

Your questions - Music

- Katherine Music? I have always been interested in music so I learnt to play the piano between the age of six to about thirteen. I got to grade five on the piano. I have always been musical but with the implant I can hear it sounds better. Everything is crisper. I go to the theatre, I do enjoy going to watch musical theatre as well as stage - but I still don't like rap, you are not going to get me to like rap!
- Juliet I was able to do a musical workshop at the auditory implant centre. Music is now a great pleasure. I don't think that it sounds quite as it used to if I listen to some of the old songs of the 1970s that were my heyday, but new music that I have never heard before can be a great pleasure.
- Britt-Marie I also went to a music workshop, music was a large part of my hearing days but I loved classical music. After the implant I sometimes still listen, but it somehow doesn't sound the same as it used to, or how I remember it used to. It is not the same as it used to be and also don't forget after thirty odd years you forget... if you don't use something, you don't really miss it after a while. But I do listen sometimes.
- Christine Music doesn't sound the same. Once again, your brain has to go on a learning curve with music, I find it, listening to it - I mean I am 70, you listen to the Beatles songs, say, it doesn't sound quite the same. After a while I get the tune and I get the voices but it isn't quite the same, it's not perfect - but you know, I can sing along quite happily.
- Chris In respect of music. It's rather a complex story. All of the notes sound a bit out of key, and that really is a matter of getting used to how the notes sound through the implant. In terms of singers that people are familiar with, if you take someone like Dolly Parton, Linda Rondstadt or EmmyLou Harris, they sound fine but are a bit out of key, and of course they're not out of key, it's just the hearing!
- Chris When I first started on music, I actually bought a video of *The Sound of Music* because there are a lot of sound tracks there which don't go too far in range and are quite enjoyable to watch. It helped, I think, as a start to appreciate music.
- Tayseer With the implant, music sounds quite natural. I usually listen to music all the time and my wish is for more. When I'm coming back from work, when I am having just a break or something, listening to music's quite nice and I enjoy it. I picked up music straight away and it was quite natural for me from the beginning.

Linda I have always liked listening to music and it has been a joke in the house that I got stuck in the 80s because of how my hearing had developed - or deteriorated. Now I can hear lots of stuff much better. I can now pick up a song after a couple of lines, instead of waiting for the chorus or the best verse I know so, yes, it is great to rediscover it. But as I said before - with my voice, it is hard to hear me singing it!