

Emma Winston - PhD student and musician

Goldsmiths, University of London

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EDUCATION

Graduate Student, MPhil/PhD - Goldsmiths, University of London - 2015 to present

I am a first-year graduate student in the Music department at Goldsmiths University of London. My doctoral research is centred around identity and creativity amongst ukulele players, both alone and in a group/community context, and will draw particularly from intersectional theory, taking into account overlapping issues of identity including gender, race, class, sexuality and dis/ability. My research is funded by the CHASE consortium.

MA in Music (Popular Music Research) (Distinction) - Goldsmiths, University of London - 2011 to 2012

At Masters level, I adopted a sociomusical focus in my studies, producing work ranging from a study of the ukulele's semiotic representation in popular culture to a formally-constructed literature review on gender relations and feminism in the British DIY independent scene. I achieved a First for every piece of work submitted (averaging around 84%), and was ultimately awarded a pass with distinction. My course was partially seminar-based but also involved substantial independent research, proving my ability to work both in a team and alone.

Bachelor of Arts in Music (2:1) - University of Cambridge - 2008 to 2011

I achieved a high 2:1 in my undergraduate degree. My modules ranged from the technical and theoretical (harmony and counterpoint) to the scientific (conducting a study in the field of music psychology), but were predominantly historical, and occasionally sociological, in nature. The supervision system at Cambridge was such that I was almost perpetually working towards extremely tight deadlines, but was also expected to produce carefully-researched work of an extremely high standard; I consequently consider myself accustomed to producing work of an excellent quality in a high-pressure environment.

EMPLOYMENT

Graduate Teaching Assistant - *Kings College London* - 2015 to 2016

I taught weekly seminar groups for the first-year music course's core Issues and Topics module, Disco Cultures. The experience was extremely rewarding and I am extremely keen to teach at a university level in the future.

Workshop Assistant - *School of Noise* - 2014 to present

I work on an occasional, ad-hoc basis for School of Noise, an organisation running workshops for young people and adults aimed at encouraging the exploration of experimental, electronic sound and music.

Independent Musician - *Freelance, London* - 2012 to present

I have played various keyboard instruments, including synthesiser, harmonium and piano, in live and recorded session contexts for multiple musicians, including Darren Hayman (formerly of Hefner), Pete Astor (formerly of The Loft and the Weather Prophets), and Ian Button (formerly of Death In Vegas). I also make solo electronic music under the name Deerful.

Web designer and front-end developer - *Freelance, London* - 2013 to 2015

While seeking PhD funding I ran a successful small business as a primarily self-taught web designer and front-end developer.

MUSIC AND SOUND

Deerful - *Solo project* - 2015 to present

I write, produce and perform synth-pop under the name Deerful. I self-released a sellout Christmas single towards the end of 2015, and will release a single (**Moon Maps/Hush Me**) and EP (**Staying Still**) on independent labels Where It's At Is Where You Are and Gare Du Nord later this year.

Independent sound work - *Solo project* - 2015 to present

I create and self-release audio collages using found sounds in various locations as abstract documents of spaces, places and events. In January 2016 I also produced and released the EP **Browser Pieces**, using only web browser-based synthesisers, in a single evening.

Cities and Memory - Dada Sounds - *Solo project* - February 2016

Cities and Memory is a global field recording & sound art work that presents both the present reality of a place, but also its imagined, alternative counterpart. I contributed a vocal and sample-based work using sound poetry methods, titled 'Ssa-ha-la', to their Dada Sounds project, marking a century of Dadaism, which will be published on the Cities and Memory website later this year.

PRESENTATIONS

A Declaration of Openness: intersectionality, idealism, and the politics of gentleness in early-stage research - *European Doctoral Seminar - Situations of Knowing* - 25th-26th February 2016

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Web interview - 'Emojis Are Art in This Twitter Bot ASCII Gallery' - Robert Barry, *Vice Motherboard* - 16th February 2016

Radio interview - *Canadian Broadcasting Company* - forthcoming

OTHER PROJECTS

Twitter bots

A series of bots using the Twitter framework to automate artistic or humorous content, programmatically generated in Tracery or Python. My primary bot project is Graphic Score Bot, which generates graphic scores to inspire experimental musicians, and which I will premiere in a live performance at Somerset House this spring. My bots have received a small degree of mainstream media attention, and I have used them as a platform to discuss creativity and accessibility of the arts on a broader scale.

Cat Simulator 3000 - *Game/writing project* - November 2015

A lighthearted interactive fiction game, written and coded single-handedly. Named one of major PC game publication Rock Paper Shotgun's 'Best free Games of the week'.