

## Message from the Publications Office

Dear Students, Faculty, Staff and Friends,

Greetings from the Publications office! We hope that this quarter has been a pleasant and productive one for you and that your summer plans for work and vacation are coalescing. As the 2005-2006 school year winds down, students, staff, and faculty continue to make the Ethnomusicology Department a busy and exciting place to study and learn. This quarter the Department produced and hosted numerous lectures, concerts, and events, and the spring newsletter focuses on these activities as well as on the ongoing concert series that mark the end of the school year. In addition, this newsletter includes updates on many of the Department's talented alumni and a special report on the projects of EUSO, the Department's own undergraduate student organization. We hope that you enjoy this issue and look forward to bringing you more news in the fall. Enjoy!

Chloe Coventry, Publications Coordinator  
Kelly Salloum, Publications Director



*Shireen Amini, EUSO President*

## Department News and Events

### **Ethnomusicology Undergraduate Student Organization**

This year the Ethnomusicology Undergraduate Student Organization (EUSO) held a number of events, including the first annual Ethnomusicology Undergraduate Student Organization Conference on Saturday, May 20, 2006, in the Schoenberg Music Building. This cross-disciplinary conference was a new initiative for EUSO, and its success was a testament to their hard work, creativity, and the support and contributions of faculty and graduate students.

The conference, entitled “Globalization in Contemporary Musical Expressions” held panels on the following topics: "Achieving Spiritual Ecstasy Through Music and Dance," "Investigations/Re-examinations of Ethnomusicological Practices," "Reflexive and Representative Identities in Fieldwork and Pop Culture," and "Transnational Flows in Popular Music." UCLA Professor of Ethnomusicology Timothy Taylor gave the keynote address, “Globalization as a Cultural System.”

Of the conference, EUSO President Shireen Amini writes: “The primary goal of the Ethnomusicology Undergraduate Student Organization Conference was to provide undergraduates the opportunity to present past or current research in a similar way they would in graduate school. This way, undergraduates could gain experience in developing, presenting, and defending their ideas in a format typical of a graduate conference to better prepare for graduate school in ethnomusicology. While very few students have the opportunity to do independent research while completing their undergraduate degree, we felt that often students complete a paper in a class they are really proud of and would appreciate a chance to go deeper into their topic and share it with others. We did not set a specific theme for the conference in order to allow the maximum number of students to participate, as varied as the topics might be.”

While the conference was a highlight of the EUSO year, not all their endeavors were academic. In April, EUSO hosted “Vibe,” a departmental potluck and mixer held in the Schoenberg courtyard.

Of the party EUSO member Jackie Munguia writes: “Vibe was quite the event. Graduate and undergraduate students, professors, staff, and faculty of the ethnomusicology department came together in Schoenberg quad to get to know each other better over food and live music provided by ethnomusicology-student jazz band The Goop. At the end of the evening there was an opportunity to jam with the band. Stay tuned for more EUSO ethno department mixers next year. We would love to see you there!”

In addition to these events, in February EUSO worked with UCLA Live to present a lecture-demonstration of Afro-Peruvian music given by the members of the group *Peru Negro*, known as the “Cultural Ambassadors of Black Peru.”

Upcoming EUSO events include a talent showcase for members of the ethnomusicology department to be held on June 7<sup>th</sup> in the Schoenberg Music Building band room.

## Photos from Vibe Party

April 2006



*Graduate Students Birgitta Johnson and Regina Sewell, and Donna Armstrong, Assistant to the Chair*



*Professor Tara Browner*



*Undergraduate students Noah Garabedian & Matt Carol*



*Undergraduate students Julia Wells and Tiana Saul*

## **Year of African American Music**

The Ethnomusicology Department's celebration of the Year of African American Music came to a close with two activities in April.

On Thursday, April 20, Bakari Kitwana, an author, activist, and co-founder of the first ever National Hip-Hop Political Convention, presented "Rap Sessions: A Community Dialogue on Race." "Rap Sessions" featured a multiracial panel of hip-hop experts who are currently touring the nation to engage youth and community leaders in candid, compelling conversations about the hip-hop cultural movement and emerging racial politics of our time. Panelists included the hip-hop journalist and ethnic studies Professor Oliver Wang, Tufts University sociology Professor Raquel Z. Rivera, spoken-word poet and critically acclaimed novelist Adam Mansbach, award-winning hip-hop photographer Ernie Panicioli, and UCLA Ethnomusicology Professor and hip-hop scholar, Cheryl Keyes.

On Friday, April 28, there was a screening of the acclaimed film "Afro-Punk" followed by a roundtable discussion with director James Spooner, Maureen Mahon, UCLA Professor and author of "Right to Rock: The Black Rock Coalition and the Cultural Politics of Race," and artists from the film.

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## **“¡CARNAVAL!”**

For the past five months The Department of Ethnomusicology has been involved with “¡Carnaval!” a Fowler museum exhibition of art, costumes, and videos representing carnival traditions from Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Bolivia, Mexico, Brazil, Trinidad and Tobago, and the U.S.

Concluding the exhibition's residency was a symposium held on Saturday, March 18, entitled “Taking it to the Streets: Spectacle and Satire in the Arts and Antics of Carnival.” The symposium featured closing comments by Department of Ethnomusicology Professor Anthony Seeger, and talks by other noted scholars including historian Samuel Kinser (Northern Illinois University Thomas Abercrombie (NYU), Gage Averill (University of Toronto), Pamela Franco (Tulane University), Joyce Marie Jackson (Louisiana State University), Peter Tokofsky (UCLA), and independent photographers Jeffrey Chock and J. Nash Porter.

This past winter the Ethnomusicology department, in conjunction with “¡Carnaval!” also welcomed a 2006 Regent's Lecturer, renowned New Orleans pianist Henry Butler, who gave lectures, demonstrations, and concerts featuring his unique and inimitable style of jazz.

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## Special Lectures

- On April 6, **Joe Hickerson**, the former director of the Archive of Folk Song/Culture of the Library of Congress gave a musical talk entitled: "O Brother, Where Have All the Songcatchers Gone?" This lecture was one of a series hosted by the UCLA Ethnomusicology archive.
  - On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, the renowned performer **Poncho Sanchez** gave a lecture-performance of Afro-Cuban rhythms and Latin jazz in Professor Steve Loza's Music of Latin America class.
  - On April 20<sup>th</sup>, **Timothy D. Taylor**, Associate Professor in the departments of Musicology and Ethnomusicology at UCLA, presented a lecture entitled "The Commodification of Music at the Dawn of the Era of 'Mechanical Music.'" This lecture was sponsored by the Culture, Power, and Social Change Working Group of the Anthropology Department.
  - On May 11<sup>th</sup> **Nicola Scaldaferrri**, Professor of Ethnomusicology at the University of Milan, presented the video documentary *Practica e Maestria* (Practice and Mastery) in the UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive. The film follows the musical activities of two brothers with a passion for the *zampogna* (bagpipe) as they spend their lives constructing bagpipes and playing all around Italy at festivals. This presentation was part of the lecture series hosted by the UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive.
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## End of the Year Concerts

- **Ethnomusicology Spring Concert Series**  
The annual Spring Concert Series features the Department's world music and jazz performance ensembles and runs from May 20 to June 5.  
See [www.ethnomusic.ucla.edu/newsevents/upevents](http://www.ethnomusic.ucla.edu/newsevents/upevents) for more information on these upcoming concerts.
  - **Hammer Concert Series**  
Continuing a tradition that began in 2003, several of the department's world music performance ensembles gave Saturday afternoon concerts at the Hammer Museum.
  - **Fowler Out Loud!**  
In April and May, several ensembles performed in the Fowler Out Loud! performance series at the Fowler Museum. These intimate concerts, held on Thursday afternoons in the Fowler courtyard are run by department alumna Selina Traylor.
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## In Memoriam

**Sherman Ferguson**, respected jazz drummer and a member of the faculty in the UCLA Jazz Studies Program, died on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at his home in La Crescenta, California. Mr. Ferguson joined the UCLA faculty as a lecturer in January 2001. He was a valued and integral part of the jazz program at UCLA where he directed a jazz combo and taught private drum lessons.

Professor Kenny Burrell writes:

*“Sherman Ferguson was an extraordinary talent and a major figure in the Los Angeles music scene. He was a vital and well-loved member of the jazz faculty here at UCLA. Sherman represented the best of what a jazz musician should be. He was a master drummer whose talent and versatility allowed him to work with a large variety of musical artists. His passion for music and his deep interest in helping others made him one of the most respected teachers in the UCLA Jazz Studies Program. Sherman loved teaching, he loved performing and he loved people. He will be sorely missed.”*



On April 18<sup>th</sup>, the department of Ethnomusicology hosted a memorial concert for Mr. Ferguson. Joshua Duran, an undergraduate student in the ethnomusicology department, writes about the tribute:

*“In the middle of winter quarter, after the sad news that Sherman had passed, Professor Kenny Burrell got a call from Carl Randle, the tenor saxophonist in Sherman’s band the Jazz Union. Speaking on behalf of the group, Mr. Randle proposed that the Jazz Union put on a memorial performance at UCLA in honor of Professor Sherman Ferguson. This concert, which took place in UCLA’s Popper theater on April 18<sup>th</sup>, was made possible by the Ethnomusicology Department, especially Dr. Jacqueline Cogdell Dje-Dje and Professor Kenny Burrell. I did some of the footwork needed to ensure that the show went on without a hitch. I think it was a successful tribute – it expressed people’s feelings of sadness while also celebrating the life and music of Sherman Ferguson.”*

Sherman Ferguson was an inspiration to UCLA’s jazz and musical community and he will be missed.

## **Student Awards**

### **Elaine Krown Klein Fine Arts Award**

Jesse Samba Wheeler

### **FLAS (Foreign Language and Area Studies) Fellowship**

Elizabeth Macy

### **Fowler Museum Award for Graduate Students**

Hsin-Chun Lu

### **Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Recipients**

Chloe Coventry, with Professor Timothy Taylor

Benjamin Harbert, with Professor A.J. Racy

Elizabeth Macy, with Professor Cheryl Keyes

Melissa Morales, with Professor Anthony Seeger

Jesse Ruskin, with Professor Timothy Rice

Regina Sewell, with Professor Cheryl Keyes

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## **Alumni, Staff, and Faculty News**

**Cristian Amigo (Ph.D. '03)** has been awarded a 2006-2007 John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship for music composition. The Guggenheim fellowships are very prestigious awards and highly competitive — only 187 applicants were selected from among 3,000 that applied in 2005.

**David Borgo (Ph.D. '99)** has been promoted to Associate Professor and granted tenure at UCSD. David received both his M.A. (1996) and Ph.D. (1999) from UCLA. David's book, 'Sync or Swarm: Improvising Music in a Complex Age,' was published in 2005.

**Ray Briggs (Ph.D. '03)**, who is now an Assistant Professor of Music and Assistant Director of Jazz Studies at Cal State Long Beach, was on Fox 11 on Sunday morning, April 23, from 9 - 9:30am, on a show called "Midday Sunday." He discussed Jazz Appreciation Month and the events that he and others are working with KJAZZ to produce.

**Jeff Callen (Ph.D. '06)** recent publications:

" 'I Need Contact' - Rock 'n' Roll and Ritual: Peter Gabriel's 'Security' Tour (1982-1983)" in *Performance and Popular Music: History, Place and Time* (Ian Inglis, ed.: London: Ashgate Publishing, February 2006); "Gender Crossings: A Neglected History in African American Music" in *Queering Popular Music* (Sheila Whiteley, ed.: London: Routledge, in press May 2006).

**Dwight Dickerson (Ph.D. 1998)** has accepted a full-time teaching position as a Visiting Professor at the American University of Sharjah (AUS). About the position, Dwight states: "*Sharjah is a suburb of Dubai -- principal city in the United Arab Emirates. I encourage you to*

*pull up their web-site <http://www.aus.edu/>. AUS is also affiliated with American University, Washington, DC. AUS has about 4,500 students, and 250 full-time faculty. I am the first -- and only -- professor of Music at this institution -- I will be "point-man" for everybody from Johann Sebastian Bach, to Louis Armstrong, to Mantle Hood! Quite a challenge, and tremendous responsibility."*

**Jacob Edgar (M.A. '94)** recently left his full-time gig as head of A & R at Putumayo World Music and started his own record label, *Cumbancha*.

**Mike Gubman (B.A. '05)** served as Coordinator for a conference, "Brainwave Entrainment to External Rhythmic Stimuli: Interdisciplinary Research and Clinical Perspectives." The conference was held on Saturday, May 13th, 2006, at the Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA), Stanford University.

**Jean Ngoya Kidula (Ph.D. '98)** was recently granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor (of Ethnomusicology) in the Hugh Hodgson School of Music at the University of Georgia. About the news, Jean states: *"I don't know whether to shout or just sit down quietly. I have opted for the latter since school is still in session!"*

**Tom Paige (B.A. '02)** is working on a documentary on Horace Tapscott. A screening of the film will take place at Cal State Dominguez Hills in April, along with members of the Pan African People's Arkestra. The film will feature up to 45 minutes of footage. Tom is also working on another production, "The Gathering." On October 10th of 2005 he helped to produce a musical recording session and video shoot of a 23-piece jazz orchestra with Jesse Sharp, that included young up-and-coming jazz musicians, long-standing community members, and Ark members. Dwight Tribble sang on a piece, Roberto Miranda composed a piece, and Kamau Daood did a spoken work piece.

**Sonia Tamar Seeman (Ph.D. '02)** will start a new teaching position in fall 2006. For the past few years, she has been teaching at the UC Santa Barbara. About her new job, Sonia states: *"The position is tenure track, assistant professor of ethnomusicology at the University of Texas at Austin, with a joint appointment at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies. Please let everyone know to come visit me in Austin! Not only is this an excellent university, but a very dynamic and musical city as well."*

**John Vallier (Archivist)** participated in a Roundtable/Forum entitled "A Look Back at Collections and Collectors in a Changing Ethnomusicology" at the SEM Conference in Atlanta (November 2005).

**Amy Catlin Jairazbhoy (UCLA Faculty/Research Associate)** presented in a two hour applied ethnomusicology poster session at the SEM Conference in Atlanta (November 2005). The session was entitled "Rejuvenating the African Musical Bow in India: The Sidi Malunga Project."

## **Other News**

### **Staff Appointment**

In May, the Student Services office welcomed a new student affairs officer, Ed Blancarte. Mr. Blancarte will be involved in scheduling classes, processing scholarships, and overseeing competitions and the admissions process, among other responsibilities. Of the appointment management services officer Betty Price writes: *“I am very happy to announce that Ed Blancarte, our new Student Affairs Officer I, began work on May 15. Ed has been a technical translator and copy editor and most recently served as a Foreign Credentials Evaluator for the International Education Research Foundation, Inc., and conceived, designed, and created a recently copyrighted automated evaluation process and database system. Ed graduated from UCLA with a Bachelors of Arts in Linguistics and speaks at least four languages. He is very happy to be back on campus and looks forward to working with all of you and especially our students.”*

### **World Music Summer Institute**

This summer the Department of Ethnomusicology is hosting a week-long World Music Summer Institute for young musicians. Participants will learn and play the music of one of three performance traditions: Music of African Americans, Music of Korea, or Music of Mexico. This unique institute is designed to familiarize high school students, community college students, and interested community members to the repertoire and musical styles of one of these L.A.'s cultural groups. Students will learn to perform music through study with a master artist, and will be introduced to the history, culture, and music theory of that tradition. As part of the Institute, students will also have an opportunity to experience music in its cultural context through off campus field trips to selected venues across the City of Los Angeles. Enrollment in the Institute is still open: for more information see the Institute's website at the address below.

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