

**Birgitta J. Johnson, Ph.D.**  
**Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology**  
**University of South Carolina**  
**School of Music/African American Studies Program**  
bjohnson@mozart.sc.edu

**Education**

- 2008      Ph.D. UCLA, Ethnomusicology  
            “‘Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing’: Music and Worship in African American Megachurches of Los Angeles, California”  
            Advisor: Dr. Jacqueline Cogdell DjeDje
- 2002      M.A., UCLA, Ethnomusicology  
            “The Neo-soul Movement: A Study of Tradition and Change”  
            Advisor: Dr. Jacqueline Cogdell DjeDje
- 1999      B.A., Agnes Scott College, Atlanta, Georgia, Music

**Employment**

- 2021-present    Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion-School of Music  
2020-2021      Interim Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion-School of Music  
2018-present    Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology, University of South Carolina  
2012-18        Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology, University of South Carolina  
2010-12        Ethnomusicology Post-doctoral Fellow, Syracuse University  
2009          Lecturer in Ethnomusicology/African American Studies, UCLA  
2009          Lecturer in Music, Scripps College, Claremont, CA  
2008          Lecturer in Black Studies, Pitzer College, Claremont, CA  
2008          Lecturer in Music, Pomona College, Claremont, CA  
2007-08        Teaching Fellow in Ethnomusicology, UCLA

**Fellowships, Grants, and Awards**

- 2019-2020      USC College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Travel Grant  
2018-2019      Walker Institute of International and Area Studies Faculty Conference Travel Grant  
2018-2019      USC College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Travel Grant  
2017-2018      USC Provost Grant (Humanities), University of South Carolina Provost Office  
2015-2016      American Fellowship (Publication), American Association for University Women  
2015-2016      Walker Institute of International and Area Studies Faculty Conference Travel Grant  
2010-12        Post-doctoral Fellowship in Ethnomusicology, Syracuse University  
2006-07        Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA Graduate Division  
2006            Summer Research Grant, Historical Society of Southern California  
2005-06        Pre-doctoral Fellowship, Institute of American Cultures/Ralph A. Bunche Center for African American Studies, UCLA  
2005            Summer Research Grant, Historical Society of Southern California

## Johnson CV

- 2005 Vassie Davis Wright Scholar, Our Authors Book Club, Inc. Chapter of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Inc.
- 2004 Elaine Krown Klein/UCLA Affiliates Award, UCLA
- 2004 Summer Research Grant, Institute of American Cultures/Ralph Bunche Center for African American Studies, UCLA
- 2000-04 Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship, UCLA

## Publications

- 2022 Alisha Lola Jones, *Flaming? The Peculiar Theopolitics of Fire and Desire in Black Male Gospel Performance*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2020), *Journal of American Musicological Society* 75:1. Book review.

Mark Burford, *Mahalia Jackson & the Black Gospel Field*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2018), *Journal of the Society for American Music*. 16:1. Book review.

- 2021 “‘Bringing the Church Back to Your Feet’: Affirmations of Faith, Religion and Community in the Music of Outkast.” Invited chapter for *OutKasted Conversations: OutKast and the Hip Hop South*. Edited by Regina Bradley. University of Georgia Press.

Rae Linda Brown, *The Heart of a Woman: The Life and Music of Florence B. Price*, (Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2021). *Journal of African American History* 106:4 (Fall). Book Review.

“At the Digital Cross(roads) with Beyoncé: Religious Remixes of the Ultra Secular in the Social Media Age” in *Making Lemonade: Finding Art, Activism, and Community with Beyoncé in Troubled Times*. Edited by Christina Baade and Kristin McGee. Wesleyan University Press.

Encomium: Jacqueline Cogdell Djedje (SEM Awards Honorary Memberships for 2020). *SEM Newsletter Volume 55:1. Winter*.  
[https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.ethnomusicology.org/resource/resmgr/newsletters/semnl\\_55-1.pdf](https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.ethnomusicology.org/resource/resmgr/newsletters/semnl_55-1.pdf)

- 2019 “Mountain Highs, Valley Lows: Institutional Archiving of Gospel Music in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” in *Ethnomusicological Repatriation: Open Dialogues about Sonic Heritage*. Edited by Frank Gunderson and Bret Woods. Oxford University Press.

“She Gave You *Lemonade*, Stop Trying to Say It's Tang: Calling Out How Race-Gender Bias Obscures Black Women's Achievements in Pop Music” in *The Lemonade Reader: Beyoncé, Black Feminism and Spirituality*. Edited by Kinitra D. Brooks and Kameelah L. Martin. Routledge Press.

- 2018 “When We All Get Together: Musical Worship in Two African American Megachurches” in *Liturgy* 33:4, 43-51.

“Singing Down Walls of Race, Ethnicity and Tradition in an African American Megachurch” in *Liturgy* 33:3, 37-45.

- 2017 “Gospel Music” in *Oxford Bibliographies in African American Studies Online* (Oxford, England: Oxford University Press). <https://tinyurl.com/oxford-bibliographies-Gospel>
- 2015 “This is Not the Warm Up Act!: Praise and Worship Expanding Liturgical Traditions, Theology, and Identities in an African American Megachurch” in *The Spirit of Praise: Music and Worship in the Pentecostal-Charismatic Tradition*. Edited by Amos Young and Monique Ingalls. Penn State University Press.
- 2014 “Back to the Heart of Worship: Praise and Worship Music in One African American Megachurch in Los Angeles” in *Readings in African American Church Music and Worship Volume 2*. Edited by James Abbingtion. GIA Publications, Inc.
- 2013 “African Methodist Episcopal Church,” in *The Grove Dictionary of American Music, Second Edition, Volume 1*, ed. Charles Hiroshi-Garrett Oxford University Press, 2013, pp. 47-48. {New Entry}
- “African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church,” in *The Grove Dictionary of American Music, Second Edition, Volume 1*, ed. Charles Hiroshi-Garrett. Oxford University Press, 2013, pp. 49-50. {New Entry}
- “Church of God in Christ, Incorporated,” in *The Grove Dictionary of American Music, Second Edition, Volume 2*, ed. Charles Hiroshi-Garrett. Oxford University Press, 2013, pp. 265-266. {New Entry}
- “Reverend Clay Evans,” in *The Grove Dictionary of American Music, Second Edition, Volume 3*, ed. Charles Hiroshi-Garrett. Oxford University Press, 2013, pp. 217-218. {New Entry}
- “The Sounds of Blackness,” in *The Grove Dictionary of American Music, Second Edition, Volume 7*, ed. Charles Hiroshi-Garrett. Oxford University Press, 2013, pp. 615. {New Entry}
- “Sister Ernestine B. Washington,” in *The Grove Dictionary of American Music, Second Edition, Volume 8*, ed. Charles Hiroshi-Garrett. Oxford University Press, 2013, pp. 422-423. {New Entry}
- 2013 “Old School Worship: Celebrating Traditional Music through Re-enactment.” Chapter in *Resiliency and Distinction: Beliefs, Endurance and Creativity in the Musical Arts of Continental and Diasporic Africa. A Festschrift in Honor of Jacqueline Cogdell DjeDje*. Kimasi L. Browne and Jean N. Kidula, editors. MRI Press, Richmond, CA.
- 2012 “Gospel Archiving in Los Angeles: A Case of Proactive Archiving and Empowering Collaborations” in *Ethnomusicology Forum* 21:2, 221-242.
- 2011 “Back to the Heart of Worship: Praise and Worship Music in One African American Megachurch in Los Angeles” in *Black Music Research Journal* 31:1 (Spring), 105-129.

- 2006 Review of *Higher Ground: Voices of Contemporary Gospel* (Chatsworth, California: New Day Multimedia, 2004, film documentary) in *Pacific Review of Ethnomusicology* 12.

### Conference Papers

- 2020 “‘Hallelujah, Anyhow!’: Thomas Whitfield and the Sanctified Legacy of Detroit Contemporary Gospel Music.” Society of American Music 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. July 16. [Virtual Conference](#) in lieu of cancellation of SAM Minneapolis in March 2020 due to COVID-19 global pandemic.
- 2019 “‘Hallelujah, Anyhow!’: Pioneering Gospel Choirs in Praise and Worship Music of the Late 20th Century.” Christian Congregational Music: Local and Global Perspectives Conference. August 1, Oxford, England.
- “Before There Were Praise Teams: Praise and Worship in Gospel Music of the Late 20<sup>th</sup> Century.” International Council for Traditional Music. July 11, Bangkok, Thailand.
- “Before There Were Praise Teams: Praise and Worship in Gospel Music of the Late 20<sup>th</sup> Century.” Society for American Music conference. March 22, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2018 “From Hashtag to Homework: Classroom Applications of the #LemonadeSyllabus in Interdisciplinary Music Courses.” 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium of the International Council for Traditional Music Study Group for African Musics. August 10, Accra, Ghana.
- 2017 “From Hashtag to Homework: Classroom Applications of the #LemonadeSyllabus in Interdisciplinary Music Courses.” Society for American Music conference. March 23, Montreal, Canada.
- 2016 “Mountain Highs, Valley Lows: Institutional Archiving of Gospel Music in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Annual Conference for the Society for Ethnomusicology. November 10, Washington, D.C.
- “At the Cross(roads) with Beyoncé: Gospel Music, Spirituality and Convergence Culture in YouTube Cover Songs.” Annual Conference of the Southeast and Caribbean Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology. March 6, San Fernando, Trinidad and Tobago.
- 2015 “The Gospel of Beyoncé: Religious Remixes of the Ultra Secular in the Social Media Age.” Annual Conference of the Society for Ethnomusicology, December 3, Austin, Texas.
- “Baraka's Blues People At 50: Race, Rhythm, and Views in the Study of African American Music Culture Today.” Round table position paper. 100<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, September 24, Atlanta, Georgia.
- “This is not the warm up act!: Praise and Worship Expanding Traditions, Theology and Identities in an African American Megachurch.” Christian Congregational

Music: Local and Global Perspectives, August 5, Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford, United Kingdom.

“The Gospel of Beyoncé: Religious Remixes of the Ultra Secular in the Social Media Age.” 18<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Association for the Study of Popular Music Conference. June 30, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

“Race, Rhythm, and Religion: Chronicling Andraé Crouch’s Dual Role as a Contemporary Christian Music Pioneer and Gospel Music Trailblazer.” Annual Conference of the Society for American Music. March 5, Sacramento, California.

2014 “Baraka's Blues People At 50: Race, Rhythm, and Views in the Study of African American Music Culture Today.” Round table position paper. Annual Conference of the Society for Ethnomusicology, November 14, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

2013 “Pentecostalism and Its Others: Navigating Religious and Cultural Difference through Musical Performance.” Round table position paper. Annual Conference of the Society for Ethnomusicology, November 16, Indianapolis, Indiana.

“‘Old School Worship’: An African American Megachurch Celebrating the Past and Church Musical Traditions Through Re-enactment.” World conference for the International Council for Tradition Music. July 12, Shanghai, China.

2012 “Women of the L.A. 'Undergrind': Female Artists Creating Alternatives to Mainstream Hip-hop's Plastic Ceiling.” Joint national conference of the Society for Ethnomusicology, American Musicological Society, and Society for Music Theory, November 1, New Orleans, Louisiana.

“Women of the L.A. 'Undergrind': Female Artists Creating Alternatives to Mainstream Hip-hop's Plastic Ceiling.” Joint meeting of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music and Experience Music Project. March 24, New York, New York.

2011 “Gospel Archiving in Los Angeles: A Case of Proactive Archiving and Empowering Repatriation.” Music Librarian Association New York State/Ontario Chapter Meeting, October 14, Clinton, New York.

“Balancing Evolving Liturgies: Traditional and Contemporary Music in an African American Megachurch.” Christian Congregational Music: Local and Global Perspectives, September 2, Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford, United Kingdom.

“Out in the Field with UCLA Gospel Archiving in Los Angeles.” Annual Conference of the Association for Recorded Sound Collections, May 14, Los Angeles, California.

“Strike Up the Band but Don’t Forget the Balance: Traditional and Contemporary Music in One African American Megachurch in Los Angeles, California.” Annual Meeting of the Society for American Music, March 10, Cincinnati, Ohio.

## Johnson CV

- 2010 “Let's All Go Back to the Old Landmark: Musical Revival Through the Re-enactment in One African-American Megachurch in Los Angeles, California.” Annual Conference of the Society for Ethnomusicology, November 11, Los Angeles, California.
- 2010 “UCLA Methods: GALA Project” UCLA Alumni Symposium: 50 Years of Ethnomusicology, November 9, Los Angeles, California.
- 2006 “When We All Get Together: Praise and Worship Music as a Unifying Element in an African American Mega Church.” Annual Conference of the Society for Ethnomusicology, November 18, Honolulu, Hawaii.
- 2006 “Maintaining Traditions and Exhorting Change: Musical Expression in Black Mega Churches of Los Angeles, California.” Joint Meeting of the Society for American Music and the Center for Black Music Research, March 17, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2005 “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing: Music Making in Predominantly Black Mega Churches in Los Angeles, California.” Annual Conference of the Society for Ethnomusicology, November 17, Atlanta, Georgia.
- “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing: Music Ministries in Los Angeles Black Mega Churches.” National Council for Black Studies Conference, March 25, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2004 “Themes in African Church Music Scholarship during the 1950s-1960s.” Annual Conference of the Society for Ethnomusicology, November 6, Tucson, Arizona.
- “Themes in African Church Music Scholarship during the 1950s-1960s.” Southern California Chapter Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, February 21, Los Angeles, California.
- “Young Soul Apostles: Stretching the Boundaries of R&B and the Music Industry.” Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Popular Music conference, January 31, Santa Barbara, California.
- 2003 “Neo-soul: Broadening the Horizons of R&B and the Music Industry in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” UCLA Ethnomusicology Graduate Student Organization Music Industry Conference, May 31, Los Angeles, California.

## Invited Lectures and Presentations

- 2021 “Oh Taste and See: Unsung Forerunners of Praise and Worship in Black Gospel Music.” ABLAZE Conference 2021. Workshop speaker. BIOLA University. La Mirada, California. October 8.
- “Where is Freedom? It's in the Notes!: Protest Themes in Gospel Music During the Civil Right Movement.” Webinar guest speaker. Greenwood Baptist Church. Brooklyn, New York. September 22.

“Before There Were Praise Teams: Pioneering Gospel Choirs in Praise and Worship Music of the Late 20th Century.” Plenary workshop clinician. The Art of Worship: Proclamation, Practice, and Protest by Black Theology and Leadership Institute at Princeton Theological Seminary. July 15.

“We’ve Come this Far by Faith: Intro to Black Sacred Music” Guest speaker series. Guest speaker in LM 4190. Professor Leo Davis. Chicago Theological Seminary. April 21. See excerpted talk at: [CTS Facebook Live](#).

Reflections on “Back to the Heart of Worship: Praise and Worship Music in One African American Megachurch in Los Angeles” in *Black Music Research Journal* 31:1 (2011). Guest speaker in MUS 3900 “Church Music.” Professor Joshua Busman. UNC, Pembroke. April 8.

“A Piece of the Action: Delicious Memories & Questions for Archiving Black Music in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Invited **plenary keynote** speaker. 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Society for Ethnomusicology Southern California and Hawai’i Chapter Conference. March 14.  
[https://archive.org/details/calauem\\_200201\\_omvf0000144\\_ac](https://archive.org/details/calauem_200201_omvf0000144_ac)

“Awakening of the Ancestors Through Music: Bringing the Lowcountry to the Midlands.” [Live streaming event](#). International African American Museum and Brookland Baptist Church. February 19.

“Singing Our Story: Resistance, Protest, & Affirmation in Black Music.” [Virtual guest talk](#). Long Branch Free Public Library (New Jersey). February 11.

Reflections on “Mountain Highs, Valley Lows: Institutional Archiving of Gospel Music in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” in *Ethnomusicological Repatriation: Open Dialogues about Sonic Heritage* (Oxford University Press). Guest speaker in MUSIC 445 “Ethnomusicology, Archives and Decolonization.” Professor John Vallier. University of Washington, Seattle. February 8.

Topic: “She Gave You *Lemonade*, Stop Trying to Say It's Tang: Calling Out How Race-Gender Bias Obscures Black Women’s Achievements in Pop Music” chapter in *The Lemonade Reader: Beyonce, Black Feminism and Spirituality* (Routledge Press). Guest speaker in CMSTMM 715 “Cultural Memory, The Media, and ‘US.’” Professor Christina Baade. MacMasters University (Canada). February 1.

2020 “Music Consulting and the Black Is Beautiful Columbia Museum of Art Exhibit.” Guest speaker in MUSIC 3021 “Music of the African Diaspora.” Professor Lauren Eldridge Stewart. Washington University in St. Louis. October 27.

“Black Music: Resistance, Protest, and Affirmation In These Dissenting Times and Beyond.” Invited speaker for Presidential Session. 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History. Accompanying playlist <https://tinyurl.com/ASALH2020-Presidential> and promotional video <https://youtu.be/ok6GJ6Ddqxo> . September 19.

“Black Feminist Scholars Dive Deeper into Beyoncé’s *Lemonade*.” Invited panelist. Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture. College of Charleston. February 26.

“At the Digital Cross(roads) with Beyoncé: Gospel Covers that Remix the Risqué into the Religious.” Invited speaker. Student League for Black Culture Black History Month Event. Furman University. February 12.

2019 “Break Every Chain: Unsung Praise and Worship Pioneers in Gospel Music of the 1980s and 1990s.” Invited speaker. The Luise E. Peake Music & Culture Colloquium Series. University of South Carolina School of Music. December 6.

“Where is Freedom? It’s in the Notes: Protest Themes in Gospel Music During the Civil Rights Movement.” Invited speaker. *Consuela Francis Emerging Scholars Lecture Series* ‘Religion and Resistance: Music as Agency.’ Hosted by the African American Studies Program and Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World (CLAW) Program at the College of Charleston. Charleston, South Carolina. September 25.

“Old School Worship: Liturgical Re-enactment as a Worship Arts Tool for Affirming Faith, Community, and Identities in an Urban Megachurch.” Invited presenter. *Religion and Public Life in Africa and the Americas Symposium*. Harvard University. April 18.

“The Multiple of African American Worship Practices: Insights for the Global Church.” Invited panelist. 2019 Calvin Symposium on Worship at the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship at Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan. January 26.

[Plenary session](#): “The Many Streams of African American Congregational Song.” Invited panelist. 2019 Calvin Symposium on Worship at the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship at Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan. January 25 and 26.

Night Vesper Service: Grounded in God: A Faithful-filled Testimony of the African American Church in Song. Response Prayer. 2019 Calvin Symposium on Worship at the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship at Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan. January 25.

“Conversation on The Many Streams of African American Song with the editorial team of *One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism*.” Invited panelist. 2019 Calvin Symposium on Worship at the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship at Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan. January 25.

“How Music Deepens Participation in the Lord’s Supper and Baptisms: Insights from Global Cultures.” Invite presenter. 2019 Calvin Symposium on Worship at the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship at Calvin College. Grand Rapids, Michigan. January 24.

“Documenting the Sound of Light: Gospel Archiving at UCLA.” Invited presenter. Documenting the Sounds of Africa: Archiving, Instruments, and Researching the Local—

- Celebrating the Re-Opening of the UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive & Honoring Jacqueline Cogdell DjeDje. Los Angeles, California. January 11.
- 2018 “Enduring Memories of Africa: Music, Song, and Dance of the Gullah Geechee People.” Invited presenter. 2018 College of Arts and Science Alumni and Friends Weekend at the Coast at the Baruch Marine Field Laboratory. Georgetown, South Carolina. June 2.
- “Meeting Jesus at Beyoncé’s Partition: Gospel Covers and Convergence Culture in the Social Media Age.” Class colloquium. Middle Tennessee State University. March 29.
- “Mountain Highs, Valley Lows: Institutional Archiving of Gospel Music in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Center for Popular Music. Middle Tennessee State University. March 29.
- “Enduring Memories of Africa: Music, Song, and Dance of the Gullah Geechee People.” Invited lecture. Brookgreen Gardens. Pawleys Island, South Carolina. February 17.
- 2017 “At the Cross(roads) with Beyoncé: Gospel Music, Spirituality and Convergence Culture in YouTube Cover Songs.” Invited keynote speaker. *2017 Claflin University Pop Symposium*. Claflin University. Orangeburg, South Carolina. April 21.
- “Who’s Zoomin’ Who?: Worship Wars in the Post-Soul Black Church.” Invited panelist. *The Afterlives of “Amazing Grace”: Religion and the Black Making in the Post-Soul Age Symposium*. Yale Institute for Sacred Music, Yale University. New Haven, Connecticut. April 10-11.
- 2016 “Women of the L.A. ‘Undergrind’: Female Artists Creating Alternatives to Mainstream Hip Hop’s Plastic Ceiling.” Invited speaker for *Oh Snap! West Coast Hip Hop Photography* exhibit at the California African American Museum. Los Angeles, CA. July 23.
- “Hip-Politics: Hip-Hop’s Impact on American Politics & Policy” by Anton Gunn. Invited panelist for community presentation and talk. Tapps Arts Center. Columbia, SC. April 5. <http://www.spreaker.com/user/houseofharley/hip-politics>
- 2015 “Research and Careers in Ethnomusicology” talk for music seminar course at Allen University, Columbia, SC. October 28.
- Fresh Dressed*. Film screening panelist with director Sacha Jenkins. Blaktastik Festival (Black Films, Art, and Music festival) at the Nickelodeon Theatre. July 26.
- “Playing Outside the ‘Blurred Lines’: The Long Game of Musical Inspiration, Borrowing and Infringement” A community listening party and discussion hosted by the Friends of African American Art & Culture and the Columbia Museum of Art. Columbia, SC. June 16.
- “Building Institutional & Community Collaborations: Gospel Archiving in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Invited talk for American Folklife Center *Documenting Culture in the Twenty-First Century* symposium. Library of Congress, Washington, DC. June 4.

- “Research and Careers in Ethnomusicology” talk for music seminar course at Benedict College, Columbia, SC. April 1.
- “Embodied Memories of Africa: Music, Song, and Dance of the Gullah-Geechee People of the United States.” Invited Speaker of Federal Bureau of Investigation Columbia Division’s Black History Month Celebration and Luncheon “A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture” at Brookland Baptist Church Conference Center. West Columbia, SC. February 12.
- “Embodied Memories of Africa: Music, Song, and Dance of the Gullah-Geechee People of the United States.” Invited Speaker for Humanities Council SC Series: *Out of the Rice Fields: Vestiges of Gullah Culture in Modern Society*. Georgetown County Library. Georgetown, SC. February 8.
- 2014 “Old School Worship: Liturgical Re-Enactment as a Worship Arts Tool for Affirming Faith, Community and Identity in an Urban Megachurch.” Research lecture. 2014 Pruitt Symposium: Marching to Zion-Celebrating & Preserving Black Sacred Music. Baylor University. Waco, Texas. October 24.
- A Discussion of *Readings in African American Church Music and Worship, Volume II* by Drs. James Abbingtion, Robert Darden, Birgitta Johnson, and Tammy Kernodle. Panelist. 2014 Pruitt Symposium: Marching to Zion-Celebrating & Preserving Black Sacred Music. Baylor University. Waco, Texas. October 23.
- 2013 “Onward Christian Soldiers: Celebrating Black Sacred Music.” Panelist at 2013 Pruitt Symposium *Marching to Zion: Celebrating and Preserving Black Sacred Music*. Baylor University, November 8, Waco, Texas.
- 2009 “Gospel Music Performance by Dr. Margaret Pleasant Douroux.” Workshop and video presentation. Dialogue in Music Project: Africa Meets North America 3<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium and Festival, UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, Department of Ethnomusicology, October 22, Los Angeles, California.
- “The Forge and the Flame: The Spirituals Tradition & Gospel Music.” Lecture. 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual How Sweet the Sound Concert: Celebrating Black Music through Spirituals and Sounds of Strength, Scripps College, April 17, Claremont, California.
- 2008 “African American Sacred Music: Crossroads of Cultural Expression and Faith.” Mountain West Songfest and Symposium, Utah State University, June 28, Logan, Utah.
- 2008 “African and African American Musical Connections.” Lecture Demonstration. Mountain West Songfest and Symposium, Utah State University, June 27, Logan, Utah. (Moderator and panelist)
- 2005 Gospel Music Resources Panel: Heritage Music Foundation Holdings in the GALA Collection of the UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive. Heritage Music Foundation National Conference and Exposition, October 21, Los Angeles, California.

## Scholarship in Digital Mediums<sup>1</sup>

2021 “Mahogany Music Festival” on *Drumbeat* hosted by Bhakti Larry Hough for the South Carolina African American Heritage Commission. Interview guest. View episode at <https://tinyurl.com/DrumbeatSept5BJJ> Aired September 5.

“African American Music Appreciation Month” on *Drumbeat* hosted by Bhakti Larry Hough for the South Carolina African American Heritage Commission. Interview guest. View episode at <https://tinyurl.com/DrumbeatJun27BJJ> Aired June 27.

*Peace Talks Radio: Musicians/Activists for Social Change-Marvin Gaye’s What’s Going On.* Hosted by Paul Ingles for NPR. Interview guest. Hear episode at <http://www.goodradioshows.org/peaceTalksL217.htm> Aired June 25.

“Taking Off the White Mask: It’s Time to Recognise the Black Roots of Western Popular Music.” By Julie Jacob. *The Lovepost*. Interviewed/article consultant. <https://www.theLovepost.global/decolonise-your-mind/articles/taking-white-mask-it’s-time-recognise-black-roots-western-popular> Published February 25.

2020 “Choral Diversity-Equity in Sound and Practice” Webinar hosted by M. Roger Holland, II (The Spirituals Project), the University of Denver Lamont School of Music and GIA Publications, Inc. See event video at <https://www.facebook.com/GIAMUSIC/videos/327032911671397/> August 3, 2020.

“Black is Beautiful: The Photography of Kwame Brathwaite.” Curated Spotify playlist and exhibit video interview. Columbia Museum of Art. See interview at <https://youtu.be/IuHjBHjffDo> See exhibit at <https://www.columbiamuseum.org/view/black-beautiful-photography-kwame-brathwaite> Access playlist at <https://tinyurl.com/CMABlackIsBeautiful2020> June-August, 2020.

“A Little Bit Louder Now: WFUV’s Series Honoring Juneteenth.” Interview guest. Two-hour news and music feature. WFUV 90.7 FM. Hear interview at 34:45 mark at <https://wfuv.org/content/little-bit-louder-now> Posted and Aired June 19, 2020.

“Lift Every Voice: Behind the ‘Black National Anthem’.” Interview. *Interfaith Voices Radio*. Audio interview at [https://interfaithradio.org/Story\\_Details/Lift\\_Every\\_Voice\\_Behind\\_the\\_Black\\_National\\_Anthem](https://interfaithradio.org/Story_Details/Lift_Every_Voice_Behind_the_Black_National_Anthem) See accompanying article at <https://tinyurl.com/ReligionUnpluggedLEVAS2020> Posted and Aired June 19, 2020.

2019 “Can Kanye West Save Gospel Choirs?” Magazine interview. *Rolling Stone*. Elias Leight. October 25, 2019. <https://www.rollingstone.com/music/music-features/can-kanye-west-save-gospel-choirs-893633/>

“The Beat Goes On.” Magazine interview. *Columbia Metropolitan Magazine*. Lynne Nickles (Author) and Jeff Amberg (Photography). <https://columbiametro.com/article/the-beat-goes-on/> March 2019.

---

<sup>1</sup> Electronic Publications, Podcasts, Documentaries, and Weblog Interviews

- “Birgitta Johnson on Praise and Worship Music.” Co-authored Interview w/ Joan Huyser-Honig. *Calvin Institute of Christian Worship—for the study and renewal of worship*. See at <https://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/birgitta-johnson-on-praise-and-worship-music> Posted January 7, 2019.
- “Birgitta Johnson on New African American Ecumenical Hymnal.” Co-authored Interview w/ Joan Huyser-Honig. *Calvin Institute of Christian Worship—for the study and renewal of worship*. See at <https://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/birgitta-johnson-on-new-african-american-ecumenical-hymnal/> Posted January 7, 2019.
- 2018 “The Legacy of Aretha Franklin.” Live radio interview. *Top of the Mind with Julie Rose*. BYU Radio and Sirius XM 143. See minute 84:48 at <https://tinyurl.com/TheLegacyOfArethaFranklin> Aired August 28.
- “The Gospel According to Aretha Franklin.” Audiocast. *Vox* with Estelle Caswell. <https://www.vox.com/videos/2018/8/20/17759878/gospel-aretha-franklin> Aired August 20.
- “University of South Carolina Professor: Aretha Franklin’s Legacy Goes Beyond Music.” *South Carolina Radio Network* with Bill Dubensky. <https://tinyurl.com/SCRadioArethaFranklinLegacy> Aired August 20.
- “How ‘The Battle Hymn of the Republic’ Became an Anthem For Every Cause.” Broadcast. *American Anthem Series*. National Public Radio (NPR). <https://www.npr.org/2018/07/04/625351953/one-song-glory> Aired July 4.
- “Episode 21: Musical Skill and the Call to Ministry in African American Churches, with Birgitta Johnson.” Podcast. *The Music and the Church Podcast with Sarah Bereza and Crawford Wiley*. See <http://musicandthechurch.com/21> Aired May 17.
- Carolina Stories: Charlie’s Place*. **Emmy Award winning documentary**. Betsy Newman, Executive Producer. South Carolina ETV. See film at [SC ETV](http://scetv.com). Aired April 26.
- “Shape Note Singing May Be Endangered Tradition in South Carolina” Radio feature by Tut Underwood for *South Carolina Focus*. South Carolina Public Radio. January 29. <http://southcarolinapublicradio.org/post/shape-note-singing-may-be-endangered-tradition-south-carolina-0>
- 2016 “General Damages...Assessing the Scope of a Hip-hop Tragedy.” *Birgitta’s Music Box Review* at <http://birgittamusicboxreview.blogspot.com/2016/05/general-damages-assessing-scope-of-hip.html> May 7, 2016.
- 2015 “Black Music Shines Bright at IASPM Biennial in Brazil” for *Dr. Guy Presents Musiqology: Where Music’s Past & Present Collide* blog and curriculum interface of Dr. Guthrie Ramsey (University of Pennsylvania). Contributing writer. <http://musiqology.com/blog/2015/07/24/black-music-shines-bright-at-iaspm-biennial-in-brazil/> July 24.

Featured interview with Madeleine Amberger for Austrian Public Radio program “Ö1 Today” about gospel music and the Civil Rights Movement with Dr. Robert Darden, Bob Marovich, and Ramona Curtis. ORF Radio at [http://oe1.orf.at/konsole?show=ondemand&track\\_id=408947&load\\_day=/programm/konsole/tag/20150711](http://oe1.orf.at/konsole?show=ondemand&track_id=408947&load_day=/programm/konsole/tag/20150711) 11 minutes, starting at 1:19:00. July 11.

“How the Forgotten Music of the Civil Rights Movement was Hiding in Plain Sight” podcast for the *Arts, Culture & Media* segment on Public Radio International online. <http://www.pri.org/stories/2015-04-14/how-forgotten-music-civil-rights-movement-was-hiding-plain-sight> April 14.

“Rediscovering the Hidden Music of the Civil Rights Movement” for Studio 360 Podcast. <http://www.studio360.org/story/rediscovering-the-hidden-music-of-the-civil-rights-movement/> April 2.

“The Best of Times at 2015 Society of American Music Conference” for *Dr. Guy Presents Musiqology: Where Music’s Past & Present Collide* blog and curriculum interface of Dr. Guthrie Ramsey (University of Pennsylvania). Contributing writer. <http://musiqology.com/blog/2015/03/23/the-best-of-times-at-2015-society-of-american-music-conference/> March 23.

“Civil Rights on the B-Side” (Episode 3) for *Of Thee We Sing: Music and the Civil Rights Movement*. Podcast for Kennedy Center ArtsEdge Program. <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/thee-we-sing-civil-rights/id964546643?i=335880221&mt=2> February 25.

“We Should Take Azealia Banks Seriously” for *Dr. Guy Presents Musiqology: Where Music’s Past & Present Collide* blog and curriculum interface of Guthrie Ramsey (University of Pennsylvania). Contributing writer. <http://musiqology.com/blog/2015/01/13/we-should-take-azealia-banks-seriously/> January 13.

2014 “Outkasted Conversations #24: Birgitta Johnson.” Video interview for an episode of the Youtube.com series *Outkasted Conversations* hosted by Dr. Regina Bradley (Armstrong State University) for Red Clay Scholar TV. (23:06 minutes) At <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CuN0JSwsf8o> . June 29.

“Public Ethnomusicology with Troop 1256 Columbia.” Blog post for *Birgitta’s Music Box Review* at <http://birgittamusicboxreview.blogspot.com/2014/04/public-ethnomusicology-with-troop-1256.html> April 17.

“Boogie Woogie Burpees with Frank ‘Sugar Chile’ Robinson” for *Birgitta’s Music Box Review* at <http://birgittamusicboxreview.blogspot.com/2014/02/boogie-woogie-burpees-with-frank-sugar.html> February 9.

“15 Burpees & the Father of Psychedelic Soul: Charles Stepney” for *Birgitta’s Music Box Review* at <http://birgittamusicboxreview.blogspot.com/2014/02/15-burpees-father-of-orchestral.html> February 7.

“My Burpees Got the Blues: Mamie Smith” for *Birgitta’s Music Box Review* at <http://birgittamusicboxreview.blogspot.com/2014/02/my-burpees-got-blues-mamie-smith.html> February 3.

2013 “Summer Sessions: Birgitta Johnson and Musiqology” for *Dr. Guy Presents Musiqology: Where Music’s Past & Present Collide* blog and curriculum interface of Gutherie Ramsey (University of Pennsylvania). Contributing writer. <http://musiqology.com/blog/summer-sessions-birgitta-johnson-and-musiqology/> . August 9.

## Teaching Experience

### Associate Professor, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

2021--Music 544/AFAM 398 Black Sacred Music: Local and Global Perspectives  
--African American Studies 202.01, Introduction to African American Studies: Art and Cultural Foundations

2020F --Music 544/AFAM 398 Black Sacred Music: Local and Global Perspectives  
--African American Studies 202.01, Introduction to African American Studies: Art and Cultural Foundations

2019-20--Music 544/AFAM 398, Music of Africa  
--AFAM 380/MUSC 310, Cultural History of Hip-hop Music  
--African American Studies 202.01, Introduction to African American Studies: Art and Cultural Foundations  
--Music 744, Introduction to Ethnomusicology: Theory, History, Methods, and Education

2018-19--Music 555, World Music and Cultures  
--African American Studies 202.01, Introduction to African American Studies: Art and Cultural Foundations  
--Music 544, Blues Roots and Routes in American Culture

### Assistant Professor, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

2017-18 --Music 744, Introduction to Ethnomusicology: Theory, History, Methods, and Education  
--AFAM 398.01 Lemonade: Black Women’s Agency and Community Building Through Music and Performance”  
--AFAM 380/MUSC 310, Cultural History of Hip-hop Music

2016F --Music 555, World Music and Cultures  
--AFAM 202.02, Lemonade: A Survey of Black Women’s Agency and Community Building Through Music and Performance”

2015-16 --Music 744, World Music and Ethnomusicology for Graduate Students  
--African American Studies 202.01, Introduction to African American Studies: Art and Cultural Foundations  
--Music 544, Blues Roots and Routes in American Culture  
--African American Studies 380/Music 310, Cultural History of Hip-hop Music

2014-15 --Music 744, World Music and Ethnomusicology for Graduate Students  
--African American Studies 202.01, Introduction to African American Studies: Art and Cultural Foundations  
--Music 544, Music of Africa  
--African American Studies 398.001, Cultural History of Rap

2013-14--Music 555, World Music  
--African American Studies 398.001, African American Sacred Music Survey: From Spirituals to Stomp!  
--Music 544, Blues Roots and Routes in American Culture  
--African American Studies 398/Honors College 467 H10, Music of Africa

2012-13 --African American Studies 398H, Cultural History of Rap  
--Music 555, World Music

**Post-doctoral Fellow, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY**

2011-12--History of Music 300.04, Cultural History of Rap  
--History of Music 400.01, African American Sacred Music  
--History of Music 300.03, Blues and American Society  
--History of Music 300.01, Music of Africa

2010-11--History of Music 300.02, Cultural History of Rap  
--History of Music 300.01, Blues and American Society

**2009 Lecturer in Ethnomusicology, UCLA**

--Ethnomusicology 35, “Blues, Society, and American Culture” (Freshman/Transfer Students of the Academic Advancement Program)  
--Ethnomusicology M119/Afro-Am M107, “The Cultural History of Rap Music”

**2009 Lecturer in Music, Scripps College, Claremont, CA**

--Music 66, “Music Cultures of the World”  
--Music 127, “Cultural History of Rap”

**2008 Lecturer in Black Studies, Pitzer College, Claremont, CA**

--Black Studies 195, “From Spirituals to ‘Stomp!’: Black Sacred Musical Heritage from 19th Century to the Present”

**2008 Teaching Fellow in Ethnomusicology, UCLA**

--Ethnomusicology 35, “Blues, Society, and American Culture” (Freshman/Transfer Students of the Academic Advancement Program)  
--Ethnomusicology 35, “Blues, Society, and American Culture”

**2008 Lecturer in Music, Pomona College, Claremont, CA**

--Music 56, “Words and Music: Black Song”

**2007 Teaching Fellow in Ethnomusicology, UCLA**

--Ethnomusicology M119/Afro-Am M107, “The Cultural History of Rap Music”

**2007 Teaching/Ensemble Assistant in Ethnomusicology, UCLA**

--African American Music Ensemble, World Music Summer Institute

**2005-06 Lecturer in Ethnomusicology, UCLA (summer sessions)**

--Ethnomusicology M119/Afro-Am M107, "Cultural History of Rap"

**2004-05 Reader in Anthropology, UCLA**

--Anthropology M164/Afro-Am M164, "The Afro-American Experience in the United States" (twice, for Professor Maureen Mahon)

**2002 Teaching Assistant Coordinator in Ethnomusicology, UCLA**

--Ethnomusicology 495A, "Teaching Apprentice Practicum"  
(training and supervising 6 new teaching assistants)

**2001-03 Teaching Associate/Assistant in Ethnomusicology, UCLA**

--Ethnomusicology M108A, "Music of Latin America A: Mexico, Central America, and Caribbean" (twice, for Professor Fermín Herrera)

--Ethnomusicology 120B, "Development of Jazz: Bebop-Present"  
(twice, for Professor Gerald Wilson)

--Ethnomusicology 131, "Development of Latin Jazz" (once, for Professor Steve Loza)

--Ethnomusicology M119/Afro-Am M017, "The Cultural History of Rap" (once, for Professor Cheryl Keyes)

**2001-03 Ensemble Assistant/Reader in Ethnomusicology, UCLA**

--Ethnomusicology 91Z/191Z, "Afro-Cuban Ensemble" (six times, for Adjunct Instructor Francisco Aguabella)

**Consulting, Programming, and Service**

2022-2023 *More than Rhythm: A Black Music Series Hosted by Dr. Birgitta Johnson.* Columbia Museum of Art live music performance [series](#) of events. Guests include [Mimi Jones](#) (jazz bassist-vocalist), [Dr. Tony McNeill](#) & the Heritage Celebration Choir, and Benny [Starr](#) (hip-hop & [filmmaker](#)). The series includes a CMA produced [podcast](#) by Drew Barron and Birgitta Johnson.

2021 *Discussion with Composer Michael Abels.* Screening of *Us* and Q&A at Nickelodeon Theater hosted by Dr. Birgitta Johnson. Southern Exposure [residency](#) for *At War with Ourselves-400 Years of You* with Nikky Finney, Kronos Quartet, and Michael Abels. November 4.

Program committee & partnership liaison. Mahogany Music Festival at University of South Carolina. Partnership & [residency](#) events with the School of Music, Auntie Karen Foundation, and Colour of Music Festival. Guest Artists: Vanessa Williams, Colour of Music Orchestra, Lori C. Hicks (soprano), Colour of Music Octet. September 9-11.

2018 Panel Organizer for “Freedom by the Glass: Explorations of Genius, Religion, and Engaged Scholarship in Beyoncé’s *Lemonade*” at 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium of the International Council for Traditional Music Study Group for African Musics. August 10, Accra, Ghana.

*One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism* African American Ecumenical Hymnal Publication Advisory Committee. GIA Publications, Chicago, Illinois.

“The Counterfeit Queen of Soul.” By Jeff Maysh for *Smithsonian Magazine*. (July) <https://tinyurl.com/SmithsonianMagCounterfeitQueen>

Christian Congregational Music: Local and Global Perspectives, Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford, United Kingdom. 2019 Conference Planning Committee.

Document Chair. “Translucent Voices: Creating Sound Pedagogy and Safe Spaces for Transgender Singers in the Choral Rehearsal.” Gerald Gurss, Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting. University of South Carolina. May.

2017 Panel Organizer for “Freedom by the Glass: Explorations of Genius, Religion, and Engaged Scholarship in Beyoncé’s *Lemonade*” at annual meeting for the Society of American Music. March 23, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

2016 Panel Organizer for “Who Will Be a Witness?: Archiving Black Music and Culture in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” at Annual meeting for the Society for Ethnomusicology. November, 10, Washington, D.C.

Panel Chair for “American Vernacular Musics and Religion” at Annual conference of the Southeast and Caribbean Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology. San Fernando, Trinidad and Tobago. March 6.

Publication Advisory Committee. GIA Publications, Chicago, Illinois. African American Ecumenical Hymnal Project. Orlando, Florida. January 3-6.

2015 Panel Chair for “Fiery Horizons in Black Music Cultures: Contemporary Blurrings of the Sacred and Secular in Sound and Sense” at Annual conference of the Society for Ethnomusicology. Austin, Texas. December 3.

Co-producer and concert program notes. “Soulful Strings: Indian Classical Music featuring Anupama Bhagwat.” Co-hosted by USC Walker Institute for International Studies, Society for Indian Performing Arts, and School of Music’s Music & Culture Colloquium Series. USC Music Building, Recital Hall. September 5.

Panel Chair for “Ecumenism and Exclusion.” Christian Congregational Music: Local and Global Perspectives. Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford, United Kingdom. August 4.

Round Table Organizer and Discussant for “Fiery Horizons in Black Music Cultures: Contemporary Blurrings of the Sacred and Secular in Sound and Sense.” 18<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Association for the Study of Popular Music Conference. Sao Paulo, Brazil. June 30.

Document Chair. “Expanding the American Canon: A Conductor’s Compendium of Black American Orchestral Composers.” Nseobong E. Ekpo, Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting. University of South Carolina. June.

Publication Advisory Committee. GIA Publications, Chicago, Illinois. African American Ecumenical Hymnal Project. May 13-15.

Abstract blind-reviewer for Society for Ethnomusicology-Southeast and Caribbean Chapter regional conference. University of Tennessee, Knoxville. March 13-14.

2014 Round Table Organizer and Discussant for “Baraka's Blues People At 50: Race, Rhythm, and Views in the Study of African American Music Culture Today.” Annual Conference of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. November 14.

Co-coordinator of the Gertrude Robinson Networking Group for Black Scholars in the Society for Ethnomusicology. Inaugural meeting. November 15.

2013 Baylor University Library’s Black Gospel Music Restoration Project planning session for 2014 Symposium Series. Waco, Texas. November 9.

Producer and Emcee. INFLAME Concert. Indian classical music and Spanish flamenco fusion group. University of South Carolina Recital Hall. October 30.

Panel Chair for “Regenerative Power of Music.” World conference of the International Council for Tradition Music. Shanghai, China. July 13.

Blind Reviewer. Book manuscript proposal for the executive editor of Music & Cinema Studies at the University of California Press. May 24.

Moderator and Discussant for panel “Lift Every Voice and Sing: Music as Protest and Ethnic Identity.” Media & Civil Rights History Symposium: University of South Carolina School of Journalism & Mass Communications. March 22.

Blind Reviewer. Article submitted to the *Yearbook of Traditional Music* (Refereed journal published by the International Council of Traditional Music). March 7.

2012 Co-facilitator, created discussion slide show, and Youtube/Spotify music playlist compilation. Campus-Community book talk *Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes and Black Women in America*. University of South Carolina. November 14.

Panel Chair for “Where the Other Black Girls Rock, Thrash, and Grind!: Black Women Challenging Limitations of Performance and Fandom in Popular Music.”

Joint national conferences of the Society for Ethnomusicology, American Musicological Society, and Society for Music Theory, New Orleans. November 1.

Co-hosted/Introduced Professor Zen HAI of the National Academy of Chinese Theatre Arts for his presentation “Music of the Traditional Chinese Opera and its Forms” for USC Confucius Institute. MUSC 555 World Music students attended related events/performance by NACTA. Gambrell Hall 151. October 5.

Consultant and acquisitions. Part of consulting team invited to the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship in Grand Rapids, Michigan for the *African American Christian Music and Worship Vol. 2* book edited by James Abbingtion (GIA press). September 24-25. Acquired eight articles for volume for four sections. Led compilation of “praise and worship” and “women and gender” sections of new volume, named “hymnody” section.

Panel Chair for “Where the Other Black Girls Rock, Thrash, and Grind!: Black Women Challenging Limitations of Performance and Fandom in Popular Music.” Joint meeting of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music and Experience Music Project. March 24, New York.

Outside Expert. Senior Exhibition for Ametria Harrison of Heathwood Hall Preparatory School of Columbia, South Carolina. (Academic year 2012-2013)

2011 Photography and videography. HOM 195.03 Performance Live Lecture Demonstrations: Caution Shonai & Erika Azim Mbira Music, September 13 and Biboti Ouikahilo & Wacheva (West African drumming and dance), September 20. Syracuse University.

Photography and videography. Christian Congregational Music: Local and Global Perspectives, September 1-3, Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford, United Kingdom.

Panel Chair for “Performing Identities II.” Christian Congregational Music: Local and Global Perspectives, September 3, Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford, United Kingdom.

Short documentary interview. *Hip-hop’s Portrayal of Women*. H. Whitt Bell, Derek Montroy, et al., directors. Samuel Irving Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University. See <http://vimeo.com/17683922>

2009 Instructor. Champions in Training Institute course “Beyond the Beat: The Gift of African American Sacred Song.” 12-week class curriculum created to provide a free sacred music appreciation class to the members of the Faithful Central Bible Church of Inglewood, California.

Independent Study Advisor for Janell Morrow, Applied Women’s Studies Program doctoral candidate. Bibliographic review of literature on hip-hop music and culture of South America and the Caribbean and lecture on government sponsored hip-hop

in Venezuela and Cuba in Music 127 Cultural History of Rap at Scripps College. Conducted with permission of the Claremont Graduate University. Spring.

Consultant for audio lecture “The Ultimate Presentation, Performance, and Profit Super Seminar for Magician: Professor Johnson’s Music Interview” by Kenrick “ICE” McDonald, master magician and lecturer.

2008 Panelist for “The Role of Song and Chant in Ritual.” Mountain West Songfest and Symposium, Utah State University, June 28, Logan.

Co-advisor on Honors Thesis of Gabriela Jimenez. “Normalizing Hip-hop Through the Black Masculine Body in the 1980s: The Art of Jean-Michel Basquiat as Signs O’ the Times.” Department of Art History, UCLA. April 16.

2006 Panel Chair for “Flippin’ the Scripture: New Directions in Church Music from the African Diaspora.” Annual Conference of the Society for Ethnomusicology, November 18, Honolulu.

Consultant for article “A Place to Sing About” in *Los Angeles Times* by Larry Gordon. Published October 16.

2006 Planning committee and photography for spring quarter events, UCLA Department of Ethnomusicology’s Year of African American Music: “Rap Sessions: A Community Dialogue on Race and Hip-Hop,” April 20; and film screening and round table with director James Spooner of *Afro Punk*, April 28.

2005 Consultant for article “The Gospel According to Los Angeles” in *UCLA Magazine* by Anne Burke and Ann Johansson. Published April 1, 2006.

2003 Videographer for Danongan Kalanduyan Kulintang Music and Dance lecture/demonstration for AFAMILA (Archiving Filipino American Music in Los Angeles) project, UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive, August 5.

Workshop moderator and organizer for panel on “Law and Order: Copyright Issues in Music Scholarship” featuring UCLA Department of Ethnomusicology and Systematic Musicology Professors Roger Kendall, Cheryl Keyes, and Helen Rees. UCLA Ethnomusicology Graduate Student Organization Music Industry Conference, May 31, Los Angeles.

Planning Committee Member, Third Annual Ethnomusicology Graduate Student Organization Conference “The Music Industry,” May 31, Los Angeles.

### **Fieldwork Research and Travel**

2014 Field recordings, photographs, two classes, and observations at the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Gospel Music Workshop of America Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. July 27-August 1.

Archival research on gospel music artist and early African American sacred music. Center for Black Music Research. Columbia University. Chicago, Illinois. July 1-3.

Field recordings, photographs, and observations at the Gospel Heritage Foundation's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Praise and Worship National Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. February 19-22.

- 2013—Pres. Fieldwork observations in six African American congregations in Columbia, South Carolina. Documented church worship services.
- 2013 Field recordings and observations at the Gospel Heritage Foundation's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Praise and Worship National Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. February 13-16.
- 2010-12 Fieldwork observations in four African American congregations and one multi-ethnic megachurch congregation in Syracuse, New York. Documented church worship services.
- 2011 Follow up research of Faithful Central Bible Church music ministry and worship leaders Kurt Lykes and Jimmy Fisher in Inglewood, California. Documented church worship services and rehearsals featuring gospel music recording artists Fred Hammond and Rev. Norman Hutchins.
- 2003-10 Music in African American Megachurches of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Chapter of the Gospel Music Workshop of America, and the Heritage Music Foundation of Los Angeles, California. Funded by UCLA Graduate Division, UCLA Bunche Center for African American Studies, Historical Society of Southern California, and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Inc. (Fieldwork in metropolitan Los Angeles, California: Los Angeles, Hollywood, Inglewood, Gardena, Carson, Pasadena, and Chino.)
- 2004 National Meeting of the Gospel Music Workshop of America. August 7-13<sup>th</sup>. Funded by UCLA Institute of American Cultures/Ralph Bunche Center. (Fieldwork in Kansas City, Missouri.)
- 2003 National Meeting of the Gospel Music Workshop of America. August 9-15<sup>th</sup>. Funded by UCLA Graduate Division Quality of Graduate Education Supplemental Allocation Program. (Fieldwork in Tampa, Florida.)
- 2001-02 "The Neo-soul Movement: A Study of Tradition and Change." Funded by UCLA Graduate Division Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship. (Fieldwork in Los Angeles, California and Atlanta, Georgia.)
- 1998-99 "Ghana's First Independent Radio Station: JOY 99.7 FM." Funded by Agnes Scott College Global Awareness Program. (Fieldwork in Accra, Ghana, West Africa. December 29, 1998-January 17, 1999.)

## **Performances and Recordings**

- 2014 Gospel Song Celebration with Dr. James Abbington. Vocals and tambourine. 2014 Pruitt Symposium: Marching to Zion-Celebrating & Preserving Black Sacred Music. Roxy Grove Hall. Baylor University. Waco, Texas. October 23.
- 2008 Vocals, *16<sup>th</sup> Annual ESPN ESPY Awards*, “I Love Sports” with Justin Timberlake. Nokia Theatre. Los Angeles, California. July 20.
- 2006 Vocals, *14<sup>th</sup> Annual ESPN ESPY Awards*, “Finale” with The O’Jays, Yolanda Adams, BeBe Winans, and Talib Kweli. Kodak Theatre. Los Angeles, California. July 16.
- 2005 Vocals, *Live from Faithful Central Zion Rejoice!* Integrity Records.  
Vocals, *GMWA Live in Kansas City 2004*, Artemis Gospel.
- 2004 Vocals, *GMWA The Tampa Experience*, GospoCentric Records.

## **Performance Ensembles and Creative Activity**

- 2009-present CJ Emmons Entertainment. Los Angeles, California. Consultant.
- 2009-2010 Southeast Symphony Orchestra of Los Angeles, California  
CJ Emmons & The Unit (violin, percussion, and vocals)
- 2000-06 UCLA Afro-Cuban Ensemble
- 2003-05 Agua de Coco (Violin, Percussion, Piano, composition, and arrangements)
- 2002-present Voices of Faith Choir, Faithful Central Bible Church of Inglewood, California
- 2000-02 Omo Ashé (Afro-Cuban folkloric performance group)
- 1998-99 Agnes Scott College, African Drumming and Dance Ensemble
- 1996-98 Joyful Noise Gospel Choir, Agnes Scott College, Treasurer
- 1995-99 Agnes Scott College Community Orchestra, Principal Second Violin

## **Non-Teaching Academic Experience**

- 2004-05 Graduate Student Researcher/Fieldwork Project Manager for “Gospel Archiving in Los Angeles” Community Partnership Grant Project, UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive and Heritage Music Foundation of Los Angeles
- 2004-05 Student Assistant, Public Information Office in Dean’s Office of School of the

Johnson CV

Arts & Architecture, UCLA

1995-98      Manager/Librarian, Agnes Scott College Community Orchestra

### **Professional Memberships & Current Service**

Christian Congregational Music Book Series Advisory Board

ColaJazz Advisory Committee

College Music Society

Gospel Music Workshop of America, Los Angeles Chapter

International Association for the Study of Popular Music

International Council for Traditional Music

-African Music Study Group 2018 Symposium Planning Committee

Society for American Music

-Executive Board, Member-At-Large (2020-2023)

-Gospel and Sacred Music Interest Group Co-Chair (2018-present)

-Membership Committee (2016-2019)

Society for Ethnomusicology

-SEM Council (2016-2019)

-Gertrude Robinson Network for Black Ethnomusicologists, Advisory Committee & Facebook  
Group Administrator (2014-present)

Society for Ethnomusicology-Southeast and Caribbean Chapter

-Advisory Board Member (2019-present)

-President (2018-2019)

-Vice President and Program Chair (2017-2018)

-Conference Planning Committee (2015-2016)

University of California, Los Angeles Ethnomusicology Archive Advisory Board