



Friederike Flottmann

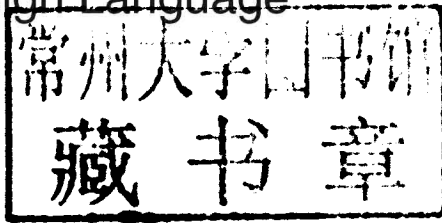
The Influence of Aural Training
in Music on the Perceptive
Performance of Adult Learners'
Sound-Discrimination
Abilities in an Unknown
Foreign Language



PETER LANG

Friederike Flottmann

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**to
my family**

Preface

The present book is the result of a project which seems to have grown bigger by the course of its progression. This project would not have been manageable without the support, the encouragement and the advice from experts, family, friends and volunteers who consented to taking the time and effort to be the subjects of the study. I am deeply thankful to everyone who helped making this project work.

First and foremost, Prof. Dr. Jürgen Kramer, the supervisor of my dissertation project, was always available with advice and answers and besides showing great patience, he was always sincerely interested in my project. Furthermore, Prof. Dr. Günther Rötter and JProf. Dr. Uwe Ligges were very helpful when taking time to answer my questions on the musical side of the project and on the statistical evaluation. Dr. Henning Sternemann took a lot of time and effort in programming the computer program ToSCA, which was used as the interventive step in the course of the study. Volkmar Frinken took charge of programming the web-environments for the online sound-discrimination tests, which were used as pre- and post interventive instruments of measurement. Heli Duer, as a native speaker of Finnish, helped out in answering questions on the Finnish language, which was used as the test language, and volunteered to be recorded to appear as the voice of the sound-discrimination tests. Uwe Geitner made his studio available for the recording of the Finnish words and phrases. Many friends and friends' friends helped finding suitable subjects for the study, took part in the study, helped testing the beta version of ToSCA or helped proofreading. And finally, I am cordially thankful for all the patience, support and encouragement I received from my family, my boyfriend, my friends and other PhD students at the PhD network of the culture-studies faculty at Technische Universität Dortmund.

Dortmund, September 2010

Friederike Flottmann

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