

# Michael David Székely

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Abington, PA 19001  
(716) 467-0890

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2021-present  
Associate Professor of Intellectual Heritage, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

2019-2021  
Assistant Professor of Intellectual Heritage, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

2015-2019  
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

## EDUCATION

2004  
Ph.D., Philosophy, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

2000  
M.A., Philosophy, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

1998  
B.Music (magna cum laude), Jazz Studies (Minor: Art History), Hartt School of Music, University of Hartford, West Hartford, CT

## DISSERTATION

2004  
*The Political Economy of Music and Musical Discourse: After Attali's 'Composition'*

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Advisor: Dr. Philip Alperson

Committee Members: Dr. Joseph Margolis, Chair (Philosophy, Temple University), Dr. Alan Singer (English, Temple University), and Dr. John Carvalho (Philosophy, Villanova University)

The dissertation focuses on the implications of “composition,” a term given by Jacques Attali to what he believed to be a coming stage, or political economy, with respect to the increasingly changing nature of the relationship between music and society. In Attali’s forecast, this change would be largely the result of significant developments in cultural, artistic, and technical production. The various ways in which Attali’s prediction has apparently been fulfilled are explored, especially in light of how our experience and practice of music, as well as our discourses surrounding music, have effected changes in both the roles of the various participants involved in musical cultures and the codes and uses of music they employ.

## AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

Aesthetics/Philosophy of the Arts (especially music)

## AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Cultural and Critical Theory, Postmodernism and Poststructuralism, Existentialism, Art Theory and History, Popular Culture Studies

## BOOK PROJECT

*Poststructuralism and Musical Ontology* (in preparation)

## PUBLICATIONS

“The Corporealization of Language Through the Body of Music: Revisiting Barthes’ ‘Musica Practica,’” in *Philosophical Perspectives on Artistic Agency* (Palgrave; forthcoming).

“What is an Event to a Subject? What is a Subject to an Event? Musical Folds,” in *Subjective Agency and Poststructuralism*, ed. Cillian Ó Fathaigh and Gavin Rae (UK: Routledge; December 2, 2024).

“What Moves Music? Poststructuralism, Pulsion, and Musical Ontology,” in *Historical Traces and Future Pathways of Poststructuralism: Aesthetics, Ethics, Politics*, ed. Emma Ingala and Gavin Rae (UK: Routledge, November 12, 2020).

“Music of a Witch’s Line: Deleuze and Guattari, and Music Video Shreds,” *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge* 34, July 2018, <http://rhizomes.net/issue34/szekely.html>

Review of The Cultural Promise of the Aesthetic, by Monique Roelofs, *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, Volume 75, Issue 1, Winter 2017, 99-100.

“Musical Education: From Identity to Becoming,” *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy in Music Education* (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2012).

“Jazz Naked Fire Gesture: Improvisation as Surrealism,” *Papers of Surrealism*, Issue 9, Summer 2011, [https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/files/63517393/surrealism\\_issue\\_9.pdf](https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/files/63517393/surrealism_issue_9.pdf)

“Schizo Zen, or, Subjectivity and the Schizoid Musician,” *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge* 20, Summer 2010, special issue: “Boundaries of Publication: Posthumography,” <http://www.rhizomes.net/issue20/szekely.html>

“Progressive Listening, or Listening as Improvisation: The Case of The Shaggs,” *Canadian Journal of Aesthetics*, Volume 15, Fall 2008, [http://www.uqtr.ca/AE/Vol\\_15/Authenticity/Authenticity\\_Szekely.htm](http://www.uqtr.ca/AE/Vol_15/Authenticity/Authenticity_Szekely.htm)

“Thresholds: Jazz, Improvisation, Heterogeneity, and Politics in Postmodernity,” *Jazz Perspectives* 2 (1), 2008, pp. 29-50.

“Fullness-to-Explosion: The Mode of Musical Becoming,” *Litteraria Pragensia* 16, (32), 2006, special issue: “Towards a New Aesthetics: Technology, Intensity, Heterogeneity,” pp. 96-114.

“Gesture, Pulsion, Grain: Barthes’ Musical Semiology,” *Contemporary Aesthetics*, Volume 4, 2006, <http://www.contempaesthetics.org/newvolume/pages/article.php?articleID=409>

"Rethinking Benjamin: The Function of the Utopian Ideal," *Cultural Logic*, 2006,  
<http://clogic.eserver.org/2006/2006.html>

"Pushing the Popular, or Toward a Compositional Popular Aesthetics," *Popular Music and Society* 29 (1), 2006, pp. 91-108.

*Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers*, 2005 Edition. Entries for Milton Babbitt, David Prall, and Victor Zuckerkandl.

"Text, Trembling: Bataille, Breton, and Surrealist Eroticism," *Textual Practice* 19 (1), 2005, pp. 113-129. Cited in French XX Bibliography 58: Critical and Biographical References for the Study of French Literature Since 1885, ed. William J. Thompson (New Jersey: Rosemont Publishing, 2007).

"Becoming-Still: Perspectives on Musical Ontology after Deleuze and Guattari," *Social Semiotics* 13(2), 2003, pp. 113-128.

## PAPERS PRESENTED

"Musical Legacies of Nietzsche's Vitalist Aesthetics: Barthes, Deleuze, Agamben," IX Iberian Meeting of Aesthetics: "Art and Life," Pamplona, Spain, October 2023 (invited).

Commentary on Michael Dickson's "Musical Notation and Musical Instruction," American Society for Aesthetics, annual Eastern Division meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 2023.

"What is an Event to a Subject? What is a Subject to an Event? Musical Folds," international conference: "Agency and Subjectivity: Rethinking Poststructuralism," Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain, January 2022.

"What Moves Music? Poststructuralism and Musical Ontology," international conference: "Poststructuralism: Past, Present, Future," Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain, March 2019.

"Shreds: The Authenticity of Musical Tricksterism," Canadian Society for Aesthetics, annual conference, St. Catharines, Ontario, May 2014.

"Rhythm, Pulsion, A-signification," American Comparative Literature Association, Session: "Shifting Positions - Writing Materialities of Sound," University of Toronto, Ontario, April 2013.

"Shreds: The Authenticity of Musical Tricksterism," Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference, Session: "Improvisations and Borrowings," Washington, D.C., March 2013.

"Incorporeal Materialism, Singularity, and Improvising Bodies," ICASP-McGill Center for the Critical Study of Improvisation, Interdisciplinary Conference, Theme: "Skin—Surface—Circuit: Embodying the Improvisatory," Montreal, Quebec, June 2012.

"Immanence, Singularity, Concept: Musings on Music and Improvisation from Surrealism to Deleuze and Guattari," International Society for Improvised Music, annual conference, Wayne, New Jersey, February 2012.

"A Pulsional Ontology of Music: Barthes and Beyond," Guelph Jazz Festival Colloquium, Session: "Desire and Signification," Guelph, Ontario, September 2010.

Commentary on Jeanette Bicknell's *Why Music Moves Us*, Canadian Society for Aesthetics, annual conference, Montreal, Quebec, May 2010.

"On a Spade Reddened in the Fire: Surrealism, Philosophy, and Improvised Jazz," Canadian Society for Aesthetics/Canadian University Music Society (joint session), annual conference, Ottawa, Ontario, May 2009.

"Music Impossible: Notes on Improvisationality," Canadian Society for Aesthetics, annual conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 2008.

"Improvisational Pragmatics," American Society for Aesthetics, annual Eastern Division meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 2008.

"What Is Community-Based Learning and How Can I Try It?" (co-presenter), Temple University Teaching and Learning Center, Winter Faculty Conference: Transformative Teaching: Developing Students as Scholars and Citizens, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 2008.

"Pushing the Popular, or, Toward a Compositional Aesthetics," American Society for Aesthetics, annual National meeting, Los Angeles, California, November 2007.

"Fullness-to-Explosion: The Mode of Musical Becoming," Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy, annual conference, Hamilton, Ontario, October 2007.

"Progressive Listening, or, Listening as Improvisation: The Case of The Shaggs," Canadian Society for Aesthetics, annual conference, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, May 2007.

"Progressive Listening, or Listening as Improvisation: The Case of The Shaggs," Eastern Pennsylvania Philosophical Association, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, April 2007.

"Detouring with The Shaggs: A Case Study in Improvisatory Aesthetics," International Conference on Arts and Humanities, Hawaii, 2007 (accepted for presentation).

"Gesture, Pulsion, Grain: Barthes' Musical Semiology," Canadian Society for Aesthetics, annual conference, Toronto, Ontario, May 2006.

"What Should We Do Now? Liability Issues in Experiential Education" (Co-Presenter), Pennsylvania Campus Compact annual meeting, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, November 2002.

"Surrealist Eroticism: Uncovering the Sewing Machine and Umbrella," Schuylkill Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, October 2000.

"Rethinking Benjamin: The Function of the Utopian Ideal," Society for Utopian Studies, annual conference, Montreal, Quebec, October 1998.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE/ADVISORY EXPERIENCE**

2014-present

Faculty Director/Advisor, Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies program, College of Liberal Arts, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

Serve faculty director and advisor for interdisciplinary undergraduate degree program in the liberal arts; Meet with prospective students; Advise current students; Develop strategies to expand program to other University campuses; Recruit faculty; Facilitate curricular programming/scheduling; Participate in workshops to promote and discuss program; Serve as program website administrator.

2014-present

Faculty Director/Advisor, Master of Liberal Arts program, College of Liberal Arts, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

Serve as faculty director and advisor for interdisciplinary graduate degree program in the liberal arts; Meet with prospective students; Advise current students; Develop strategies to expand program to other University campuses; Recruit faculty; Facilitate curricular programming/scheduling; Participate in workshops to promote and discuss program.

2009-2014

Assistant Director/Faculty Advisor, Master of Liberal Arts program, College of Liberal Arts, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

Serve as assistant director and advisor for interdisciplinary graduate degree program in the liberal arts; Meet with prospective students; Advise current students; Develop strategies to expand program to other University campuses; Recruit faculty; Facilitate curricular programming/scheduling; Participate in workshops to promote and discuss program.

2003-2014

Coordinator, Center for Internships and Career Development, College of Liberal Arts, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

Oversaw all modes of experiential programming connecting liberal arts students and faculty to regional businesses and community-based organizations, including service opportunities and community-based learning, internships, externships, and volunteering; Career advising and development; develop and execute career-related programs and events; Oversee and present at open house events for prospective and admitted students and families.

2000-2003

Research Associate, Office of Experiential Learning, College of Liberal Arts, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

Assisted the Director in facilitating the operation of the Experiential Learning team; Fulfilled the research needs of the Office, regarding issues related to experiential programming, general University infrastructure and policies, specific College of Liberal Arts initiatives, as well as a variety of topics in educational philosophy and curricula; Helped to design legal and liability policy pertaining to experiential programming in the College of Liberal Arts; Organized and maintained office budgetary records and accounts.

1999

Research Assistant, School of Law, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

Researched and dictated texts pertaining to constitutional law; Assisted in the processing of examinations; Fulfilled organizational needs and filing.

## **ACADEMIC COMMITTEES & SERVICE**

2023-present

General Education Course Coordinator (Meaning of the Arts)

Review all syllabi for consistency in assessment, workload, grading, and how well they address General Education learning goals; Mentor new instructors and provide instructor feedback that goes beyond SFFs; Set up and monitor course site on General Education Faculty page in Canvas and make sure all instructors have access; Oversee recertification process; Attend Professional Development sessions; Submit a brief report to the Associate Dean for

Academic Initiatives.

2021-2024

Writing-Intensive Course Committee

Serve as member of a committee of faculty and administrators charged with overseeing the writing- intensive course program of the university, including a specific mandate to review all departmental proposals for certifying or recertifying writing-intensive courses and the broader mission of contributing to the improvement of writing instruction in particular and undergraduate education in general across the university.

2022-2023

Grievance Committee (Intellectual Heritage)

Serve as member of departmental committee that reviews and determines outcomes for all student grievances that cannot be resolved either between the student and faculty or after review by the Director or Director's Designee. The committee also reviews grievance information holistically to determine where the program can take action to reduce grievances overall.

2021-2022

Honors Assessment Committee

Serve as member of a committee seeking to address the needs of Temple Honors faculty by way of identifying specific areas in need of attention or improvement and creating more initiatives for further faculty involvement.

2021-22

Intellectual Heritage Program Promotion Working Group

Served as part of a departmental working group seeking to promote the Intellectual Heritage program both within and beyond the university, to forge connections across and collaborations with schools/colleges, faculty, students, administration, and community stakeholders, to consider specific initiatives, events, conferences, etc. that would both promote Intellectual Heritage and be beneficial and stimulating to the university community as a whole.

2018-2021

Faculty Senate Representative, College of Liberal Arts

2020

General Education Oral Communication Working Group

Served as member of working group tasked with addressing such issues as: what the GenEd program means by "oral communication," additional appropriate assessment rubric, and additional faculty resources. Working group makes recommendations to the GenEd Executive Committee.

2016-2019

Undergraduate Studies Committee, Philosophy Department

2016

Intellectual Heritage Ethical Reasoning Assessment Committee

Served as member of committee tasked with assessing the Ethical Reasoning component of the Intellectual Heritage curriculum.

2007-2015

Ad-Hoc Committee on Community Engagement, College of Liberal Arts

Served as member of a committee primarily concerned with instructional and research partnerships with community groups, particularly in the areas surrounding the Temple University campuses.

2004-2015

Temple University Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program

Served as Advisory Board member for internationally recognized program, founded at Temple University, which utilizes a community-based learning pedagogy in which students from colleges and universities and incarcerated residents at various prison sites engage in academic coursework and dialogue/discussion concerning the criminal justice system.

2009-2014

Admissions/Recruitment Committee

Served as member of committee that focuses on issues pertaining to recruitment, admissions to, and enrollment in the University; Served as key liaisons to College of Liberal Arts on related matters; Work of committee also extends to publicity, promotion, and facilitation of events for prospective students and families (open houses, workshops, etc.).

2008-2014

Pennsylvania Capitol Semester Committee

Served as member of a committee charged with the development and delivery of an academic internship program in which students experience total professional immersion in state institutions and state politics while living, studying, and working in Harrisburg.

2005-2014

Career Services Networking Group

Served as member of a committee working toward best practices in networking, service delivery and integration, and mutual programmatic support involving career services offices and centers across the University.

2005-2014

Leadership Development Advisory Board

Served as member of a planning committee toward the development of a University-wide leadership program. Special projects have included: conceptualizing and designing the Leadership Studies Academy, a component of the overall Leadership Challenge program, comprised of a series of courses offered across the University from which students can choose in order to pursue issues, ideals, and values relevant to a holistic model of leadership; editing key program documents.

2006

First-Year Programs/Freshman Seminars

Served as member of planning team to enhance first-year programming and living-learning communities through the development of integrative academic courses and experiential learning opportunities; Presented career workshops for freshman seminars; Arranged career site visits whereby students can meet and interact with host institution management and staff; Participated in syllabus development for academic component of freshman seminars; Consulted on experiential placements available to student by field of interest.

2000-2004

Temple University Service Learning Roundtable

Served as member of a roundtable that sought to encourage and support courses and programming that utilized the transformative potential of service learning, a curriculum-based and inclusive form of pedagogy involving the placement of students in local communities in order to stimulate a deeper understanding of an academic subject through immersion in the world beyond the classroom.

### **OTHER ACADEMIC SERVICE/ACTIVITIES**

Summer/Winter 2019

Faculty Mentor, Student CARAS Project: Angelica Grillo, "Freedom and Difference: An Application of Schelling's Naturphilosophie to Improvisation in Free Jazz"

November 2019

Moderator, Panel Discussion: "Music and Social Justice," Intellectual Heritage Program, Temple University, Philadelphia

December 2008-January 2009

Participant, Intergroup Gender Dialogue, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Temple University, Philadelphia

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

**Temple University:**

#### **Graduate**

- Cultural and Aesthetic Appropriation
- Jazz: History, Culture, Aesthetic
- Made in America: Transcendentalism, the Beats, and the Modern Hipster
- Myth, Satire, and Spectacle (Everyday Life Studies)
- Humor
- Love and Sexuality
- Talk About Pop Music
- Art in Its Contexts
- From the Enlightenment to Modernism
- The Enlightenment and Modernism: Ideals and Discontents
- Popular Music and Contemporary Theory
- Modernism/Postmodernism
- Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies: Beyond the Boundaries of Thought Foundations of Modern Thought: The Search for an Ideal

#### **Undergraduate**

- Approaches to Liberal Studies
- Honors Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life
- Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life
- Honors Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good
- Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good
- Honors Meaning of the Arts
- Meaning of the Arts



- Landscape of American Thought
- Themes in Existentialism
- American Music
- Philosophical Challenges to the Individual
- Classics in Moral Philosophy
- American Lives
- Art & Society
- Liberal Arts Internship Seminar

**Penn State University:**

**Undergraduate**

- Introduction to Ethics
- Basic Problems of Philosophy
- Special Studies Program (Week-Long Seminars)

**Chautauqua Institution (Special Studies):**

- Philosophy, Art, and the City
- American Music
- Love and Sexuality Humor
- The Beats
- Nietzsche, Vital Philosopher
- Beyond the Boundaries of Thought
- Assumptions of Philosophy

**MASTER’S THESES SUPERVISED (Master of Liberal Arts)**

2024

Primary Advisor

Nappen, Wesley. “Alternatives to the Liberal International Order: Contextualizing the Russo-Ukraine War in an Era of Rising Illiberal Hegemony.”

2022

Primary Advisor

Giantisco, Alyson. “Wellbeing Through Creative Mindfulness: Collage and Other Arts Practices.”

2020

Primary Advisor

Kurtsman, Jenya. “Inconvenient Consequences of Chernobyl: Who Needs to Advocate for Facts?”

2019

Primary Advisor

Chen, Ying. “The Representation of Marginalized Families and Individuals in Diane Arbus’ 1960s Photographic Portraits.”

Primary Advisor

Li, Xiaonan. “A Postcolonialist Perspective on the Contextualization of Ancient Chinese Relics in United States Museums.”

2018

Primary Advisor

Nguyen, Anh. "Tradition and Modernization Concerning Aodai, Traditional Vietnamese Dress."

Co-Advisor

Singleton-Carter, Angela. "Male-on-Male Rape in the Military."

Co-Advisor

Gola, Kristen. "Uncorking the Wine-Mom Phenomenon: How the Virtual Village for Maternal Support Transformed into a Drinking Culture."

2016

Primary Advisor

Reynolds, Nicholas. "The Impossibility of the Possible: Franz Kafka's 'The Burrow.'"

Primary Advisor

Rice, Mark. "Esoteric Exile in Modernity: James Joyce's *The Dead*."

Primary Advisor

Wang, Shahui. "Traveling the Third Space: Resistance and Ambivalence in the Postcolonial Literature of Eileen Chang, V.S. Naipul, and Marguerite Duras."

Co-Advisor

Cornitcher, Carolyn. "Post-Industrialization and Poverty in North Philadelphia, 1920- 1970."

Primary Advisor

McClay, Shannon. "Sexual Assault on the College Campus."

2015

Primary Advisor

Pavlovcak, Gregory. "Exploring Landscapes of Control in Google Maps: Spatial Strategies and Tactics in More-than-Human Geographies."

2014

Co-Advisor

Ercoli, Raymond. "The Case of Nick Knight: Digital Photography and the Business of Fashion."

Primary Advisor

Lewis, Kellie. "Abstraction as Storytelling in the Vietnam Veterans and 9/11 Memorials."

2013

Primary Advisor

Gebhardt, Isabel. "Cultural discord in the Vietnamese American family structure and the loss of cultural identity among its youth."

Co-Advisor

Lin, Brad. "From School to Museum: The Controversial Move of the Barnes Foundation and the Challenge to Enhance Its Educational Methodology."

Co-Advisor

Cohen, Lauren. "The Use of Celebrity Image within an Advertising Endorsement: Grant Hill Drinks Sprite."

Co-Advisor

Mooney, James. "Problematizing the Portrayal of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder in *Monk*."

Primary Advisor

Ridgely, Elisabeth. "Peer-to-Peer Violence in Nursing: Why Has It Become Endemic and What Can We Do About It?"

2012

Co-Advisor

West, Benjamin. "Nostalgia Crisis: A Visual Anthropology of Lehigh Valley Punk and Hardcore."

Co-Advisor

Prantl, Ellen. "The Study of Five Fascinations Layered in Architectural History: Using Philadelphia as a Case Study."

Co-Advisor

Morrison, Elizabeth. "Truths and Consequences: A Study of the Angry Black Women Stereotype."

Primary Advisor

Ghant, Dwayne. "Belief and the Mind: Exploring how racial bias and belief structures affect cognitive development in intelligence and human behavior."

Primary Advisor

Bala, Denise. "Women's Rights Today: Have We Achieved the 'Perfect Equality' Mill's Liberal Feminism, or Were His Ideas Destined to Fail?"

Co-Advisor

Anastasia, Michael. "The Philadelphia Nativist Riots of 1844: The Spatial and Racial problems that predicated the collapse of the Whig Party."

Co-Advisor

Bateman, Alice. "Cognitive Science and Education: Building a Cautious Bridge."

Primary Advisor

Cook, Nexus. "The Psychology of Creativity: Exploring the link between creativity and mental health in bipolar disorder and schizophrenia."

Co-Advisor

Selby, Darasia. "Identity Politics in Santeria."

Primary Advisor

Semenuk, Amy. "The Virtual Art Museum: Goals, Problems, and Inspirations."

Primary Advisor

Zindell, Robert. "Resiliency: The Story of Covenant House and the Youth They Serve."

Co-Advisor

Jackson, Ky'a. "Diamonds in the Rough: The Cultivation of Black Children and Adolescents in Camden, NJ."

Co-Advisor

Kane, Maurice. "Ernest Poole (1880-1950): The Apprenticeship of a Socialist Journalist 1902-1914."

Primary Advisor

Hoelzle, Desiree. "Black Vegetarianism: Food Minority Groups in a Racialized America."

Primary Advisor

Robinette, Tara. "His Name or Mine: An Identity Crisis Rooted in Sexism."

Primary Advisor

Gill, Tracy. "Nuclear No More: An Analysis of Changes to the American Family Since the 1950s."

2011

Primary Advisor

Ruggiero-Wagner, Lisa. "Tuberculosis: When American Biomedical Research is Not Enough."

Primary Advisor

Salazar-Borja, Gerardo. "Photography as a Tool of Modern Man through the Words of Walter Benjamin and the Images of Robert Frank."

Co-Advisor

Moffat, Frederick. "The comprehensive location of videogames on the university campus: Integrating students, faculty, university administration and the videogame industry for teaching, learning, research and recreation."

Co-Advisor

Baez, Crisbel. "Displaced Identities in the Caribbean: A comparative study of how the political and social histories of Haiti and Dominican Republic have shaped islander identity."

Primary Advisor

Weisgrau, Joshua. "Media and Culture: A curriculum for an upper-level high school media studies class."

Co-Advisor

Appignani, Timothy. "The Big Rich in the Big Picture: The Impact of Conservative Advocacy Among Independent Texas Oilmen."

2010

Co-Advisor

DeSanto, Joanne. "Madonna: The Unlikely Force behind the Empowerment of a Generation of Women."

Co-Advisor

Usino, Michael. "'A Pirate's Life for Me': Pirates, Cowboys, Presidents, and the Reinvention of American Iconography."

Primary Advisor

Neri, Jenna. "Critical Theory Today: History, the Appropriation of Art, and Critical Realism."

Primary Advisor

Lederman, Charles. "Exploring Catholic Sexuality Using John Paul II's *Man and Women He Created Them – Theology of the Body*."

Primary Advisor

Knappick, Leighanna. "Exploring Individualism-Collectivism (I-C): An Alternative Framework for Socioeconomic Debate."

## **OTHER THESIS/DISSERTATION INVOLVEMENT**

2023

External Reader

Dylan Schenker, "The Construction of Identity and Evolution of Desire Through Synthetic Media," Thesis, Media Studies.

2021

External Reader

Eva Bohler, "An Afrocentric Analysis of the Philosophies of Howard Thurman," Dissertation, Africology and African-American Studies.

## MUSIC

### Ongoing Projects

Poetry/spoken word, *The Alternate View*

Duo featuring original poetry and electro-acoustic sound design

<https://thealternateview.bandcamp.com/album/the-alternate-view>

Drums, *The Chairman Dances*

Indie rock band

<https://thechairmandances.com/>

Percussion, *Unseen Rain*

Violin/cello/acoustic bass/vibraphone/drums quintet focusing on original compositions

<https://unseenrain.bandcamp.com/album/out-beyond>

<https://unseenrain.bandcamp.com/album/drift>

Drums, *Hawk Tubley & The Ozymandians*

Eclectic folk rock music (Americana)

<https://hawktubley.bandcamp.com/album/pond-kings-in-april>

<https://hawktubley.bandcamp.com/album/chocolate-maple-squeeze-play>

### Intermittent Projects

Drums, *The Stardusters*

Guitar/acoustic bass/drums trio focusing on a broad repertoire of music across a range of genres and styles, including surf, doo-wop, rock, country, swing, as well as jazz standards

<https://archive.org/details/the.stardusters2018-02-22.mk4.flac16>

<https://soundcloud.com/nick-millevoi/the-stardusters-sampler>

Drums, *Bhob Rainey/Michael Szekely*

Duo project focusing on collective improvisation

<https://youtu.be/XA8CKf1845c>

Drums, *Heath Watts/Michael Szekely*

Duo project focusing on collective improvisation

<https://youtu.be/40JO8k8-qMQ>

Drums, *Bobby Zankel Trio*

Reeds/acoustic bass/drums trio focusing on original compositions within a jazz/collective improvisation format

<https://youtu.be/3DZthprWSmw>

Drums, *Several Wolves*

Varying musical collective (typically trio or quartet, featuring combinations of piano/acoustic bass/drums/saxophones/guitar) focusing on collective improvisation

<https://youtu.be/WEsVYJrqNM0>

## Other

- Live jazz sessions.
- Select performances and recordings with Anthony Braxton, Taylor Ho Bynum, Stephen Haynes, Mike Kennedy, Dave Liebman, Toshi Makihara, Sam Newsome, Jack Wright, Bobby Zankel.
- Studies in drums/percussion with drum master Milford Graves, Bennington College, VT, 1996.
- Studies in jazz and African-American history with late jazz legend Jackie McLean, University of Hartford, CT, 1991-1995.
- Studies in classical percussion with Benjamin Toth (classical repertoire for multiple percussion, transcriptions, steel drum ensemble) and Rosemary Small (technique, reading), University of Hartford, CT, 1991-1995.

## Recordings

The Chairman Dances, *Evening Song* (2024)

Unseen Rain, *Drift* (2024)

*The Alternate View* (2023)

The Chairman Dances, *Small Comforts* (2023)

Unseen Rain, *Out There* (2019)

Hawk Tubley & The Ozymandians, *Maple Chocolate Squeeze Play* (2019)

Hawk Tubley & The Ozymandians, *Pond Kings in April* (2016)

Anthony Braxton, *Quintet (Tristano) 2014* (New Braxton House, 2016)

*The Outsiders Improvised and Creative Music Festival* (with Daniel Blacksberg Trio) (2015)

Daniel Blacksberg Trio, *Perilous Architecture* (2014)

Courtney Parker, *There* (2014)

Anthony Braxton, *Quintet (Tristano) 1997* (2012)

Daniel Blacksberg Trio, *bit heads* (2010)

David Corter, *Didgeridoo Dimensions* (2010)

Jackson Moore, *Early Music* (2007) (drums and piano)

ALMS Trio, *Advocates* (2005)

Stephen Mazzetta, *Tender Format* (2005)

Feet Music, *Assertions & sketches* (1996)

*Jazz at the Wilde* (with Feet Music) (1996)

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Popular Culture/American Culture Association

American Comparative Literature Association

European Society for Aesthetics

International Society for Improvised Music

Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy

Canadian Society for Aesthetics

Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture  
Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy  
American Philosophical Association  
American Society for Aesthetics

**LANGUAGES**

German [speaking, reading, and writing proficiency]

**SPECIAL INTERESTS**

Performing and recording musician and composer, poetry, visual arts

## REFERENCES

Dr. Philip Alperson  
Emeritus Professor of Philosophy  
Director, Center for Vietnamese Philosophy, Culture, & Society Temple University  
Philadelphia, PA 19122  
[alperson@temple.edu](mailto:alperson@temple.edu)

Dr. John Carvalho Professor of Philosophy  
Chair, Department of Philosophy Villanova University  
Villanova, PA 19085  
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