural influence, and all the random and purposeful listening episodes you experienced over a lifetime of exposure to music. This talk will describe the listener profile from three perspectives: record production, neuroscience, and the love of music listening. It will help illuminate why certain records sound “just right” to you.

Susan Rogers: Biography

Susan Rogers holds a doctoral degree in behavioral neuroscience from McGill University (2010). Prior to her science career, Susan was a multiplatinum-earning record producer, engineer, and mixer. She is best known for her work with Prince during his peak creative period (1983-1987). Her discography also includes records with David Byrne, Barenaked Ladies, Geggy Tah, Nil Lara, Robben Ford, Tricky, Michael Penn, Jeff Black, and many others. In 2021 she became the first female recipient of the Music Producer’s Guild Award for Outstanding Contributions to U.K. Music. She teaches record production and psychoacoustics for Berklee College of Music. Her book on music listening, *This Is What It Sounds Like: What the Music You Love Says About You*, was recently published by W. W. Norton & Co. and is available everywhere.