

**“So As to Be Heard”: Women and Voice Culture in
the American *Belle Époque* Periodical**

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This paper presents a thematic analysis of three women-oriented publications between 1880 and 1914 for their content related to the subject of voice culture. In this period surrounded by audio technology invention and the lecture series as pastime, I argue that voice culture enjoyed a significant social salience and carried with it crucial assumptions related to gender. What can we learn about the perception of voice culture and its gendered implications for women’s “sounding voices” (Hoegarts, 2020) through these written media? How might these publications function to interpolate their women and girl readers into the personal and public work of vocal cultivation? Following my triangulated analysis of 33 articles, I offer four prominent themes from the sample which help answer these questions, including a discussion of the title quote, “so as to be heard,” which speaks to the potentially pragmatic and political connotations of women’s concern with voice culture.