

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Hear a Mummy Talk](#)

TheChaosKiller - January 28, 2020, 1:18 am

This is a few days old now, but still fascinates me. Scientists scanned and 3D printed a voice box from a 3000 year old mummy, and were able to synthesise a vowel like sound in his voice. A priest from Thebes, Nesyamun the mummy would have been a religious song singer, and would have had a powerful voice to be able to carry the notes and sounds. While this is just a second, or even a half second, of sound they've produced so far, there is potential for them to be able to produce full sentences in the future. This could radically change the way we interpret the past, as we begin to actually hear the voices of those long gone.

[Mummy returns: Voice of 3,000-year-old Egyptian priest brought to life](#)

V?rt - January 28, 2020, 7:05 am

That's crazy! To think the potential process can have! I wonder if they would have to get a hold on every body they try to interpret, or if they'll figure out a way to produce the vocals properly without having to scan and print the vocal box.

Yin Yang - January 28, 2020, 7:18 am

Damn that must have costed a lot to do all that.

Citoea - January 28, 2020, 9:01 am

This is cool and all but... What is the point in it? Does it hold any real significance to history?

Charlemagne - January 28, 2020, 9:03 am

(Jan 28, 2020 10:01 AM)Citoea Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This is cool and all but... What is the point in it? Does it hold any real significance to history?

No, but it is a significant advancement in anthropology

TheChaosKiller - January 28, 2020, 9:47 am

(Jan 28, 2020 10:01 AM)Citoea Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This is cool and all but... What is the point in it? Does it hold any real significance to history?

Well there's some significance in the sense that we'll be able to hear the voices of those who passed some millennia before recording equipment was invented, and it also means that potentially some who lost their parents at a very young age could hear their voices again one day if the same tech was used in that respect. So it should give us a better understanding of people, and also bring some of the dead back to life in some ways.

Xerotic - January 28, 2020, 10:20 am

It's stuff like this that people don't realize happens all the time. Science is always being tested and pushed. It'll be cool to see how this technology develops and other uses for it. Maybe soon we will be able to make a copy of our own voice boxes?

TheChaosKiller - January 28, 2020, 10:21 am

(Jan 28, 2020 11:20 AM)Xerotic Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It's stuff like this that people don't realize happens all the time. Science is always being tested and pushed. It'll be cool to see how this technology

develops and other uses for it. Maybe soon we will be able to make a copy of our own voice boxes? This is what I was thinking, some kind of public version by where we could scan our own voice boxes, and then leave a tool that would allow our descendants to talk as if they were us, or be able to hear us beyond a simple recording. Very interested to see where they take this technology next!

Charlemagne - January 28, 2020, 10:35 am

(Jan 28, 2020 11:20 AM)Xerotic Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It's stuff like this that people don't realize happens all the time. Science is always being tested and pushed. It'll be cool to see how this technology develops and other uses for it. Maybe soon we will be able to make a copy of our own voice boxes? I can see Amazon attempting to use this technology with Alexa so users can set the voice to be a parent, spouse, child etc.

V?rt - January 28, 2020, 10:39 am

(Jan 28, 2020 11:21 AM)TheChaosKiller Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This is what I was thinking, some kind of public version by where we could scan our own voice boxes, and then leave a tool that would allow our descendants to talk as if they were us, or be able to hear us beyond a simple recording. Very interested to see where they take this technology next!
Yeah, I feel like this would be used more commercially that we would think.

undeadmoroccanzz - January 28, 2020, 1:31 pm

Aside from the subject, touching that dead mummy would seems like my fingers would rot away almost immediantly lmao

Luca - January 28, 2020, 1:34 pm

This is insane. Right when you thought you've seen it all...

spradebassen - January 28, 2020, 1:41 pm

(Jan 28, 2020 11:21 AM)TheChaosKiller Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This is what I was thinking, some kind of public version by where we could scan our own voice boxes, and then leave a tool that would allow our descendants to talk as if they were us, or be able to hear us beyond a simple recording. Very interested to see where they take this technology next!
hear us beyond a simple recording? what do you expect a "voice box" would be able to which a simple recording of the sound wouldn't?

you can already get insanely high quality audio recorded of your own voice

V?rt - January 28, 2020, 1:56 pm

(Jan 28, 2020 02:31 PM)undeadmoroccanzz Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Aside from the subject, touching that dead mummy would seems like my fingers would rot away almost immediantly lmao
Yeah, even with gloves I don't think I'd be too comfortable with touching one either.

Django - January 28, 2020, 2:20 pm

(Jan 28, 2020 10:47 AM)TheChaosKiller Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Well there's some significance in the sense that we'll be able to hear the voices of those who passed some millennia before recording equipment was invented, and it also means that potentially some who lost their parents at a very young age could hear their voices again one day if the same tech was used in that respect. So it should give us a better understanding of people, and also bring some of the dead back to life in some ways.

It can also help us revive dead languages, because surely with this technology it'll get to a point where they can work out entire words. Definitely an interesting advancement, if not creepy.

TheChaosKiller - January 28, 2020, 2:34 pm

(Jan 28, 2020 02:41 PM)spradebassen Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) hear us beyond a simple recording? what do

you expect a "voice box" would be able to which a simple recording of the sound wouldn't?

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I should have been clearer about that. What I mean, is that these devices when fully developed and tested could potentially talk for us way beyond the capabilities of just recording. So in the way that these scientists made the voice box produce a vowel sound, presumably they're working towards it producing full sentences. Obviously we have no real recordings of this mummy's real voice, so it'll be entirely new sentences said with his actual voice. So my point was that this box would essentially be our own Text To Speech model, that would allow us to communicate after death with descendants through algos that would determine how we'd naturally responds to things from voice samples, and construct it to make it play seamlessly and naturally. Recordings just can't do that, cadence changes and subconscious pausing in sentences with certain context mean that constructed sentences from recordings won't sound perfect, whereas this technology potentially could.

(Jan 28, 2020 02:56 PM)V?rt Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yeah, even with gloves I don't think I'd be too comfortable with touching one either.

Out of hygiene fears? Or are you worried it's going to grab you lol

(Jan 28, 2020 03:20 PM)Django Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It can also help us revive dead languages, because surely with this technology it'll get to a point where they can work out entire words. Definitely an interesting advancement, if not creepy.

That's true to a degree, but with truly dead languages we'd only be able to produce our own interpretations of pronunciation, just with a long dead person's voice. So it would be always biased in some degree to the engineer's preference. I can't imagine we'll ever be able to retrieve thoughts or experiences from the dead, but then 100 years ago you'd be locked up in an asylum for even suggesting any of this could happen one day.

V?rt - January 28, 2020, 2:35 pm

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hygiene, as well as potentially damaging it and everybody hates you for an accident lol.

Rsynced - January 28, 2020, 2:40 pm

This is some doctor Frankenstein shit here. I can not believe people get paid money for doing sick things like this. I mean it's a fucking dead body... wtf?

SIM-4569310 - January 28, 2020, 5:45 pm

This is so scary to watch lol

?ystem - January 29, 2020, 2:44 pm

I got to admit not once did I ever think this would happen, but it's certainly fascinating and encouraging to know just how far advances in technology have gone. Like they said in the BBC article,

Quote:the researchers hope to use computer models to recreate full sentences in Nesyamun's voice.

Nate - January 30, 2020, 2:00 am

Mummys are teh creepiest things out in my opinon