



**Thursday,  
December 19, 2013  
3:15-5 p.m. in U73**

Guest lecture in the seminar series  
**Topics in the Aesthetics of  
Music and Sound**

- arranged by **The Aesthetics of Music and  
Sound** – [www.soundmusicresearch.org](http://www.soundmusicresearch.org) –  
**Cross-Disciplinary Interplay between the  
Humanities, Technology and Musical  
Practice**; Institute for the Study of Culture,  
University of Southern Denmark -

<http://www.soundmusicresearch.org/seminarsfall2013.html>

## **Human Interaction with Wavelengths in Sound and Light: A Look at the Culture of the Sufi Tradition**

**Mary L. Tuck**

Currently in the MA Ethnomusicology Program at Kent State University,  
Kent, Ohio.

(Via Skype)



**Abstract:** Music making is a decidedly human practice, and in comparing musical traditions, researchers find correlations with our psychological and biological responses to physical events in our environment. What happens when humans produce and experience wavelengths in a cultural event, specifically those in sound and light?

In a multidisciplinary exploration, my ethnomusicological analysis will consider potential human universals that come together in various traditions. The shared experience of what a culture holds as sacred can be revealing to what makes us human, and why we do what we do. Music is an evolving partner in the growth of this knowledge. Today, we will look at the science behind our biology and psychology of perception and consider the altered consciousness states of Sufi whirling practice. In this unique combination

of movement and music we can learn something about how wavelengths created by sound and light can correlate in our bodies and minds.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!** 

**Audience participation via Skype is also welcome.**