

# Jacob P. Cupps

Updated 2025

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Research interests	aesthetics, music production, popular music, hip-hop, subcultures																																								
Education	<table><tr><td><b>Washington University</b></td><td>St. Louis, Missouri</td></tr><tr><td>PhD in Music Theory</td><td>Aug 2022 – Present</td></tr><tr><td>MA in Music Theory</td><td>Aug 2020 – May 2022</td></tr><tr><td><b>Anderson University</b></td><td>Anderson, Indiana</td></tr><tr><td>BA in Music Theory and History</td><td>Aug 2016 – May 2020</td></tr></table>	<b>Washington University</b>	St. Louis, Missouri	PhD in Music Theory	Aug 2022 – Present	MA in Music Theory	Aug 2020 – May 2022	<b>Anderson University</b>	Anderson, Indiana	BA in Music Theory and History	Aug 2016 – May 2020																														
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## Research Projects

<b><i>Glyptic Channels</i> timeline project</b>	May 2025 – Aug 2025
Research Assistant to Christopher Douthitt	<a href="#">Link</a>
<b>Theory Subsection curriculum revision project</b>	May 2023 – Aug 2024
with Varun Chandrasekhar, Felipe Guz Tinoco, and Sophia Wetzel	(2023)
with Tad Biggs and Lisa Pollock Mumme	(2024)
<b>2nd Nature engraving project</b>	May 2022 – Aug 2022
Research Assistant to Christopher Stark	<a href="#">Link</a>

## Writing Projects

<b>Known Unknowns: Musical Practice and Discourses of Undergroundness in Contemporary Hip-Hop</b>	In-Progress
Committee: TBA	
<b>“The Sound of the Underground”: Distinguishing Alternative Identity in Rap’s Contemporary Moment</b>	May 2022
Committee: Paul Steinbeck, Lauren Eldridge Stewart, and Christopher Stark	<a href="#">Link</a>

## Presentations & Lectures

<b>Deconstructing Jazz Rap: Footwork, Glitch, and Process in RP Boo &amp; Armand Hammer’s “Blood Running High” (2024)</b>	Nov 2025
SMT-HHRIG & SMT-JIG joint session at AMS-SMT 2025	
<b>Reggae &amp; Dub: Formalizing and Globalizing a Jamaican Popular Musical Identity</b>	Sept 2025
Invited lecture for Music 3021	
<b>Music(s) of the Caribbean</b>	Sept 2025
Series of two lectures given for Music 1040	
<b>Coutnersurveillant Sampling in King Vision Ultra &amp; Algiers’ <i>SHOOK WORLD</i></b>	Mar 2025
IASPM-US & PopCon joint conference	
<b>Sampling(,) Earthseed: Butlerian Themes and Dynamic Musicopoetics in Two Collaborative Works by Nicole Mitchell</b>	Mar 2024
SAM national conference	
<b>Form as Flow(, Layering,) and Rupture in Contemporary Underground Hip-Hop</b>	Nov 2023
TAAM preconference	
<b>“The South Got Something To Say” (Side A: Texas &amp; Atlanta)</b>	Nov 2023
Invited lecture with Christina Smiley for AFAS 3456	
<b>Glissant’s Opacity, ELUCID’s <i>I Told Bessie</i>, and the Politics of Legibility in Contemporary Underground Hip-Hop</b>	June 2023
IASPM international conference	
<b>Form as Flow and Rupture in Contemporary Underground Hip-Hop</b>	June 2023
SMT-HHRIG meeting	
<b>DIY Recording &amp; Production Techniques in Audacity and Ableton</b>	Jan 2023 – April 2023
Series of five lectures given for Music 3034	
<b>Hip-Hop Culture in Postindustrial New York and</b>	Oct 2022

	<b>Digable Planets' <i>Blowout Comb</i></b>	
	Series of two lectures given for Music 3021	
	<b>Sounding the Underground: Beat Construction and Methods of Alteration in 00s-10s Hip-Hop</b>	May 2022
	IASPM-US national conference	
Public Scholarship	<b>Program Notes for Great Artists Series '25:</b>	Mar 2025
	Lawrence Brownlee, tenor, and Kevin J. Miller, piano	
	<b>Program Notes for Great Artists Series '24:</b>	Mar 2024
	Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra	<a href="#">Link</a>
	<b>Program Notes for Modlin Center for the Arts</b>	Nov 2023
	J'Nai Bridges, mezzo-soprano, and Mark Markham, piano	
	<b>Program Notes for Great Artists Series '23:</b>	May 2023
	J'Nai Bridges, mezzo-soprano, and Mark Markham, piano	<a href="#">Link</a>
	<b>Program Notes for Great Artists Series '22:</b>	May 2022
	Seong Jin-Cho, piano	<a href="#">Link</a>
Professional Service	<b>Panel Moderator</b>	Mar 2025
	IASPM-US & PopCon joint conference	
	<b>Peer Reviewer</b>	Aug 2024 – Present
	Society for Music Theory, SMT-Pod	
	<b>Program Committee Member</b>	Feb 2024 – Nov 2024
	Society for Music Theory, Hip-Hop/Rap Interest Group	
	<b>Co-Webmaster</b>	Dec 2022 – Nov 2024
	Society for Music Theory, Hip-Hop/Rap Interest Group	
	<b>Panel Moderator</b>	June 2023
	IASPM international conference	
	<b>Program Committee Co-Chair</b>	June 2022 – Nov 2022
	Society for Music Theory, Popular Music Interest Group	
	<b>Zotero Bibliography Project Co-Chair</b>	May 2022 – Jan 2024
	Society for Music Theory, Popular Music Interest Group	
	<b>Records Project Committee Co-Chair</b>	May 2022 – May 2023
	International Association for the Study of Popular Music, US Chapter	
	<b>Webmaster</b>	Dec 2021 – Jan 2024
	Society for Music Theory, Popular Music Interest Group	