

The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music

Department of Ethnomusicology

Spring 2010 Newsletter

Message from the Publications Office

Dear Students, Faculty, Staff, and Friends,

Springtime is upon us as we get ready to celebrate 50 Years of Ethnomusicology at UCLA! The yearlong celebration will kick off with our annual Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz beginning in May.

There are a number of events planned in collaboration with the Herb Alpert School of Music, the Hammer Museum, and the Fowler Museum. For information on the history of ethnomusicology at UCLA, follow the link:

<http://www.ethnomusic.ucla.edu/celebrating50years/index.htm>

Looking forward to warm weather and another exciting spring quarter, we hope you will join us in the celebration.

Have a great spring!

Beto González
Publications Coordinator

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Department News

Worlds of Music at UCLA: Celebrating 50 Years of Ethnomusicology



Mantle Hood in the UCLA gamelan room, ca. 1960s. (UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive)

The Institute of Ethnomusicology at UCLA was established in 1960, but the seeds for what is now known as the Department of Ethnomusicology were planted almost twenty years earlier. Thus, ethnomusicology's history at UCLA can be divided into several periods:

1. Pre-Institute years (before 1960)
2. Institute of Ethnomusicology (1960-74)
3. Program in Ethnomusicology (1974-89)
4. Department of Ethnomusicology and Systematic Musicology (1989-07)
5. Department of Ethnomusicology, Herb Alpert School of Music (2007-present)

Before 1960: Pre-Institute years

Although the Department of Music was formed in 1919 with the establishment of the Southern Branch of the University of California, the Music Department did not begin offering degrees until 1939, three years after composer Arnold Schoenberg joined the faculty. Initially, the Department placed emphasis on music education. Courses on American music, folk music (i.e. world music), aesthetics, and acoustics did not become permanent offerings until the 1940s and 1950s. Laurence Petran, who was hired as the university organist, played a major role in creating and teaching courses on folk music and acoustics. While Petran laid the foundation for the academic study of both ethnomusicology and systematic musicology, Mantle Hood (when he arrived in 1954) was responsible for enhancing the program by making courses in world music performance, culture area studies, and ethnomusicology theory and method integral components of UCLA's Music Department curriculum.

1960-74: Institute of Ethnomusicology, Department of Music

In 1959, Mantle Hood and Boris Kremenliev wrote a proposal for the establishment of the Institute of Ethnomusicology, which came into existence in 1960. By 1964, the Institute contained an archive, several world music performance ensembles, a publications program, a large collection of world music instruments, and a laboratory for the scientific study of world music. World-renowned scholars and master musicians from different parts of the world joined the Music Department faculty.

1974-89: Program in Ethnomusicology, Department of Music

The Institute was disestablished and Mantle Hood retired in 1974. However, the study of ethnomusicology and systematic musicology continued as a Program in the Music Department, and new roster faculty were hired.

**1989-07: Department of Ethnomusicology and Systematic Musicology
(renamed Department of Ethnomusicology in 1995)**

Through the efforts of Nazir Jairazbhoy and other faculty, the Program in Ethnomusicology was granted Department status in 1989. Establishment of the Department of Ethnomusicology and Systematic Musicology led to the offering of a one-year series of courses in world music theory and musicianship, a B. A. degree in ethnomusicology, an undergraduate concentration in jazz studies, with Kenny Burrell as Director of Jazz Studies, and the hiring of several new faculty members. In addition to course offerings, the Department enriched the learning environment by organizing concerts, symposia, and conferences; residences for guest lecturers and concert artists; and outreach programs in partnership with the local community.

2007-present: Department of Ethnomusicology, Herb Alpert School of Music

The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music (HASOM) was formed in November 2007 with a \$30 million endowment gift from the renowned performer, producer, and philanthropist Herb Alpert and his wife Lani Hall Alpert. As indicated on the HASOM website, the School of Music is devoted to the performance and study of music in all its global diversity, including art music, jazz, popular music, and world music. To enhance this philosophy, the Departments of Ethnomusicology, Music, and Musicology have aligned, thereby enabling the students to augment their academic studies with courses in music business, music in the public sector, and music and health. In turn, this balanced approach to performance, scholarship, and practical knowledge represents a significant departure from the study of history, theory, and performance of European classical music as taught in most colleges and universities in the United States.

Since the ethnomusicology program began, UCLA has awarded more degrees than any institution in the world. From the 1950s to July 2009, 398 graduate degrees were awarded in ethnomusicology and systematic musicology. Of these, 173 were Ph.D. and 225 were M.A. degrees. While the first Ph.D. degrees were awarded to Elizabeth May (1958) and William Malm (1959), the first M.A. degree was awarded to Robert Garfias (1958). Although the first

B.A. degree in ethnomusicology was not awarded until 1993, the B.A. in music with a specialization in the ethnomusicology dates to the 1960s. Since 1993, 284 B.A. degrees in ethnomusicology have been awarded.

Jacqueline Cogdell DjeDje, Chair
January 2010, revised April 2010

Guest Lectures

On Friday, March 5, 2010, the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, Department of Ethnomusicology presented "A Por Por Funeral for Ashirifie," a film and discussion by **Steven Feld**, Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and Music at the University of New Mexico. Professor Feld also gave a lecture entitled "Nii Noi Nortey's Pyrasonix: From Pan Africanism to Afrifones via John Coltrane" for the UCLA Department of Musicology's Distinguished Lecture Series on Thursday, March 4, 2010.

On February 17, 2010, **Mark Kligman**, Professor of Jewish Musicology, Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion in New York presented "Singing Arab Melodies in the Synagogue: the Music and Culture of Syrian Jews in Brooklyn" as part of the Nazir Ali Jairazbhoy Colloquium Series. Later that day, Professor Kligman also presented a lecture based on his book *Maqām and Liturgy: Music, Ritual, and Aesthetics of Syrian Jews in Brooklyn*. Both events were presented by the Mickey Katz Chair in Jewish Music at UCLA and co-sponsored by the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music and the UCLA Center for Jewish Studies.

On April 8, 2010, **Poncho Sanchez** and members of his Latin Jazz group performed in a lecture/demonstration on Latin jazz and Afro-Cuban rhythms in Professor Steve Loza's course, Ethnomu M108A (Music of Latin America: Mexico, Central American and Caribbean). Poncho Sanchez is internationally acclaimed as one of the leading exponents of Latin jazz. He is a Grammy Award and Billboard Award recipient, both in 1999, and has led his ensembles in concert all over the globe. He has recorded numerous CDs on the Concord label, and continues the musical traditions of Mongo Santamaria, Cal Tjader, Machito, Tito Puente, and Tito Rodriguez. The event was sponsored by the Latin American Institute and Department of Ethnomusicology.

On April 15, 2010, **Cosmas Magaya**, an internationally recognized Zimbabwean master musician of the *mbira dze vadzimu*, made two presentations in the Department of Ethnomusicology: one in Professor DjeDje's course, Ethnomu 136A (Music of Africa), and another that was sponsored by the UCLA Ethnomusicology Graduate Student Organization (EGSO) and the Center for Student Programming.

Faculty and Staff News

The *Los Angeles Times* reported that jazz legend **Kenny Burrell**, Professor of Ethnomusicology and Director of UCLA Jazz Studies, was honored Tuesday with the Recording Academy's President's Award for his lifetime contributions to jazz music. For the story visit:

http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/music_blog/2010/01/live-review-grammy-salute-to-jazz-at-the-grammy-museum.html

On March 14, 2010, the California Jazz Foundation presented “Traps 'N Taps: A Brief History of American Rhythm” with Adjunct Professor **Clayton Cameron** and Chester Whitmore at the Catalina Jazz Club.

Jazz Studies Professor **Charley Harrison** led the UCLA Jazz Orchestra in a Battle of the Bands against the USC Jazz Orchestra led by Bob Mintzer on February 13 as a part of the Newport Beach Jazz Party.

Jazz Studies Professor **Tamir Hendelman** had a number of performances in the U.S. and abroad: February 12-14, at the Newport Beach Jazz Party with the Jeff Hamilton Trio, Jackie Ryan, Houston Person, Graham Dechter, Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra; February 19, in Tennessee with Roger Spencer (bass) and Marcus Finnie (drums) at the Germantown Performing Arts Center; February 20, at the Nashville Jazz Workshop; and March 5-8, with the Tamir Hendelman Japan Trio tour in Kobe and Osaka.

On March 11, 2010, the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, Department of Ethnomusicology presented a Music of China Concert featuring Professor **Chi li**, Director.

On Saturday, February 6, 2010, the Music Circle presented Professors **Shujaat Khan** (sitar) and **Abhiman Kaushal** (tabla) in a concert at Herrick Chapel, Occidental College. Also serving as guest accompanist was disciple of Abhiman Kaushal, **Miles Shrewsbury** (B.A. 2004 Ethnomusicology).

Adjunct Professor **Barbara Morrison** performed at a number of venues and jazz hotspots this past winter, including a Valentine's Day show at The Savoy Entertainment Center and several shows at Steamers and the Catalina Bar & Grill in March.

On March 05, 2010, Professor **A. J. Racy**, along with Robert Moser of the University of Georgia, presented a lecture entitled “Memory, Imagination, and Roots in the Music and Literature of Syrian-Lebanese Immigrants and their Descendants in Brazil” at UCLA’s Haines Hall. The event was co-sponsored by the UCLA Center for Near Eastern Studies and the UCLA Latin American Center. The lecture was followed on March 6 by a concert in Schoenberg Hall, co-sponsored by the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, Department of Ethnomusicology. “An Evening of Arab and Brazilian Music” brought together **Eastern Soul**, led by Professor Racy, and **Samba Society**, led by ethnomusicology graduate student **Beto González**.

The UCLA Bluegrass and Old-Time Ensemble, under the direction of Professor **Anthony Seeger**, brought an evening of American gems to the UCLA Fowler Museum’s *Fowler Out Loud* on January 28, 2010. Along with a hearty portion of barn burners, spirituals, and sentimental favorites, the show featured a tribute to the late Mike Seeger and the New Lost City Ramblers.

On April 3, 2010, the Velaslavasay Panorama welcomed the UCLA-based women’s choir **Superdevoiche** that presented selected polished gems from a repertoire of over 65 harmonically dense and rhythmically dynamic masterpieces of Bulgarian choral music under the direction of renowned choral conductor and vocalist Adjunct Professor **Tzvetanka Varimezova**. In addition to showcasing veteran and committed members of the choir, the evening’s programs featured the sublime **Trio Varimezova**, mother and daughters melting souls with their blend of richly ornamented Bulgarian ballads. For more information about Superdevoiche, visit: <http://www.myspace.com/superdevoiche>.

Student News

Thanks to the hard work of our members, The **Ethnomusicology Graduate Student Organization (EGSO)** has had another successful and eventful Winter Quarter!

- January 22 – EGSO co-sponsored w/SPICMACAY (Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth) a Carnatic music performance by **Aditya Prakash**, **Shiva Ramamurthi**, and **Nirrmal Narayan** (organized by graduate student **Jeff Roy**).
- February 5 – EGSO sponsored a workshop on Multicultural Music Education with **Patricia Shehan Campbell** (organized by graduate student **Meghan Hynson**).
- March 5 – EGSO co-sponsored w/SPICMACAY a Carnatic music performance by **Nishanth Chandran** and **Nirrmal Narayan** (organized by graduate student **Jeff Roy**).

- Graduate student **Nolan Warden** organized a visit by famed *mbira* player and educator Cosmas Magaya on April 15, 2010.

EGSO Projects in the works for Spring:

- Graduate student **Michael Iyanaga**, with the help of **Professor Tara Browner**, is organizing a series of workshops, masterclasses, and lectures by Brazilian choro guitarist *Fabiano Borges*, which will take place between May 8 to May 23, 2010.
- Graduate student **Jessie Vallejo** is working to bring the Peruvian group *INCA* to UCLA.

On Thursday, March 4, 2010, fourth year ethnomusicology student **Este Haim** and her two sisters performed with their indie pop/rock group **Haim** at the UCLA Kerckhoff Grand Salon.

Graduate student **Ben Harbert** has accepted a tenure-track professorship position at Georgetown University. He and his family will be moving to Washington D.C. this summer. On Saturday, April 10, 2010, Ben performed with Los Angeles Electric 8 in his final local show with the group. The 8 have been preparing vigorously for their third studio album, which will include music by Mantle Hood, Phil Kline, Charles T. Griffes, Wayne Siegel, Randall Kohl, and more.

On February 16, 2010, SAPA@UCLA (South Asian Performing Arts), a student group started by undergraduate **Aditya Prakash**, presented the *Mehfil* concert in Jan Popper Theater. The concert series has featured UCLA students performing Indian classical music and dance since 2006 and has been a very successful concert that showcases the talent we have at UCLA. This year many of the performers created original compositions and collaborations for the concert. Among the ethnomusicology majors performing were **Jake Jamieson** playing *tabla*, **Aditya Prakash** and **Cameron Hovsepian** doing an Indian classical vocal with flamenco guitar fusion, and **Sonali Sheth** playing *sitar*.

On February 18, 2010, American Primitive performed at the Fowler Museum's *Fowler Out Loud*. The group features former ethnomusicology student **Zack Smith** and current M.B.A. student Cory Epstein. The quartet of well-mannered gentlemen offered an amalgamation of country, samba, French café, bluegrass, and foot-tappin' jazz sure to satiate even the most selective musical palate.

On April 8, 2010, UCLA's own Mariachi UCLAtlán performed at the Fowler Museum's *Fowler Out Loud*, playing rancheras, sones, huapangos y mas!

Alumni News

Yanni Afendoulis (B.A. Ethnomusicology 2003) was invited to chant at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Camarillo for Holy Week and Easter services from March 28 through April 4. Mr. Afendoulis is pursuing divinity studies at Holy Cross Seminary in Boston. He is a graduate of UCLA Departments of Ethnomusicology and History. While at UCLA he earned First Prize, Undergraduate, at the annual Robert B. and Blanche Campbell Student Book Collection Competition, with an entry is entitled "The Eastern Orthodox: A Collection of Books and Cultural Items from a Former Eastern Orthodox Monk." At the Seminary, Yanni currently holds the position of *Lambadarios*; he is a member of the Holy Cross Choir and leads the Seminary chant group.

"LA Ethnomusicologist Brings Otherworldly Sounds to Biggest Motion Picture of All Time." On January 25, 2010, students from Tom Grasty's UCLA "Internet Marketing & Publishing for Musicians" class sat down with **Wanda Bryant** (Ph.D. 1995 Ethnomusicology; M.A. 1989 Music) to talk about her role on the film Avatar and what it was like to work side by side with James Horner, one of the industry's most prolific and successful film composers. Read the full interview here:

http://www.music.ucla.edu/blog/2010/02/02/avatar_ethnomusicology/

Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 24 / 2pm and 3:30pm

Hammer Museum Courtyard – FREE

Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz 2010, Hammer Museum

Music of China Ensemble, Li Chi, director

Bluegrass and Old-Time String Ensemble, Anthony Seeger, director

Sunday, April 25 / 11am-2pm

Professor **Steve Loza** and JazzMex

featuring legendary conguero Francisco Aguabella

Performing at Spazio Jazz Brunch

14755 Ventura Blvd.

Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

(818) 728-8400

<http://www.spazio.la/jazz.php>

Wednesday, April 28 / 1-3pm

B544 SMB / Lecture – FREE

Nazir Ali Jairazbhoy Colloquium Series

Deborah Wong, Chair and Professor, Department of Music, UCR

“Reaching toward a Multimedia Ethnomusicology: Lessons Learned from American Taiko”

Saturday, May 1 / 2pm and 3:30pm

Hammer Museum Courtyard – FREE

Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz 2010, Hammer Museum

Student Jazz Combos, directed by Charley Harrison and Kenny Burrell

Saturday, May 8 / 2pm and 3:30pm

Hammer Museum Courtyard – FREE

Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz 2010, Hammer Museum

Music of the Balkans Ensemble, Ivan and Tzvetanka Varimezova, co-directors

Music of Brazil Ensemble, Kirk Brundage, director

Wednesday, April 28 / 1-3pm

B544 SMB / Lecture – FREE

Nazir Ali Jairazbhoy Colloquium Series

Nancy Guy, Associate Professor of Music, UCSD

“Re-memembering Beverly Sills: An historical ethnography of the art and meaning of ‘America's Queen of Opera’”

Friday, May 14 / 7pm

Schoenberg Hall – FREE

Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz 2010

Music of India Ensemble, Shujaat Khan and Abhiman Kaushal, co-directors

Music of Bali Ensemble, I Nyoman Wenten, director

Saturday, May 15 / 7pm

Schoenberg Hall – FREE

Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz 2010

Near East Ensemble, A.J. Racy, director

Music of China Ensemble, LI Chi, director

Sunday, May 16 / 7pm

Schoenberg Hall – FREE

Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz 2010

Music of the Balkans Ensemble, Ivan and Tzvetanka Varimezovi, co-directors

Bluegrass and Old-Time String Ensemble, Anthony Seeger, director

Monday, May 17 / 7pm

Schoenberg Hall – FREE

Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz 2010

Student Showcase Concert, featuring the **UCLA Jazz Combos** directed by Kenny Burrell, George Bohanon, Clayton Cameron, Charles Owens, Michele Weir, and Charley Harrison

Tuesday, May 18 / 7pm

Schoenberg Hall – FREE

Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz 2010

Big Band Concert, featuring the **UCLA Jazz Orchestra**, directed by Charley Harrison; the **UCLA LatinJazz Ensemble**, directed by Dr. Bobby Rodriguez; and the **UCLA Contemporary Jazz Ensemble**, directed by Kenny Burrell and James Newton

Friday, May 21 / 7pm

Schoenberg Hall – FREE

Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz 2010

Music of Korea Ensemble, DongSuk Kim, director

Saturday, May 22 / 7pm

Schoenberg Hall – FREE

Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz 2010

Music of West Africa Ensemble, Kobla Ladzekpo, director

Music of Brazil Ensemble, Kirk Brundage, director

Sunday May, 23 / 7pm

Schoenberg Hall – FREE

Spring Festival of World Music and Jazz 2010

African American Ensemble, James Roberson, director

Music of Mexico Ensemble, Jesus Guzman, director

Wednesday, May 26 / 1-3pm

B544 SMB - Lecture/Free

Nazir Ali Jairazbhoy Colloquium Series

Tim Cooley, Associate Professor, Department of Music Affiliated Faculty, Global and International Studies, UCSB

“Music in Surfing Films”

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