Christin Kirchhübel: Summary Curriculum Vitae

Dr Christin Kirchhübel (BA MSc PhD) is the founder of Soundscape Voice Evidence, an independent forensic speech analysis consultancy. She is an experienced expert witness, having produced expert reports in hundreds of cases involving voice comparison analysis, transcription, and other voice / speech analysis matters. In addition to casework practice, she actively contributes to research in forensic speech science through driving publications and presentations that address current topics in the field. She frequently delivers training courses on forensic speech science to both expert and non-expert audiences. Throughout her time working as a forensic speech science practitioner, she has acted on her legal interests and, having been called to the Bar in July 2023, she completed pupillage in September 2024. Her experience as a forensic speech scientist and as a barrister places her in a unique position in the forensic speech science world.

Positions

Forensic Consultant, Soundscape Voice Evidence, Lancaster: October 2024 - ongoing
Pupil Barrister, Atlantic Chambers: October 2023 – September 2024
Forensic Consultant, Soundscape Voice Evidence, Lancaster: March 2019 – September 2023
Forensic Consultant, J P French Associates, York: January 2013 – February 2019
Associate Lecturer, Department of Language and Linguistic Science, University of York: January 2013 – February 2019

Qualifications

Bar Training Course (with Distinction), Manchester Metropolitan University
Graduate Diploma in Law (with Distinction), BPP University
PhD Music Technology (Forensic Speech Science), University of York
MSc Forensic Speech Science (Distinction), University of York
BA English Language and Linguistics (1st Class Hons), Lancaster University

Memberships

Member of the International Association for Forensic Phonetics and Acoustics
Member of the British Association of Academic Phoneticians

Notable Cases

R v Keith Hall. Instructed by the Crown. Trial for Murder (amongst others). Teesside Crown Court. **Transcription and Voice Comparison:** I was asked to transcribe covertly recorded material obtained from within a building. I was also asked to compare the voices that could be heard within the covertly recorded material to those of known speakers. The purpose of the comparison was to establish who said what from a closed set of known speaker, i.e. closed set voice comparison.

R v Ola Orulebaja. Instructed by the Defence. Trial for Conspiracy to Commit Robbery. Kingston upon Thames Crown Court. **Voice Comparison:** I was asked to compare the voices of questioned speakers in covertly recorded conversations taken from a vehicle with those of Ola Orulebaja. The purpose of the comparison was to provide evidence regarding speaker identity/non-identity.

R v David Carney & Tracey Fielding. Instructed by the Crown. Trial for murder and manslaughter. Preston Crown Court. **Transcription:** I was asked to transcribe poor quality audio contained on CCTV footage.

R v Matthew Moseley. Instructed by the Crown. Trial for murder. Preston Crown Court. **Transcription and voice comparison:** I was asked to transcribe an emergency call made to police as well as a covertly recorded conversation obtained from within a vehicle. I was also asked to compare some of the voices in the call to police with two known voices in order to provide evidence regarding speaker identity/non-identity.

R v Umar Ahmed Haque and others. Instructed by the Crown. Trial for the preparation of acts of terrorism (amongst others). Central Criminal Court. **Voice comparison:** I was asked to compare the voices of 4 men in covertly recorded conversations taken from a vehicle and a house with those of 4 suspects. The purpose of the comparison was to provide evidence regarding speaker identity/non-identity.

Testimonials (selected)
'I thought the evidence you gave whilst under aggressive cross examination was excellent and your calm professional manner shone through as did your clear and obvious knowledge on the subject'. – HMRC

'Not only were our counsel extremely impressed by you but I hear that numerous defence counsel were too.' – HMRC

'Your evidence in this case was absolutely key and the manner in which you presented it to the court was commented on favourably by the Judge'. – Officer from Police Service in Northern Ireland.

Publications
Kirchhübel, C and Brown, G. (2024). Intellectual property rights at the training, development and generation stages of Large Language Models. Proceedings of the Workshop on Legal and Ethical Issues in Human Language Technologies @ LREC-COLING 2024, pages 13–18, Torino, Italia. ELRA and ICCL.

Klug, K., Kirchhübel, C., Foulkes, P., Braun, A. & French, P. (2024) Assessing creaky voice quality for forensic purposes. Proceedings of the 2nd International Seminar on the Foundations of Speech. In Hejná, M., Kjeldgaard-Christiansen, J., Eaton, M., Clasen, M., Boyd, Z. & Niebuhr, O. (eds.) *Proceedings of the 2023 Aarhus International Conference on Voice Studies (SEFOS)*. Sciendo/DeGruyter, pp. 16-26.

Kirchhübel, C., Brown, G. & Foulkes, P. (2023). Realistic solutions for practising forensic scientists – a response to Morrison. *Science and Justice*, 63(5), 635 – 637.

Brown. G, Kirchhübel, C., Cuthbert, R. (2023). Using speech synthesis to explain automatic speaker recognition: a new application of synthetic speech. *Proceedings of the 24th Interspeech conference*, 20-24 August, Dublin, Ireland.

Fairclough, L., Brown, G., Kirchhübel, C. (2023). Reviewing the performance of formants for forensic voice comparison: a meta-analysis of forensic speech science research. *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, 7-11 August, Prague, Czech Republic.

Kirchhübel, C., Brown, G., Foulkes, P. (2023). What does method validation look like for forensic voice comparison by a human expert? *Science & Justice*, 63(2), 251 – 257.

Kirchhübel, C. and Brown, G. (2022). Spoofed speech from the perspective of a forensic phonetician. *Proceedings of the 23rd Interspeech conference*, 18-22 September, Incheon, South Korea.

Gold, E., Kirchhübel, C., Earnshaw, K., Ross, S. (2022). Regional Variation in British English Voice Quality. *English World-Wide*, 43(1), 96 – 123.

Brown, G., Ross, S., Kirchhübel, C. (2021). Voicing Concerns: The balance between data protection principles and research developments in forensic speech science. *Science & Justice*, 61, 311 – 318.

Klug, K., Kirchhübel, C., Foulkes, P., French, P. (2019) 'Analysing breathy voice in forensic speaker comparison: Using acoustics to confirm perception.' *Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, 5-9 August, Melbourne, Australia.

McDougall, K., R. Rhodes, R., Duckworth M., French, J. P., Kirchhübel, C. (2019) 'Application of the 'TOFFA' framework to the analysis of disfluencies in forensic phonetic casework.' *Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, 5-9 August, Melbourne, Australia.

Kirchhübel, C., Howard, D. M., and Stedmon, A. (2015). Deception and speech: A theoretical overview to inform future research. In A. Stedmon and G. Lawson (Eds.). *Hostile Intent and Counter-Terrorism: Human factors theory and application*. Ashgate, Farnham, pp. 295-316.

Kirchhübel, C., Howard, D. M., and Stedmon, A. (2013). Analysing deceptive speech. In D. Harris, (Ed.). *EPCE'13 Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on Engineering Psychology and Cognitive Ergonomics*. Springer-Verlag Berlin, Heidelberg, pp. 134—141.

Kirchhübel, C. and Howard, D. M. (2013). Detecting suspicious behaviour using speech: Acoustic correlates of deceptive speech - an exploratory investigation. *Applied Ergonomics,* 44(5), 694—702.

Kirchhübel, C. and Howard, D. M. (2011) Acoustic correlates of deceptive speech: an exploratory study. In D. Harris (Ed.). *Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Engineering Psychology and Cognitive Ergonomics*. Springer-Verlag Berlin, Heidelberg, pp. 28-37.

Kirchhübel, C., Howard, D. M., and Stedmon, A. (2011) Acoustic correlates of speech when under stress: research, methods and future directions. *International Journal of Speech, Language and the Law,* 18, 75-98.

Kirchhübel, C. (2010). The effects of Lombard speech on vowel formant measurements. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* 128, 2395.