Someday we shall talk - Day 2

A broadcast by Surfatial, the collective of Satya Gummuluri, Malavika Rajnarayan and me, 21 June 2015. Watch on YouTube

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I made this transcript by machine from the recording and corrected it against the recording's description and my own records. I have not checked the words by ear. I checked a sample of the speaker names by ear, and corrected those I heard differently. [?] marks a word still in doubt and [unclear] a passage that could not be made out. A speaker is named only where the broadcast's screen or the recording's own words say who is speaking. Fillers such as "uh" and "um" are left out. Times are from the start of the recording.

A name followed by (?) was read from the screen at a moment when it changed from one speaker to the next, so the turn may belong partly or wholly to the speaker before or after.

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00:01 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT They come everybody. [?]

00:05 Hi.

00:06 PRAYAS So God. [?]

00:09 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Thanks for being here. And

00:15 Yesterday we were considering on day one we were considering the questions for actually I completely forgot what we were considering, but because I kind of got absorbed into what the previous session Is Your Signal Weak Or Strong with Malavika.

00:35 MALAVIKA I think we came full circle yesterday. We spoke of the role of a mirror. And we came back to what that mirror is and how one what we see. maybe you can just summarize it for Sonia and Veerangana who weren't there yesterday.

00:56 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right. let me open up the questions from yesterday.

01:04 But the reason I'm bringing up Malavika your talk and your discussion that we were going through is because the questions for today

01:11 VEERANGANA (?) Yeah.

01:12 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT That I have are actually sort of in line with what we ended in the sense of today I wanted to talk about noise and there is so much noise

01:22 Yeah.

01:23 As you know, then and as we were talking about cynicism and there's so much stuff.

01:29 MALAVIKA (?) Yeah.

01:30 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT And the questions I have for today are what's the point of even adding to it? Why would anybody even want to add to it?

01:37 MALAVIKA You're not adding, I would see it as breaking it. I mean to use one of Prayas' favourite words, puncture. So why can't we puncture the cynicism?

01:53 PRAYAS Yeah, I mean I don't I don't claim to be a cynic. I only participate in a cynical perspective when the argument needs it.

02:05 PRAYAS (?) I mean

02:06 MALAVIKA (?) Convenient.

02:07 PRAYAS No, that's I mean so th the cynical perspective needs to be accessible to us because it's not it's not it's not it's not useless. It's it does offer something. Of course being a cynic and identifying with that will m will make you for all practical purposes very unproductive and very i it'll make you burden on this planet, I guess. But

02:37 VEERANGANA (?) Wouldn't that
02:37 VEERANGANA (?) Be some kind of validation
02:40 PRAYAS Validation.
02:41 VEERANGANA Even in the sen I mean I very briefly could go through I mean, your part of yesterday's broadcast just now. But one thing that struck me when you're talking about mirroring and even when you refer to this could be the aspect of validation even if you want to deny the fact that in some way we are all looking for a validation about where we are today or in the world that we are in and with whom we are communicating with.
03:10 MALAVIKA (?) Which is why we
03:15 PRAYAS (?) No, so I mean I did I d I didn't get the connection with
03:20 VEERANGANA No, even about being cynical if you're not as cynic, the whole idea of whether being cynical is some kind of a validation within the situation that you're being cynical in.
03:32 VEERANGANA (?) For you to be placed within that.
03:34 PRAYAS So what is it?
03:36 MALAVIKA In some way.
03:37 MALAVIKA (?) Seeing it as a as a position that you place yourself in. Does c cynicism bring about objectivity? A do we get more objective about ourselves or anything else if you're cynical?
03:54 PRAYAS I mean I think being accessing the cynical perspective at least helps you point towards the reasons for not being able to talk. You know? So when I'm really at a stage when no conversation is possible with you, then I need to be able to access the cynical perspective and tell you, okay, this is these are the reasons why I can't talk to you. And that might seem like being a cynic, but you just using that material from that perspective, which is almost a standard perspective. It's like to be cynical doesn't require
04:34 PRAYAS (?) Any skill as such maybe just requires you to diss everything.
04:39 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Is buttons. [?]
04:40 PRAYAS (?) Yeah.
04:41 MALAVIKA So all of the questions today that Satya's put up come from that point of view all it i it sounds like that because one is i in all this noise why speak? In all this noise who is heard and if it is all noise why not speak?
04:55 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Exactly.
04:56 The other thing which I want to say is that you're saying that it's the default position Prayas, like of being cynical. On the other hand, there is also the default position.
05:06 Of believing
05:07 Everything you hear because I feel like being cynical is being able to take a different perspective, to step back and see what could be, what could various possibilities be and therefore not seeing what is at face value. And so
05:21 PRAYAS (?) I mean so I mean I think it's very useful to access the cynical perspective while still not b being a cynic. Because
05:31 PRAYAS (?) I agree.
05:31 PRAYAS (?) I think being a cynic just j i is just about something else.
05:36 MALAVIKA But a cynical perspective is very hard. It's very
05:43 MALAVIKA (?) Yeah, it's I don't see it's so inflexible.
05:48 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT I think it's actually very flexible in the sense like you are open to various possibilities. there is it allows you to bring in
05:57 You're right.
05:59 Sorry, go ahead.

06:00 PRAYAS It allows you to bring in your personal angst, you know. So like you know, everything we talk about, if you want to talk about objectivity, then you know, it's about it's talking about ideas in a very dry, distant

06:17 You know, format which is which is not realistic. The mere the fact that we are talking about them means that we are involved and we need to so you know we can't let the messiness of being us we can't keep that away from this discussion. I mean that mess is part of the discussion because we are in the discussion.

06:40 MALAVIKA So if I tell you a story, will you look at it will you I are you saying that you choose a cynical s perspective because it helps you see it better? So if I tell you a story, you are you going to believe the story but as at the same time disbelieve it?

06:58 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT That's how I look at things. I mean the thing is I feel like for communication and especially when there is so much noise, when everybody is telling stories.

07:07 Yeah.

07:07 How do you know where are you which I mean whi which story? H what angle of the story, like which one is true, which one there's no way to know this. And therefore the for me personally the way I would approach it is to analyze it from different angles. And there is nothing like personal in that, in the sense like this is X being told to me. How what are the various contexts that X is inhabiting?

07:35 SONIA Have to link it to the previous discussion if I'm looking at language is communication are we looking at noise in as opposing language and if communication is something that's coherent is noise something that's incoherent and something that is noise a language is noise communication.

08:01 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Excellent way to put it. I the way I was looking at noise is incoherence and it is a profusion of attempts at communication, a profusion of languages, and all of them coming together at the same point. all of them all present. And the question I had in all this noise, what's the point of even speaking?

08:24 SONIA Okay.

08:30 Would it be to sift through the noise when there's so much noise, to pin down noise so that there's some sort of coherence within the noise rather than creating more noise?

08:42 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right. Does that s would you say that comes from a personal need?

08:49 SONIA No, it's just a question. It's a question.

08:52 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Okay, and the th I guess the way I'm responding to that is thinking aloud in terms of if I want to sift through the noise, why I why do I want to do that?

09:04 MALAVIKA But you want to find the silence even within the noise.

09:08 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT But don't I want to be heard?

09:15 MALAVIKA (?) Your silence can be heard.

09:17 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT But there's

09:18 So much noise and the currency is noise.

09:21 MALAVIKA If the silence can be loud enough, then the it'll break the noise.

09:27 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Does it? And that's my fundamental question.

09:31 MALAVIKA I think it does. It does. Because you know there've been a lot of people who talk of how they can be in the middle of a busy bustling market and still feel completely connected with themselves and you know, th those kind of situations where circumstance of extreme impact or extreme stimulus from all from every sensory you know possibility. Like a sensory sometimes it yeah, it's like complete sensory overload. Sometimes it i in that kind of extreme situation something just shocks you into finding something beautiful there. And it's also

10:25 VEERANGANA Yourself from that noise is what silence would do. And how you'd have to look at it from the outside to know that you've been able to break that noise.

10:35 PRAYAS But Satya isn't one of the things that you're talking about is the possibility of enjoying sil enjoying noise.

10:45 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right, I mean surfing noise. I hadn't thought about that actually. I wasn't going in that direction and that's an interesting thing to think about, I think. because accepting the noise and just surfing on top of it, that'll be fun.

11:00 PRAYAS Yeah, because I think you know, beauty and silence and all of these would I would look at think of them initially f at the first point as popular cultural prescriptions. That you know, what do you do in life? You search for beauty, right? So

11:22 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Mm-

11:24 PRAYAS N and that can't possibly be true.

11:28 MALAVIKA You are not fr talking from a cynical perspective. You are just a cynic.

11:34 PRAYAS (?) No.

11:36 No I mean no, I mean I don't no I mean it's if I am a if I am a cynic if I am a cynic it's okay. I mean I don't have too much of a problem in being cynic. I don't I mean I'm just saying it if being a cynic h is if it's helping in the discussion right now and taking it somewhere

11:59 PRAYAS (?) Oh definitely.

12:00 PRAYAS (?) Then I can be a cynic. If it's not helping then you can I mean then we can talk about that.

12:09 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT I think it does

12:10 Help in this situation to me at least because if there is noise and there is so much of it and if I keep quiet as Veerangana said about silence giving perspective to the noise then I step back then it's showing me something new it's showing me new constructs of what the noise is in a way that is a sort of cynicism because I'm not believing the noise I'm stepping away from it I'm looking at it.

12:35 Right.

12:37 So I'm actually I feel like I have an answer for this in all this noise, why speak? Yeah, don't speak. Just keep quiet and watch.

12:47 The other second question I had there is in all this noise, who is heard?

12:55 VEERANGANA (?) Depends on who is listening.

12:58 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right.

13:01 But if you are listening, who are you hearing?

13:11 SONIA (?) I guess it depends on how well you can listen.

13:16 MALAVIKA And I do too. [?]

13:16 What's your

13:17 SONIA Yeah.

13:17 And what you can recognize

13:21 SONIA (?) And the secret. [?]

13:22 VEERANGANA (?) That differs the most.

13:25 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT The frequency that differs the most. So it has cut through somehow.

13:29 VEERANGANA I mean that's when you'll really be heard. If there's so much noise and everybody is going along with that frequency, it's something it has to be that different where you can cut through that.

13:37 SONIA But sometimes it might not be a different frequency. It might just be an aesthetic where you like in even though it's not very different from the other frequencies, we just have a tendency to appreciate that particular symbol within that noise. And then you say that's interesting and then you look for the patterns and you listen harder, you try and listen harder and

14:06 SONIA (?) I don't know, I'm exploring here.

14:08 MALAVIKA I think th when it comes to frequencies different and like Sonia says you are tuned to different frequencies, different people hear different things. Right. And what may s stand out for one person may another person can be completely oblivious to.

14:31 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT But if you are silent, then will you be heard?

14:36 MALAVIKA When there's a lot of noise I think there the silence will be the difference. And it I do believe it will be noticeable.

14:46 PRAYAS But Malv Malavika, don't you think that's a that's a romantic notion? Because this whole notion that you just do your thing and

14:55 Right.

14:56 And you'll be found. And I find that very

15:00 MALAVIKA No, I'm not saying you will be found. even if you're not found, it doesn't matter, you just do your thing.

15:09 PRAYAS Yeah, but if you if the equivalent of not being found is silenced, right? It's you're not heard.

15:19 Exactly.

15:20 So you're saying that so then not being heard doesn't affect you.

15:30 MALAVIKA It ideally it shouldn't

15:34 PRAYAS Why shouldn't it affect you?

15:37 MALAVIKA (?) For the same reasons that noise shouldn't affect.

15:42 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right, actually it's because it's a separate thing. It is not about the noise or it is not about being heard or not heard. It is about something altogether different which is doing.

15:52 PRAYAS Yeah, because I think being heard is about it's i it's about valuing it's about valuing the other too much. It's about okay, if someone is even there to hear.

16:09 PRAYAS (?) You know, so y you're even picturing that there is any possibility of hearing.

16:16 Right.

16:16 Which is which is a which is a problem. I mean because I think what one needs to be concerned about

16:27 In a way is

16:30 PRAYAS (?) Is how do I get to say what I want to say?

16:36 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Thing if you are not being heard and if that makes you not want to say, there is a

16:42 PRAYAS (?) Why would it?

16:44 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right, it shouldn't. It shouldn't. Ideally it shouldn't.

16:48 SONIA In the same vein if there is noise and there is no receiver, then you're not being heard too. Like I mean the creator of the noise is not being heard if there is no receiver.

17:00 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right.

17:02 VEERANGANA And I think when the

17:03 That much.

17:04 Everybody is trying to say their own thing. It's all about the satisfaction of having to say something or speak and then you sort of stop caring about whether anybody's even listening to you because you've said your thing.

17:17 SPEAKER 1 And some

17:17 SPEAKER 4 That becomes a secondary important right. And I

17:24 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT That actually

17:25 Is the third question.

17:26 Where in all this noise, why not speak? It's like, yeah, everybody's speaking, but it's not about the noise, it's about the act of speaking.

17:36 PRAYAS Because the you know the act of speaking makes you something after you've spoken, right? So after you speak something you become something which is a person with a history of having spoken something.

17:50 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT So then what

17:51 The question now is then history, like is this about validation? I mean d does it mean that you are something only if you have a history?

18:02 PRAYAS No, you at least have a history at any point of what you have said yourself.

18:13 SONIA I'm wondering I think that sometimes noise need not necessarily be speech. It could even be a laugh, laughing clubs for instance, where it is equivalent to an outlet.

18:30 Rather than it being deliberate and meaning something.

18:35 MALAVIKA Noise can be anything. It can be you know a room filled with a lot of things.

18:42 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Yes, right.

18:43 MALAVIKA Noise can be just sound, it can be a city, it can be and why? z people say silence can also be deafening.

18:55 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right. There could be an oppressive amount of silence which needs then you n you're not

19:00 Needs a change.

19:02 MALAVIKA But I think there in that sense when you say there's an oppressive silence, it's very focused. I think noise we can differentiate as not having focus. Am I would I be right in imagining that?

19:20 PRAYAS (?) Yeah, there is no larger there is no larger design.

19:24 MALAVIKA (?) Yes.

19:25 SONIA (?) Does noise have pattern?

19:27 PRAYAS Yeah, there is no pattern.

19:28 MALAVIKA There's no pattern. It's random.

19:30 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT No, I think no

19:31 Could have patterned in terms of i actually I think

19:35 MALAVIKA The moment you've seen pattern you're listening.

19:38 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT But no, I'm not listening. Suppose I suppose nobody's listening, but there's a whole bunch of and to bring back cynicism again, there is a certain message that is being crafted by the loudest voices. And those are being said that this how there are so many n so many sounds that are coming all together and the envelope of that noise is being crafted by some of the loudest sound voices.

20:05 MALAVIKA (?) Into data. [?]

20:05 MALAVIKA (?) But yeah, to even recognize that, you one will need to listen and pay attention.

20:12 PRAYAS Which is fine.

20:12 To find patterns in noise wouldn't you have to s either slow down noise or look at it in a at a different scale than the one that is being broadcast at?

20:26 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT So suppose you detach yourself from it, you're not even a listener, you're not even a speaker, you're just observing it. You're looking at what this noise is.

20:35 Yeah so

20:36 VEERANGANA Maybe you can comprehend it because the moment you're in that noise, you're a part of it itself, you have to look at it from the outside to be re able to recognize that pattern or to even comprehend the noise.

20:48 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right. And

20:50 What I'm saying is like when you have detached yourself and

20:52 You see that the

20:54 The noise itself has like

20:56 For instance.
20:57 Right now being bombarded by messages of a certain kind, which you don't agree with, but you are getting those messages anyway. So on this particular day, the twenty first of June in India. so it's like in to me that is noise as well, in the sense
21:13 I'm getting all these messages that are unwanted.
21:16 Noise is unwanted.
21:20 So in that sense there is a focus to it.

21:24 PRAYAS (?) Of not being wanted.

21:26 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Of not being wanted.

21:28 MALAVIKA See if you zoom into the noise you can pick and perhaps classify and categorize as this is noise because it's not wanted, this is noise because I'm not interested, this is noise because it's a different something else. but the fact that they are all operating at the same time and it is doing nothing for you in any way is what makes us n m what makes it noise, I think.

21:59 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right, so I'm getting overwhelmed
22:01 By all these things
22:02 Are hitting me.

22:04 MALAVIKA (?) Yeah.

22:06 PRAYAS No, but that is just that being overwhelmed just speaks about that you know, that just speaks about the fact that your capacity needs to be expanded.

22:17 VEERANGANA (?) And that the noise is penetrating. I mean you haven't extracted yourself from it.

22:22 PRAYAS Yeah, I mean so the messages might be perfectly innocent and sincere, let's say. That they want to let you know that this is happening.
22:32 And you need to know but because you your capacity may be built around what your you know, what your general workflow is. You don't need to receive so many messages usually.

22:48 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT What if you just cannot shut down the receiving mechanism? I mean whatever you do it's going to be washed over by this whatever you say, whatever you're listening to is going to be washed over by all this other noise. You didn't invite it, but it's there.

23:04 PRAYAS No, I mean I was just trying to not really make a make a pointed thing comment on your capacity as trying to hint at the fact that noise might actually be our learning gap in terms of in terms of seeking patterns in information, right? So n let's say I can't deal with twenty thousand people on my timeline on Facebook. Now that's my limitation.

23:38 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT That's one.
23:39 Way of looking at it is it a limitation though. I mean, I think it's a strength.

23:47 PRAYAS (?) No, because I find that s some people really are able to if they need to, if they want to, they are able to parse la large bodies of information very efficiently and then and not feel overwhelmed by it. But then

24:03 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Is that desirable?
24:06 How is it the badness? [?]

24:07 VEERANGANA What do you create for yourself? It's a very personal view on that. [?]
24:14 Because it's about how much you allow to permeate into you, how much you allow that noise to disturb you and how much you actually block out no matter how close it is to you.

24:26 PRAYAS But I mean that links in some way to what we were talking about yesterday in the third in the third study group, the Inviting Weakness thing. So all these filters, all these let's say aren't they defence mechanisms? So we are trying to limit what is able to reach us because if everything reaches us, it'll unsettle us at least.
24:53 PRAYAS (?) Okay.
24:53 PRAYAS (?) And what is it that we why is it that we don't want to be unsettled?

25:03 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Sure, that's one definitely one in

25:04 Bye, Peter. [?]
25:05 I mean
25:06 I do see I do see value in letting in a lot of noise and being in a state which is not normal to somebody, being in a if you're not comfortable, it's always good. There's probably scope for something new to enter there. That is I could see value in that. So opening yourself up to the noise might actually be useful. I could see that.
25:27 PRAYAS I mean that's only I mean I'm only thinking about that at this point because by living in a way that is in a very carefully constructed set of filters and all of that. I've not seen that I've not seen that having any inherent way of expanding, let's say, itself, right? So it becomes a very comfortable space after a point and that again becomes disturbing.
26:03 MALAVIKA See, that's precisely what I recognize in what is happening with languages.
26:10 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Okay.
26:11 MALAVIKA Because you like you create these filters and you become comfortable. You b you choose these familiar milestones or whatever, these landmarks and then you start using or moving within only those or you recognize only those and you start communicating with just those and that becomes your comfort.
26:40 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT I mean but then what I'm trying to say is if you're constructed in such a way that you are not optimized. You're not optimized for having suppose you're a piece of you're a nail that's thrown into a tank, you will sink. It's your nature to sink. But if you're a feather you'll float. I mean what I'm saying is
27:01 You know letting
27:02 MALAVIKA Who what is the problem I mean why would you compare sinking to floating? So if you sink, you may have other advantages of sinking.
27:11 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right, that's what I'm saying.
27:12 MALAVIKA (?) What the bottom is like.
27:14 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Exactly, that's exactly right. So overwhelm being overwhelmed or not, that there is nothing positive or negative about that. I mean I what I'm saying is there isn't a comfort zone. The comfort zone could be breached by that nail in a different manner.
27:32 But the noise might be an unwanted distraction.
27:37 MALAVIKA But would you have got to that point of breaching the comfort zone without the noise?
27:43 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT That and I'm saying that maybe there is a different way it would have reached that breaching point had there not been that noise.
27:54 So I'm not disagreeing that there is a movement from the comfort zone. I do agree there is, but is it a desirable movement or not is what I'm questioning.
28:20 We have sort of established that there is some merit to being in the noise and the other thing which I also wanted to say was the capacity for like prior to your earlier point of the amount of noise that comes through, like some people are able to handle
28:38 A lot
28:38 Of messages.
28:39 To just on that
28:40 But again that's subjective.
28:42 Because for somebody
28:45 Two messages might be too much. And for somebody twenty thousand might be too much. So it seems to be like a
28:52 PRAYAS I mean I think that calibration should be more of a choice and not I mean and not be so much of a of a hitting the limit of one's capacity, you know. So I might be able to deal with twenty thousand messages, but might be wanting to deal with only two.
29:14 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right.

29:15 PRAYAS And that I mean so and those two are I think I mean I don't know that's I'm not saying I'm there. I'm just saying I would like to be able to calibrate this in the sense that not live with not try to rationalise or narrativise the limits that I end up with, you know. But more than that maybe try to

29:44 Because parsing the noise has its has its own I mean that's where the gold is.

29:53 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT There is new information and which could not have been accessible. I mean, everyone is expressing. There is so much expression, there is so much scope for inviting new things in.

30:05 PRAYAS Yeah, that's where that's where the sentiment of the time lives, right? So if you want to if you want to understand this time, where does where does the sentiment of this time live? It lives in the noise that this time produces.

30:19 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right.

30:20 Right. And the more it is producing, the more there is a chance of sifting through it and trying to get a grip on what it is.

30:28 PRAYAS Yeah, so it's not in our interest to actually protect ourselves from it.

30:34 MALAVIKA What would it be like to be on the fringes?

30:39 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT And the fringe means where you are sort of protecting in a way.

30:43 MALAVIKA Yeah, you can you can hear the noise but you can also

30:47 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Yeah.

30:48 Hear it.

30:48 The silence. Yeah.

30:49 MALAVIKA You're seeing what it's not creating.

30:54 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT And that seems to be the cynical perspective.

30:58 MALAVIKA (?) The being on the fringe?

31:01 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT In a way, right? Like you're able to see what the noise is, you're able to also see what it is not.

31:06 Or what?

31:07 Yeah. I mean, you may not make have a complete grip on what you're seeing, but at least you're on the edge.

31:20 PRAYAS (?) But how do you know where the edge is?

31:24 VEERANGANA That's true.

31:30 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT And we don't even know what silence is anymore. I mean, I what is silence?

31:37 MALAVIKA (?) Apparently the earth also causes a hum that only few people can hear.

31:45 NU PARADOX Exactly.

31:45 That's

31:46 Really?

31:48 I looked it up. It doesn't make it sound. Well sound can't travel through space, basically. You know, it needs a medium to travel in. So [?]

31:59 PRAYAS (?) Yeah.

32:03 Yeah, it can't possibly do that.

32:06 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT It's interesting to talk about medium because currently there is a lot of media for the sound to travel, at least on Earth.

32:16 MALAVIKA (?) I thought it was produced from within.

32:21 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT And it may not be sound waves per se, it might be some other sort of radiation. Is that something you might have seen, Nu?

32:28 NU PARADOX (?) I don't know of radiation but it doesn't make a hum while it revolves around its own axis is what is what the myth says that it does make a hum.

32:39 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT But I mean if you look at it conceptually, like if i there is nothing like silence.

32:48 So there is always some kind of a baseline. There's a background radiation in the universe or whatever.

32:53 PRAYAS Yeah. I mean what you think is silence is only is only a frequency of sound that you haven't learned to listen to.

33:03 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT That's one way of looking at it, yeah. That's true because i if I look at it like that, then even the noise that happens, like what I'm call what I'm terming as sounds and noise, there are certain frequencies which I just don't know how to hear it. You know, the capacity that you talked about in the twenty thousand people coming in, I'm just not able to hear beyond five.

33:25 PRAYAS Yeah, and as a musician you must be actually having your own way of looking at this because I mean I have thought about this at some point that when you are creating music you're only of course consciously dealing with the frequencies a set of frequencies that you can hear. But then of course what is also being put out are a set of frequencies that you can't

33:50 You can't shape, right? You can't you can't do anything about them.

33:54 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right, that is very true. And there's a whole bunch of loss because the way when you're writing music at least, when you're what you hear and what comes out are absolutely very different, and that's true for any art form. but I think

34:08 I had read something at some point where you have to not speak for a very

34:14 When you're composing, in the sense you keep listening, there is something that you're listening to first before even articulating it. If you immediately jump into trying to speak, you may not be speaking what you actually want to say, what you're hearing. I mean assuming that speaking what you are hearing is desired.

34:37 PRAYAS That gives us a very maybe that's something which you can you know put on a poster and kind of post it because

34:45 MALAVIKA That's in fact that seems like what you were talking of in the last discussion of conscious construction. That you can't just

34:52 PRAYAS I got something else from this. I mean what I got from this was that what you're trying to say is that's the boundaries of sound, right? Right. huh. In the sense the when you speak the where it ends and where it starts are not known. that those boundaries are not known. So you need to you need to cushion it or buffer it with enough silence for it to even be for it to even mean what it meant. That's is that what you said?

35:28 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Yes, I think so. I mean I am intending to say something, but if I don't make the effort to listen to what I'm intending to say before I say it will not come out as true to what it was intended to be.

35:48 So I'd really have to not speak.

35:51 PRAYAS (?) That's consciousness.

35:53 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT N and that's the thing about it. And that's the thing. It can become self consciousness but you have to not let it. There's I don't know but there's a way to do it.

36:05 You're not conscious.

36:06 MALAVIKA Very Zen.

36:07 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT It does actually, it does. I mean it's like you have it I don't know even as a visual artist you might have this where you have something in inside where you know you want to say this, right? But if you say it too soon, you have not said it I mean maybe it was fully formed and you said it, but if you didn't take the time to listen, then what are you saying?

36:39 And then there is we are talking about the boundary of the sound and the silence and the sound. We're talking about that boundary now.

36:54 MALAVIKA (?) So maybe that's the boundary between the noise and the silence too.

36:58 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Exactly.

36:59 MALAVIKA We are all contributing to the noise and

37:04 MALAVIKA (?) When we don't act.

37:09 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Yeah, when we don't act. Yeah. We don't act until it is n it is natural.

37:17 MALAVIKA (?) Yeah.

37:20 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT And therefore there is some merit to not speaking.

37:28 MALAVIKA So coming back to your third question, why speak? No, why not speak? So you only speak if you really have something to say.

37:42 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT That's true. That's true. I do.

37:46 MALAVIKA (?) Some sort of biblical apartment. [?]

37:52 VEERANGANA Well, ideally yes, but some people also speak just because they feel they need to be heard even if they don't have anything to say.

38:01 Right.

38:01 So sort of a rambling which goes on and that in some way also adds to the noise. I mean bringing us back to speaking within the noise only because you feel you need to speak without reason.

38:13 MALAVIKA But do you think that in

38:17 A more absurd fashion that you can find sense through a rambling.

38:28 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT But then it could just be superficial rambling with no such

38:31 Substance behind

38:32 VEERANGANA (?) Yeah.

38:34 I mean it I'm not saying everybody would do that, but with some who may feel that rambling in some way becomes a validation to contribute to the noise around them.

38:45 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT That makes sense. Like there's an perceptive perse perceived value attached to a person who's speaking.

38:54 And there is

38:55 There's that whole discussion around you know, extroverts and introverts at work where in the corporate American milieu where person who speaks is given a certain amount of power over a person who does not speak.

39:14 That's also some of the things that I consider about in terms of noise, like in the sense of if you're not speaking are you what is the value, you know?

39:28 Do you do you have to speak in order to be attributed value?

39:34 But of course you have to want to have value.

39:37 VEERANGANA Yeah.

39:38 MALAVIKA You'll have value because you then you'll be closer to the edge because you're not speaking.

39:44 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT That is true. That is true. And then the value is apparent probably if it

39:48 If it is apparent to yourself, then that's probably desirable.

39:55 MALAVIKA Yeah.

40:01 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Well let's wrap up at this point.

40:04 So we should

40:05 PRAYAS I sorry I just wanted to I mean that last thing which you were saying which you know so about speaking else you will not be assigned any value.

40:19 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT -huh.

40:22 PRAYAS So doesn't that also include the question of

40:32 PRAYAS (?) Context and actually also content in the sense so you can speak, but what do you speak and when do you speak?

40:40 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT That's true.

40:42 PRAYAS 'Cause if you're going to just speak then you might be able to figure it out. I mean, you know, that you are applying your voice to language and you're going to say something.

40:56 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT So basically doing the act of speaking has an inherent value of

41:05 So you're saying basically there is a value to vo to articulating or vocalizing?

41:11 PRAYAS No I'm saying that more than the value of articulating or vocalizing might be the value of when and what you articulate and vocalise.

41:24 SPEAKER 1 That is true, yeah. That does make sense.

41:26 PRAYAS Yeah, so in the in that sense it's just because let's say corporate environments are incapable of dealing with content, right? So

41:37 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT We have very specific structures. I mean I it may not be applicable in this situation in a holistic sense, but yeah.

41:44 PRAYAS Yeah, I mean in the sense they will just have a set of checklists that okay, did you speak in the last six months in a public meeting? Yes. No. So if you if you but they don't really have a way of understanding oh if you did speak what was the impact of your speaking?

42:05 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Definitely. I mean the metrics that are used are quite questionable in that sense, yeah.

42:11 PRAYAS Yeah, I mean so that's the reason why in academic conferences we have people asking questions that they actually don't want to be answered.

42:20 I mean they will just ask questions to sound smart enough to have thought of that question in the first place.

42:28 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right. Which is

42:31 Very interesting.

42:33 Because that's another

42:33 Rather it's like what is the value of the words that have been spoken within the context?

42:41 PRAYAS Yeah, so I think in the in the whole if we don't stay at the articulation value of speaking and zoom in into the content or context value it might it might help the discussion in the sense, you know.

43:02 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT So if you'll zoom.

43:03 Content and context value.

43:06 PRAYAS Yeah, and not the act of speaking because the act of speaking let's say has been hacked. People know that okay, speaking is going to make us look like we have like we are able to think of speaking, you know, at least.

43:23 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT But what you're saying is that to continue the discussion with the assumption that speech has to be done.

43:30 PRAYAS Continuing the discussion that more no continue the discussion with the fact that more important than the just the pressure of producing speech is the pressure of figuring out when and what in you know to produce speech. How to how to actually do it, when right when are you going to say something and what are you going to say? So

44:01 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right.

44:04 Right. And that's very cool that you say that because that leads directly into the questions for day three, which is the very first question for day three is how do you know what to say, when to say it?

44:19 That's I'm really glad that you brought that up because it's in

44:22 PRAYAS Because in the living in the let's say we've been talking about noise so much today, but living in the noise of the internet, you know, someone is uploading something every nanosecond maybe. So they've already figured out the where the upload but how the upload button works.

44:41 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Right.

44:47 And let's say we have figured out how the start broadcast button works.

44:54 Yeah, that's true.

44:57 Yeah, I honestly don't have anything more to say today. So I'm gonna wrap up here. Thank you everyone for joining.

45:04 MALAVIKA Thanks.

45:06 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT In fifteen minutes Prayas will anchor Inviting Weakness. So please join. Thank you. Thanks for

45:13 PRAYAS A link in the chat

45:15 SURFATIAL ACCOUNT Oh, wonderful. Okay. That's good. Everyone has it there.

45:20 VEERANGANA (?) All right, thank you.

45:22 MOSES SAM Bye.