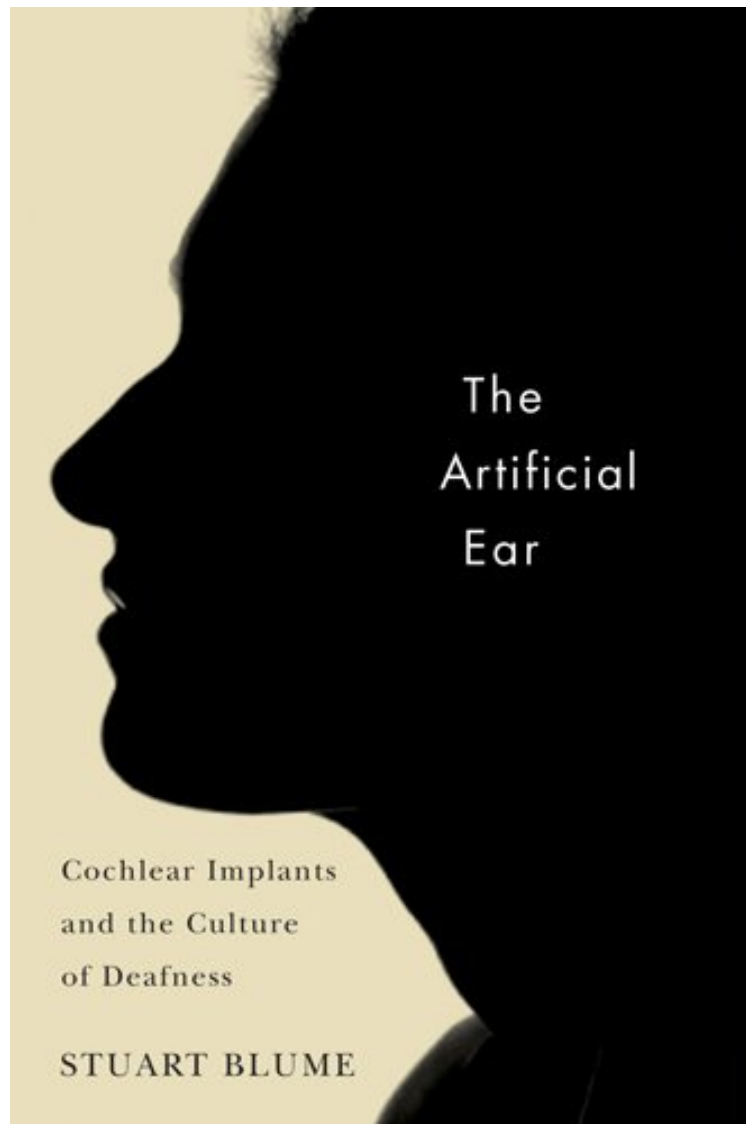


# The Artificial Ear: Cochlear Implants and the Culture of Deafness

*Stuart Blume*

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**Stuart Blume : The Artificial Ear: Cochlear Implants and the Culture of Deafness** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Artificial Ear: Cochlear Implants and the Culture of Deafness:

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Cochlear Implant and the Deaf Culture By mitsy As a cochlear implant recipient I was greatly disappointed that the author did not make much mention of the positive experiences of those who actually benefitted from the device. As a cochlear implant recipient I experience much psychological abuses

from some passionate Deaf Culture elites ( especially after the surgery) and I was hoping for much needed encouragement, that was why I purchase the book.It was quite informative though in terms of documenting the history of cochlear implant and the reactions of those of the Deaf Culture.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Marcos Cezar de FreitasWonderful.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I enjoyed this bookBy CustomerI enjoyed this book, it was informative. I didn't not enjoy only hearing the negative response to the device- bias from the author is evident throughout.

When it was first developed, the cochlear implant was hailed as a "miracle cure" for deafness. That relatively few deaf adults seemed to want it was puzzling. The technology was then modified for use with deaf children, 90 percent of whom have hearing parents. Then, controversy struck as the Deaf community overwhelmingly protested the use of the device and procedure. For them, the cochlear implant was not viewed in the context of medical progress and advances in the physiology of hearing, but instead represented the historic oppression of deaf people and of sign languages.Part ethnography and part historical study, *The Artificial Ear* is based on interviews with researchers who were pivotal in the early development and implementation of the new technology. Through an analysis of the scientific and clinical literature, Stuart Blume reconstructs the history of artificial hearing from its conceptual origins in the 1930s, to the first attempt at cochlear implantation in Paris in the 1950s, and to the widespread clinical application of the "bionic ear" since the 1980s.

"A rich study of 'the artificial (or bionic) ear'. In this outstanding book, Blume shows how complicated and multi-dimensional can be the reality of patients' and carers' intervention in medical technology research and development. Like most of his work, this book is both sociological and strongly historical."