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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Nigel Farage's voice cloned for new AI-assisted podcast series

Award-winning British playwright Fin Kennedy has made an AI voice clone of Reform UK leader Nigel Farage MP, for use in a new satirical podcast series [The Farage Files](#), intended to raise awareness of the dangers of the technology.

The independent project, released today via Kennedy's digital production company [Applied Stories](#), uses the latest AI technology to create a replica of Mr Farage's voice from a 30-second clip, in order for him to 'take part' in a series of satirical interviews about his life, views and the aims of Reform UK. Kennedy has also cloned his own voice and written the script, with questions for Mr Farage submitted by members of the public.

The strictly unauthorised series has not involved the real Mr Farage at all, and aims to highlight a dearth of legislation around AI, meaning it is currently legal - if unethical - to clone someone's voice without their permission.

[The Farage Files](#) aims to draw attention to the prevalence of AI voice cloning, and generate debate about whether the technology ought to be regulated.

Touted by tech companies as a tool for enhanced customer services, AI voice cloning is currently mostly used nefariously, including for [fraud](#) and political manipulation both in the [UK](#) and [US](#).

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In a [feature-length blog post](#) about the project, Kennedy writes:

“I am struggling to see what this technology is for, or why we need it at all ... I’ve come to the conclusion that there aren’t really any constructive applications for AI voice cloning. The voice is so uniquely personal, it’s a bit like being able to steal someone’s soul. And because almost no one even knows it is possible, we remain uniquely vulnerable to manipulation in the audio domain. When are we going to see the first military order given with a cloned voice?”

He adds: “Perhaps Nigel Farage will turn out to be exactly what is needed to drive this issue up the political agenda.”

Listeners can send questions to be put to Mr Farage in future episodes by emailing thefaragefiles@appliedstories.co.uk or on social media [@appliedstories](#). They can also contribute to a [Crowdfunder](#) to hear more episodes, with rewards on offer such as angry personalised voice notes from Mr Farage to donors.

Please note that [The Farage Files](#) contains adult content making it unsuitable for under 16s, or listening in an open plan office.

Notes for Editors:

[Fin Kennedy](#) is an award-winning British playwright, whose plays include [How To Disappear Completely and Never be Found](#) (Sheffield Crucible/Southwark Playhouse), winner of the John Whiting Award, and [Life Raft](#) (Bristol Old Vic) recently published by Nick Hern Books.

His radio work includes BBC Radio 4 series [The Good Listener](#) and [On Kosovo Field](#), the latter a collaboration with musician PJ Harvey. Kennedy was artistic director of touring theatre company [Tamasha](#) from 2013-2021.

[Applied Stories](#) is a digital production company making place-based audio drama with social impact. Clients include [The National Archives](#), [The British Museum](#) and independent Arts Council funded projects such as geolocated walking tour of Luton, [Museum of Stories](#).