

Alex W. Rodriguez

Education

- 2017 Ph.D., Ethnomusicology: University of California, Los Angeles (expected)
Dissertation: "Making Jazz Space: Listening For Creative Practice in California, Chile, and Russia."
- 2011 M.A., Jazz History and Research: Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
Thesis: "White and Blue: Alternate Takes on Jack Teagarden"
- 2007 B.A., Music (Trombone Performance, *cum laude*): Amherst College
Thesis Recital: "The Slide Show: A Tribute to Eight Trombonists of Personal and Historical Significance"

Fellowships, Honors and Awards

- 2015 Jorge Estrada Research Fellowship
UCLA Institute of American Cultures Research Grant in Ethnic Studies
UCLA Latin American Institute Field Research Grant (*declined*)
- 2014 UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship
Project Title: "Improvised Space-Making at a Los Angeles Jazz Club"
- 2013-2014 U.S. Dept. of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Russian
- 2013 UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship
Project Title: "Listening for Global Jazz in Santiago, Chile"
- 2012 Improvisation, Community and Social Practice Summer Institute, Guelph, ON, Canada.
Invited Participant: "Improvisation and Pedagogy."
- 2011-2012 Herb Alpert Fellowship
- 2009 Morroe Berger - Benny Carter Jazz Research Fellowship
- 2009 Rutgers-Newark Masters Scholarship Award
- 2008-2010 Amherst College Edward Poole Lay Fellowship for Music Scholarship (3x)

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- 2015 "Jack Teagarden's Southwestern Sound: A Musical Prodigy and His Field." In *Musical Prodigies: Interpretations from Psychology, Music Education, Musicology and Ethnomusicology*. Edited by Gary E. McPherson. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2012 "Latin Jazz," with Ilan Stavans. Annotated Bibliography in *Oxford Bibliographies Online: Latino Studies*. <http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com>

Other Selected Publications

- 2015 "Pop-Rock Music: Aesthetic Cosmopolitanism in Late Modernity; Jazz Cosmopolitanism: Five Musical Years in Ghana." Book review, *Jazz Perspectives* 8(2):209-214.
- 2014 "The *Ethnomusicology Review* Sounding Board: A Brief History." *Ethnomusicology Review* 19:16-19. <http://www.ethnomusicologyreview.ucla.edu/content/ethnomusicology-review-sounding-board-brief-history-0>
- "Buena Vista Social Club" and "Latin Jazz." In *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Latin Music*. Edited by Ilan Stavans. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO.
- 2012-2014 *Ethnomusicology Review Sounding Board*, various contributions including: Co-founder/designer; Editor, "Space is the Place" (ethnomusicology and jazz); publications include "Book Review: *People Get Ready: The Future of Jazz is Now*," "Trombonanza: Argentina's Unlikely Music Festival" <http://ethnomusicologyreview.ucla.edu/sounding-board>
- 2009-2014 *NPR Music's A Blog Supreme*, various contributions including: "A Jazz Institution Moves Back Home to Los Angeles," "A Saxophonist From Santiago Cracks the Stateside Scene," "A Brief History of Jazz Education," "In Los Angeles, An Immigrant's Dream Becomes a Jazz Hub," "At the Portland Jazz Festival, Delicate Issues and Joyful Audiences." <http://www.npr.org/blogs/ablogsupreme/>
- 2013 "Creating Space for Creative Music at LA's Blue Whale." *IASPM-US Music Scenes*. <http://iaspm-us.net/music-scenes-creating-space-for-creative-music-at-las-blue-whale-by-alex-w-rodriguez/>
- 2011 "Review: *Birds of Fire: Jazz, Rock, Funk and the Creation of Fusion*." *Ethnomusicology Review* 16:465. <http://ethnomusicologyreview.ucla.edu/journal/volume/16/piece/465>

Conference Presentations (2014-2015)

- 2015 "The Practice of Improvisation, the Freedom of Discipline" (Roundtable)
Guelph Jazz Festival Colloquium, September 18, Guelph, ON.
- "Transnational Jazz Practice as Global Microstructuration"
SEMSCHC Annual Conference, February 28, San Diego, CA.
- "Improvised Space-Making at a Los Angeles Jazz Club"
Hearing Landscape Critically Conference, January 15, Cambridge, MA.
- 2014 "Ethnomusicological Perspectives on Open Access Publication" (Roundtable)
Society for Ethnomusicology Conference, November 16, Pittsburgh, PA.
- "Chile's *La Resistencia* and Transnational Jazz Practice"
Jazz Beyond Borders Conference, September 6, Amsterdam, Holland.
- "Intercultural Improvisation; Or, the Challenge of Omni-Musicality"
Intl. Society for Improvised Music Conference, June 6, New York, NY.

Conference Presentations (2010-2013)

- 2013 “Improvising Jazz Ethnography in Santiago, Chile”
American Anthropological Association Conf., November 21, Chicago, IL.
- “Improvisation: Powering and Empowering Pedagogy” (Roundtable)
Society for Ethnomusicology Conference, November 16, Indianapolis, IN.
- “Musical Rhythm: Considering the Mind In Time” w/ Joe Sorbara
McGill TimeForms Symposium, September 18, Montreal, QC.
- “Creating Space for Creative Music at LA’s Blue Whale”
SEMSCHC Annual Conference, February 23, Riverside, CA.
- 2012 “Urban Spaces and Jazz Improvisation: Hearing the Hang in the U.S. and Chile”
Society for Ethnomusicology Conference, November 1, New Orleans, LA.
- “Creating Space for Creative Music at LA’s Blue Whale”
Guelph Jazz Festival Colloquium, September 7, Guelph, ON.
- “Rhythmic Complexity in Jack Teagarden’s Early Improvisation”
Analytical Approaches to World Music Conf., May 12, Vancouver, BC.
West Coast Conf. for Music Theory & Analysis, March 2, Eugene, OR.
- “Deconstructing the Hang: Urban Spaces as Cross-Cultural Contexts for Jazz
Improvisation.”
IASPM/EMP Pop Conference, March 23, New York, NY.
Intl. Society for Improvised Music Conference, February 18, Paterson, NJ.
- 2011 “Jack Teagarden, Race and Early Jazz in the Southwestern US”
CUNY Graduate Students in Music Symposium, May 14, New York, NY.
- 2010 “Rhythmic Complexity in the Early Improvisation of Jack Teagarden”
U. Cincinnati Music Theory/Musicology Conf., April 10, Cincinnati, OH.
McGill Graduate Music Symposium, March 13, Montreal, QC.

Guest Teaching Lectures

- 2014 “Jazz, Hip-Hop, and Political Resistance in Chile”
Music of South America, UCLA, December 4, Los Angeles, CA.
- “*Giant Steps*, *Kind of Blue*, and *Time Out*: Three Jazz Milestones from 1959”
Introduction to Music, UCLA, May 12, Los Angeles, CA.
- “Jazz in the Southern Cone”
Music of South America, UCLA, March 12, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2013 “Embodying Swing and Improvisation”
Jazz in American Culture, UCLA, November 8, Los Angeles, CA.
- “Afro-Cuban Jazz”
Latin American Music, UCLA, May 23, Los Angeles, CA.

Other Invited Lectures

- 2014 “Touring Musicians and the Making of New Orleans Culture” (Pre-Concert Lecture)
The Broad Stage, Nov. 28 & 29, Santa Monica, CA.
- “Andean Jazz Fusion: An Alternate Route to the Concert Stage” (Symposium Panelist)
Traditional Music and the Concert Hall, May 7, Los Angeles, CA.
- “Esperanza Spalding’s Jazz Education” (Pre-Concert Lecture)
UCLA Center for the Art of Performance, Feb. 22, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2013 “Fresh Eyes: Editorial Perspectives on Open Access” (Symposium Panelist)
UCLA Open Access Week, Oct. 25, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2012 “Leading From Below: Bassists as Bandleaders” (Pre-Concert Lecture)
UCLA Center for the Art of Performance, Oct. 27, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2010 “White and Blue: Alternate Takes on Jack Teagarden” (Public Presentation)
Institute of Jazz Studies Jazz Research Roundtable, April 21, Newark, NJ.
Jazz Journalists Assn. Jazz Matters Panel, New School, Mar. 9, New York, NY.

College Teaching Experience

- 2015 Teaching Associate, Jazz in American Culture, UCLA
- 2014-2015 Assistant Director, UCLA Jazz Orchestra
- 2014-2015 Teaching Associate, Intercultural Improvisation (Omni-Musicality Group), UCLA
- 2013 Teaching Associate, Latin American Music, UCLA
- 2012-2013 Teaching Associate, Jazz in American Culture, UCLA
- 2009 Part-Time Lecturer, Music Fundamentals, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey

Other Professional Employment

- 2011-2015 Low Brass Faculty, Young Musicians & Artists summer music camp, Salem, OR
(summers)
- 2013-2014 Curriculum Director and Brass Instructor, Santa Monica Youth Orchestra and P.S.
One Elementary School Instrumental Music Program, Santa Monica, CA
- 2009-2014 Jazz Writer, various publications including NPR Music, The Newark Star-Ledger, The
Hartford Advocate, WBGO.org, LA Weekly, Village Voice, Jazz.com
- 2010-2011 Digital Content Editor, Newark Public Radio (WBGO)
- 2008 Educational Programming Consultant, Enriching Lives Through Music (ELM)
- 2007-2008 Instrumental Music Teacher, various organizations including: Dominican Schools Music
Project, Lick-Wilmerding H.S., Oakland Public Conservatory

Selected Performance Experience

- June 2015 Performed the music of Ornette Coleman at Bluewhale jazz club (Los Angeles, CA)
- May 2015 Opened for John Zorn Marathon with improvisation ensemble (Los Angeles, CA)
- April 2015 Superbone soloist, "Strawberry Soup: A Don Ellis Portrait" (Los Angeles, CA)
- Aug. 2013 Led two performances with Chilean musicians at jazz club Thelonious (Santiago, Chile)
- 2012-2013 Trombone, Charles Mingus Ensemble; Gong, Balinese Gamelan (Los Angeles, CA)
- 2011-2015 1st trombone, UCLA Jazz Orchestra (Los Angeles, CA)
- 2009-2010 Trombone, Rutgers Jazz One & Scarlet Knights Jazz Trombones (New Brunswick, NJ)
- 2008 Trombone, regular performances with Zach Hash Trio (San Francisco, CA)
- Aug. 2006 Led Amherst College Jazz Ensemble on Chilean tour (Valparaíso & Viña del Mar, Chile)

Academic Service

- 2014-2016 SEM Committee for Academic Labor
- 2014-2015 Staff Contributor, *SEM Student News*
- 2014 Editor in Chief, *Ethnomusicology Review*
SEM Student Union Student Concerns Committee
Dept. of Ethnomusicology Representative, UCLA School of Arts & Architecture Dean's
Student Council
- 2012-2014 Communications Officer, Society for Ethnomusicology Improvisation SIG
- 2012-2013 Website Editor and Managing Editor, *Ethnomusicology Review*
- 2012-2013 Graduate Student Rep., Herb Alpert School of Music Director's Student Council
- 2009-2010 Jazz History Rep., Rutgers-Newark Graduate Student Government Association

Languages

Spanish: Fluent speaking, writing, reading

Russian: 2 years university study

Professional Affiliations

American Anthropological Association

International Society for Improvised Music

Jazz Journalists Association

Society for Ethnomusicology