

# DHIREN PANIKKER

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## CURRENT POSITIONS

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<b>Scripps College</b> , Claremont, CA Visiting Lecturer, Music Department	2022-Present
<b>University of California, Riverside</b> , Riverside, CA Lecturer, Music Department	2021-Present

## EDUCATION

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<b>University of California, Riverside</b> , Riverside, CA Ph.D., Ethnomusicology	2019
<b>University of California, Irvine</b> , Irvine, CA M.F.A., Integrated Composition, Improvisation, and Technology	2010
<b>California State University, Fullerton</b> , Fullerton, CA B.M., Jazz Studies and Commercial Music	2008

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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Afro-Asia	Intercultural Improvisation
Black Popular Culture	Post-9/11 Studies
South Asian Diasporic Music	Critical Muslim Studies

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

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“Sound Come-Unity”: Intercultural Improvisation as Decolonial Pedagogy and Praxis,” in *The Improviser’s Classroom: Pedagogies of Adaptive Performance, Social Engagement, and Creative Practice*, edited by Daniel Fischlin and Mark Lomanno (forthcoming).

Book Review. “Improvisation and Social Aesthetics,” edited by Georgina Born, Eric Lewis, and Will Straw. *Jazz and Culture* 3, no. 1 (Spring 2020): 97-102.

“Sound Come-Unity: Post-9/11 Brown and the Politics of Intercultural Improvisation.” PhD Diss, University of California, Riverside, 2019.

“Indian American Jazz: An Emerging Hybridity.” MFA Thesis, University of California, Irvine, 2010.

## SELECTED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

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“Self and Subject: Improvisation as Decolonial Methodology.” 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Virtual Conference, Oct. 23, 2020.

“A Movement in Relation: Black Absence and the Promise of Afro-South Asia.” 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Denver, Colorado, Oct. 29, 2017.

“Sound(ing) Community: Toward a Decolonial Ethics of Improvisation.” Guelph Jazz Festival Colloquium, Guelph, Ontario, Canada, Sep. 13, 2017.

“Browntopia: Post-9/11 Coalition Building in Contemporary Jazz and Improvised Music,” International Institute for Critical Studies in Improvisation, St. Johns, Newfoundland, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, Jul. 7, 2016.

“To Pimp a Butterfly: Kendrick Lamar and the New Black Nationalism.” International Association for the Study of Popular Music, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, May 29, 2016.

“Musical Entanglements: Intra-action, Intercorporeality, and the Intercultural Musical Encounter.” Intercultural Music Conference, San Diego, California, Feb. 28, 2016.

“‘I’m a Cambo’: Cambodian American Hip-hop in Long Beach.” Work of Exile Conference, Fullerton, California, Feb. 28, 2015.

“A Space of Difference: Jazz and the Intercultural Musical Encounter.” GAMuT Graduate Student Conference, Denton, Texas, Sep. 26, 2015.

## HONORS & AWARDS

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Dissertation Year Program Fellowship, University of California, Riverside	2017-2018
Annual Meeting Subvention Award, Society for Ethnomusicology	2017
Humanities Graduate Student Research Grant, University of California, Riverside	2016
Gluck Fellowship (3X), Gluck Program of the Arts	2015-2018
Dean’s Distinguished Fellowship, University of California, Riverside	2014-2016
Medici Circle Scholarship, Medici Foundation, University of California, Irvine	2009
UC Irvine Fellowship, University of California, Irvine	2008-2010
Stephen Allen Memorial Scholarship, California State University, Fullerton	2007

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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**Scripps College** Spring 2023

Visiting Lecturer, Music Department

- *Intro to Ethnomusicology (MUS 112)*  
Introduction to the field of ethnomusicology for 15 undergraduate students. Emphasizes the origins and development of the discipline from the nineteenth century through today. Focus on decoloniality and outlier histories including women of color and partnerships between White ethnomusicologists and indigenous culture bearers.

**Pomona College, Claremont, CA** Fall 2022

Visiting Lecturer, Music Department

- *Ethnomusicology in Theory, Method, and Practice (MUS 70)*  
Introduction to the field of ethnomusicology, emphasizing the origins and development of the discipline from the nineteenth century through today. Focus on decolonial approaches and practical application of ethnographic methodologies.
- *Music Cultures of the World (MUS 118)*  
Undergraduate survey course for 15 non-music majors. Examines the performance

practices of various folk and classical traditions, and the social histories that inform them. Particular focus on interculturalism and representation.

Visiting Lecturer, Intercollegiate Department of Asian American Studies Spring 2022

- *Music in Asian America* (ASAM 179H)  
Newly designed course for 10 undergraduate students. Examines East and South/east Asian American performance with focus on interethnic and community formation.

**University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA** Fall 2021

Continuing Lecturer, Music Department

- *Music of Asian America* (MUS 124)  
Upper division course for 25 undergraduate students. Examines East and South/east Asian American performance with focus on interethnic community formation.
- *Introduction to Popular Musics of the World* (MUS/ETST/UTST 14)  
Undergraduate survey course for 300 non-music majors. Examines mass-mediated music and issues of race, hybridity, globalization, and diaspora. Particular focus on interculturalism and the cultural impact of technology. Supervised four graduate teaching assistants.

**University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA** Fall 2021

Visiting Lecturer, Music Department

- *Jazz Piano*  
Private lessons in advanced jazz piano with 4 undergraduate jazz majors. Focus on composition, comping, reharmonization, and advanced rhythmic techniques.

**University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA** Fall/Winter 2021

Lecturer, Music Department

- *Popular Musical Cultures of the U.S. (MUS 008)*  
Remote course for 300 undergraduate non-music majors. Analysis of various popular musics and the social histories that inform them. Supervised 4 graduate teaching assistants. Materials delivered through Canvas platform.

▪ *Music, Politics, and Social Movements (MUS 118)* Winter 2021

Remote upper-division course for 25 undergraduate students. Explores historical and contemporary protest movements and musics across the US, Latin America, and Africa. Materials delivered through Canvas platform.

**Cypress College, Cypress, CA** Spring 2020

Visiting Lecturer, Music Department

- *Jazz Improvisation (156C)*  
Remote learning course in jazz improvisation for 15 intermediate level instrumental and vocal students. Performance and analysis of various jazz styles including swing, bebop, modal, and free jazz. Materials delivered through Canvas platform.

## **TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS**

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**University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA** 2015-2019

Popular Music Cultures of the United States (4x)  
Introduction to Musics of the World (4x)  
Popular Musics of the World (2x)  
Basic Musical Concepts

University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

2008-2010

Jazz History  
 Jazz Theory  
 Beginning Harmony (2x)  
 Intermediate Harmony  
 Advanced Harmony

## INVITED LECTURES

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“Musics of India and the Diaspora,” *Popular Music Cultures of the U.S.*, Dr. Nana Kaneko, University of California, Riverside, May 14, 2018.

“I Got Rhythm: The Golden Age of Tin Pan Alley Songs,” *Popular Music Cultures of the U.S.*, Dr. Xóchitl Chávez, University of California, Riverside, Jan. 23, 2018.

“Jazz and Politics in the Post-War Era,” *Popular Music Cultures of the U.S.*, Dr. Liz Przybylski, University of California, Riverside, Apr. 19, 2016.

“Intercultural Collaboration in Jazz and Improvised Music,” *Popular Musics of the World*, Professor Matt Neil, University of California, Riverside, Jul. 22, 2015.

“Cambodian American Hip-hop in Long Beach,” *Popular Musics of the World*, Professor Erica Jones, University of California, Riverside, Aug. 18, 2015.

## PROFESSIONAL RECORDINGS

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<i>Moonlight Becomes You: The Music of Jimmy Van Huesen</i> , solo piano	Apr. 2023
<i>Lost Locations</i> , Trio Sangha, piano trio	Oct. 2012
<i>Jacob Wendt Quartet</i> , Jacob Wendt Quartet, jazz quartet, self-released	Aug. 2011

## SELECTED MUSIC PERFORMANCES (complete list available upon request)

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The Music of Jimmy Van Huesen, Florence Bayz Music Series, Riverside, CA	Feb. 2023
Scott Heustis and Friends, Open Gate Music Series, Eagle Rock, CA	Sep. 2019
Solo Explorations, Weds@Noon Concert Series, Riverside, CA	Apr. 2018
Resolution of the Soul, ImprovisAsians 2017 Festival, SF State University	Mar. 2017
Improvised Dialogues, Duo with Kevin Sliwoski, UC Riverside	May 2017
Solo Piano and Electronics, Sound and Fury Concert Series, Pasadena, CA	June 2016
Duo with Faraz Minnoei, UCR World Music Festival, Riverside, CA,	Apr. 2015
Elliot Deutch Big Band, Vitellos Jazz and Supper Club, Los Angeles, CA	Jul. 2014
Jacob Wendt Organ Trio, Pasadena at the Terrace, Pasadena, CA	Nov. 2013
Mt. San Antonio College Big Band Concert, Walnut, CA	Nov. 2013
L.A. Confidential: Jazz Film Noir, LA Jazz Institute, Los Angeles, CA	Oct. 2013
Jon Barnes Jazz Festival, Victorville, CA	Feb. 2013
Trio Sangha, 2nd Street Jazz, Los Angeles, CA	Jul. 2011
Trio Sangha Album Release, Blue Whale, Los Angeles, CA	Jul. 2011
Dhiren Panikker Trio, Pacific Whey, Newport Coast, CA	Nov. 2010
Abstracting Iranian Classical Music, MFA Recital, Irvine, CA	Apr. 2010

Latent Potentials, Telematic Concert, Irvine, CA	Dec. 2009
Trio Sangha, Cafe Metropol, Los Angeles, CA	Dec. 2008
Jazz Titans, Citizen's Festival, Yongin, South Korea	Sep. 2008
Jazz Titans, Dankook University, Seoul, South Korea	Sep. 2008
Ricky Hopkins Quartet, Jazz Bakery, Los Angeles, CA	Apr. 2008
Tim Gill Quintet, Catalina Jazz and Supper Club, Los Angeles, CA	May 2007

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

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Jazz Piano Instructor at CSArts-SGV, Duarte, CA Group jazz piano class for classical piano majors in arts high school	2021-2022
Studio Music Instructor, Los Angeles, CA Jazz and classical piano, improvisation, composition, theory, and ear-training	2005-Present
Ensemble Assistant, University of California, Riverside Rhythm section coach for university jazz big band	2016-2017
Irvine Yamaha Music Center, Irvine, CA Jazz and classical piano, improvisation, theory, and ear-training	2008-2010

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

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Co-Chair, Society for Ethnomusicology, Improvisation Section, 2021-present
Book Reviews Editor, Jazz and Culture, 2021-present
Program Committee Member, Society for Ethnomusicology Southern California and Hawaii Chapter (SEMSCHC), 62 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting, University of California, Los Angeles, 2020-2021
Secretary-Treasurer, Society for Ethnomusicology, Improvisation Section, 2016-2020

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

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Member, Society for Ethnomusicology
Member, Association for Asian American Studies
Member, International Association for the Study of Popular Music, US

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

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Languages  
Spanish (basic reading and speaking knowledge)

Remote Learning Technologies  
Canvas, iLearn

Music Software  
Logic Pro X, Ableton Live, Sibelius, Finale

**REFERENCES**

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