

# Mason Youngblood

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## Positions

<b>Stony Brook University, Institute for Advanced Computational Science,</b> Postdoctoral Fellow	Stony Brook, NY 2023 – present
<b>Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology, Minds &amp; Traditions Research Group,</b> Postdoctoral Researcher	Jena, DE 2021 – 2023
<b>Other Affiliations,</b>	
• University of Tennessee, Center for the Dynamics of Cultural Complexity: External Researcher (May 2025 – present)	

## Education

<b>PhD</b>	<b>Graduate Center, CUNY, Animal Behavior and Comparative Psychology</b> Dissertation: "From psychology to phylogeny: bridging levels of analysis in cultural evolution" • Finalist, Richerson Award for Best PhD in Cultural Evolution (2022)	New York, NY 2021
<b>MPhil</b>	<b>Graduate Center, CUNY, Psychology</b>	New York, NY 2020
<b>MA</b>	<b>Hunter College, CUNY, Psychology</b>	New York, NY 2018
<b>BS</b>	<b>University of South Carolina, Honors College, Biology</b> • Minors in Neuroscience and Anthropology • 3.87 GPA	Columbia, SC 2015

## Teaching

<b>Queens College, CUNY</b> Teaching Assistant	Flushing, NY Fall 2017 – Spring 2021
• Introduction to College Biology (BIOL 011): Spring 2020 (3 credits), Fall 2019 (3 credits), Spring 2019 (6 credits)	
• Principles of Evolutionary Biology (BIOL 287 & 587): Fall 2020 (6 credits), Fall 2019 (3 credits), Fall 2018 (6 credits), Fall 2017 (3 credits)	
• Animal Behavior (BIOL 345W & 685): Spring 2021 (3 credits), Spring 2018 (4 credits)	
<b>Hunter College, CUNY</b> Instructor	New York, NY Fall 2016 – Spring 2017
• General Experimental Psychology (PSYCH 25000): Spring 2017 (4 credits), Fall 2016 (4 credits)	
<b>Hunter College, CUNY</b> Teaching Assistant	New York, NY Fall 2015 – Spring 2016
• General Experimental Psychology (PSYCH 25000): Spring 2016 (4 credits), Fall 2015 (4 credits)	
• Neuroscience (PSYCH 22400): Spring 2016 (3 credits)	
• Personality Psychology (PSYCH 22000): Fall 2015 (3 credits)	
<b>Guest Teaching (Lectures)</b>	
• Stony Brook University, AI and Creativity (Stony Brook, NY, Sept 2025): AI tools for creatives in music and audio	
• Stony Brook University, Philosophy of Technology (Stony Brook, NY, Dec 2023): Negativity bias in the spread of voter fraud conspiracy theory tweets during the 2020 US election	
• Keio University, Evolution and Music (Tokyo, JP, Dec 2023): Cultural evolutionary approaches to the study of contemporary music	
• Queens College, CUNY, Animal Behavior (Flushing, NY, May 2021): Cultural evolution	
• Queens College, CUNY, Principles of Evolutionary Biology (Flushing, NY, Nov 2020): Cultural evolution	
• Queens College, CUNY, Principles of Evolutionary Biology (Flushing, NY, Sept 2018): Genes, development, and environment	
• Queens College, CUNY, Principles of Evolutionary Biology (Flushing, NY, Nov 2017): Cultural evolution	

## Guest Teaching (Coding Workshops)

- Genspace, Community Biology Lab (Brooklyn, NY, Jan 2023): Models of cultural transmission in human populations
- University of Amsterdam, Social Learning Across the Lifespan and Generations (5th ESLR Workshop) (Amsterdam, NL, July 2022): Biased transmission and transformation in the cultural evolution of birdsong
- École Normale Supérieure, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (Paris, FR, Apr 2022): Biased transmission and transformation in the cultural evolution of birdsong
- Genspace, Community Biology Lab (Brooklyn, NY, Mar 2022): Models of cultural transmission in human populations
- Genspace, Community Biology Lab (Brooklyn, NY, May 2021): Models of cultural transmission in human populations

## Publications

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### JOURNAL ARTICLES

(*n* = 18)

<b>Vocal efficiency in crows</b> C. Wascher, M. Youngblood <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s10071-025-01985-8">https://doi.org/10.1007/s10071-025-01985-8</a> (Animal Cognition)	2025
<b>Temporal stability in songs across the breeding range of <i>Geothlypis philadelphia</i> (mourning warbler) may be due to learning fidelity and transmission biases</b> J. Pitocchelli, A. Albina, R.A. Bentley, D. Guerra, M. Youngblood <a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/ornithology/ukae046">https://doi.org/10.1093/ornithology/ukae046</a> (Ornithology)	2025
<b>Language-like efficiency in whale communication</b> M. Youngblood <a href="https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.ads6014">https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.ads6014</a> (Science Advances)	2025
<b>Convergent evolution in whale and human vocal cultures</b> A. Whiten, M. Youngblood <a href="https://doi.org/10.1126/science.adv2318">https://doi.org/10.1126/science.adv2318</a> (Science)	2025
<b>Rehabilitation outcomes of bird-building collision victims in the Northeastern United States</b> A. Kornreich, D. Partridge, M. Youngblood, K. Parkins <a href="https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0306362">https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0306362</a> (PLOS ONE)	2024
<b>Language-like efficiency and structure in house finch song</b> M. Youngblood <a href="https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2024.0250">https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2024.0250</a> (Proceedings of the Royal Society B)	2024
<b>First-mover advantage in music</b> O. Sobchuk, M. Youngblood, O. Morin <a href="https://doi.org/10.1140/epjds/s13688-024-00476-z">https://doi.org/10.1140/epjds/s13688-024-00476-z</a> (EPJ Data Science)	2024
<b>Statistical signals of copying are robust to time-and space-averaging</b> M. Youngblood, H. Miton, O. Morin <a href="https://doi.org/10.1017/ehs.2023.5">https://doi.org/10.1017/ehs.2023.5</a> (Evolutionary Human Sciences)	2023
<b>Negativity bias in the spread of voter fraud conspiracy theory tweets during the 2020 US election</b> M. Youngblood, J.M. Stubbersfield, O. Morin, R. Glassman, A. Acerbi <a href="https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-023-02106-x">https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-023-02106-x</a> (Humanities and Social Sciences Communications)	2023
<b>All intelligence is collective intelligence</b> F.J. Benjamin, R.O. Kaaronen, C. Moser, W. Rorot, J. Tan, V. Varma, T. Williams, M. Youngblood <a href="https://doi.org/10.56280/1564736810">https://doi.org/10.56280/1564736810</a> (Journal of Multiscale Neuroscience)	2023
<b>Content bias in the cultural evolution of house finch song</b> M. Youngblood, D.C. Lahti <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2021.12.012">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2021.12.012</a> (Animal Behaviour)	2022
<b>Phylogenetic reconstruction of the cultural evolution of electronic music via dynamic community detection (1975–1999)</b> M. Youngblood, K. Baraghith, P.E. Savage	2021

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.evolhumbehav.2021.06.002> (Evolution & Human Behavior)

**Female song can be as long and complex as male song in wild house finches (*Haemorhous mexicanus*)** 2020  
A. Kornreich, M. Youngblood, P.C. Munding, D.C. Lahti  
<https://doi.org/10.1676/19-00126> (The Wilson Journal of Ornithology)

**Extremist ideology as a complex contagion: the spread of far-right radicalization in the United States between 2005 and 2017** 2020  
M. Youngblood  
<https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-020-00546-3> (Humanities & Social Sciences Communications)

**Cultural transmission modes of music sampling traditions remain stable despite delocalization in the digital age** 2019  
M. Youngblood  
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0211860> (PLOS ONE)

**Conformity bias in the cultural transmission of music sampling traditions** 2019  
M. Youngblood  
<https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.191149> (Royal Society Open Science)

**A Raspberry Pi-based, RFID-equipped birdfeeder for the remote monitoring of wild bird populations** 2019  
M. Youngblood  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/03078698.2019.1759908> (Ringing & Migration)

**A bibliometric analysis of the interdisciplinary field of cultural evolution** 2018  
M. Youngblood, D. Lahti  
<https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-018-0175-8> (Palgrave Communications)

**BOOK CHAPTERS**  
(*n* = 1)

**Cultural evolution and music** 2023  
M. Youngblood, Y. Ozaki, P.E. Savage  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198869252.013.42> (The Oxford Handbook of Cultural Evolution)

**PREPRINTS**  
(*n* = 6)

**chatter: a Python library for applying information theory and AI/ML models to animal communication** 2025  
M. Youngblood  
<https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2512.17935> (arXiv)

**Zebra finches transform random songs to exhibit linguistic laws** 2025  
M. Youngblood  
[https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/m6z23\\_v1](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/m6z23_v1) (PsyArXiv)

**Status quo conservatism: A theory and a model** 2025  
M. Youngblood, A. Marie, O. Morin  
<https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/ngb58> (SocArXiv)

**Simulation-based inference with deep learning shows speed climbers combine innovation and copying to improve performance** 2024  
M. Youngblood, S. Passmore  
<https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/n3rvk> (PsyArXiv)

**Does singing enhance cooperation more than speaking does? A global experimental Stage 1 Registered Report** 2024  
P.E. Savage, A. Ampiah-Bonney, A. Arabadjiev, A. Arhine, J.F. Ariza, J.S. Bamford, B.S. Barbosa, A.-K. Beck, M. Belyk, E. Benetos, J. Bulbulia, A. Cabildo, S. Calhoun, G. Chiba, S.I. Duran, U. Færøvik, T. Fitch, S. Fujii, S. Gabriel, F. Haiduk, N.C. Hansen, S. Hegde, F. Honbolygó, J. Huang, N. Jacoby, Y. Jadoul, Z. Jia, T. Jung, C. Kertész, U. Khasanah, I. Kim, Y. Kitayama, W. Krzyżanowski, U. Kuikuro, D. Kurdova, P. Larrouy-Maestri, J.D. Leongómez, F. Liu, T. Lomsadze, P. Loui, Y. Ma, J. McBride, D. Moya, R. Natsitsabui, G. Novembre, F.E. Nweke, P. Opondo, Y. Ozaki, H. Parkinson, M.L. Parselelo, D. Pavlovich, P. Pfordresher, K. Pisanski, P. Podlipniak, T. Popescu, P. Proutskova, S. Purdy, A. Ravignani, L. Raviv, D.P. Sadaphal, S.R.

Shakya, D. Shilton, J. Silva-Zurita, I. Soto-Silva, B. Tarr, A. Tierney, P. Tiratanti, L. Trainor, C. Der Nederlanden, M.A.C. Varella, S.D. Varnosfaderani, M. Youngblood, R. Zariquiey  
<https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/pv3m9> (PsyArXiv)

**Relationship between personality and cognitive traits in domestic rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)** 2020  
M.G. GomezdeLaTorre Clavel, M. Youngblood, D. Lahti  
<https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.10.12.336024> (bioRxiv)

#### POPULAR PRESS

(*n* = 4)

**Nobody defunded the police: a study** 2022  
A. Friedman, M. Youngblood  
(The Real News Network)

**Birdsong diversity in the urban environment** 2021  
M. Youngblood  
(Plot, Vol. 10: X)

**Poorer cities spend more of budget on police, even where crime is lower** 2020  
A. Friedman, M. Youngblood  
(Sludge)

**A study of collaborative sampling across international network** 2019  
M. Youngblood  
(Red Bull Music Academy Daily)

## **Presentations**

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### **Invited Talks**

- Stony Brook University Libraries (Stony Brook, NY, Dec 2025): From digitization to discovery—the frontier of AI in research libraries
- Oberlin College, Technology in Music and Related Art (Oberlin, OH, Dec 2025): From generative inference to generative composition
- Oberlin College, Department of Biology (Oberlin, OH, Dec 2025): Complexity in birdsong—using science to illuminate its origins, and art to motivate its conservation
- Cornell University, K. Lisa Yang Center for Conservation Bioacoustics (Ithaca, NY, Nov 2025): Complexity in birdsong—using science to illuminate its origins, and art to motivate its conservation
- Stony Brook University, Institute for Advanced Computational Science (Stony Brook, NY, Nov 2025): Dynamics of collective creativity in AI art competitions
- Research on Animal Song in Culture, Arts, and Literature, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (Virtual Meeting, Oct 2025): Complexity in birdsong—using science to illuminate its origins, and art to motivate its conservation
- University of Tennessee, Center for the Dynamics of Social Complexity (Knoxville, TN, September 2025): Dynamics of collective creativity in AI art competitions
- Santa Fe Institute, Building a Science of Cultural Evolution for the 21st Century (Santa Fe, NM, May 2025): Social learning biases—from theory to inference
- Stony Brook University, Institute for Advanced Computational Science, Collective Creativity Workshop (Stony Brook, NY, Apr 2025): Creativity and innovation in cultural evolution
- Graduate Center, CUNY, Cognitive and Comparative Psychology Colloquium (New York, NY, Feb 2025): Complexity and efficiency in animal communication
- University of Miami (Coral Gables, FL, Feb 2025): Lyrar: building digital twin for acoustic design
- Goldsmiths, University of London, Science of the Creative and Performing Arts Group (London, UK, Sept 2024): Complexity in birdsong—using science to illuminate its origins, and art to motivate its conservation
- University of Oxford, Edward Grey Institute of Field Ornithology (Oxford, UK, Sept 2024): Complexity in birdsong—using science to illuminate its origins, and art to motivate its conservation
- Diverse Intelligences Summer Institute, Storyteller Salon (St. Andrews, UK, July 2024): Synthesizing imagined songs of extinct species
- Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Linguistics and Cognitive Science Meet Diversity Workshop (Leipzig, DE, July 2024): Language-like efficiency and structure in house finch song
- Institut Jean Nicod, Évolution & Cognition Sociale (Paris, FR, Mar 2024): Cultural conservatism: a theory and model
- Stony Brook University, Ecology and Evolution Colloquium (Stony Brook, NY, Mar 2024): Complexity and efficiency in birdsong
- Mercy University, Animal Behavior Seminar (Bronx, NY, Feb 2024): The evolution of complexity in birdsong

- Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Cultural Evolution of the Arts Workshop (Leipzig, DE, Nov 2023): Towards a cultural phylogeny of English-language fiction
- University of Bristol, Technology, Cognition, and Democracy Group (Bristol, UK, Oct 2023): Negativity bias in the spread of voter fraud conspiracy theory tweets during the 2020 US election
- Stony Brook University, Institute for Advanced Computational Science (Stony Brook, NY, Sept 2023): Language-like efficiency and structure in house finch song
- Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology, Cognitive Technologies Workshop (Leipzig, DE, Apr 2023): Collective decision-making, discovery dynamics, and the emergence of open-ended technological growth (presentation of working paper by James Winters and Mathieu Charbonneau)
- Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology, Communicative Efficiency Workshop (Leipzig, DE, Apr 2023): Efficiency and complexity in house finch song
- Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Department of Human Behavior, Ecology, and Culture (Leipzig, DE, Apr 2023): Status quo conservatism in coordination games: the role of negotiation costs and bargaining power
- Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics, Computational Auditory Perception Research Group (Frankfurt, DE, Nov 2022): Cultural evolutionary approaches to the study of contemporary music
- Institut Jean Nicod, Évolution & Cognition Sociale (Paris, FR, Oct 2022): Signals of random copying in the cultural evolution of cattle brands are boosted by time- and space-averaging
- Max Planck Institute for the Study of Human History, From Cultural Evolution to Computational Humanities: Building a Bridge Workshop (Jena, DE, June 2022): Cultural evolutionary approaches to the study of contemporary music
- Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Social Psychology Section (Amsterdam, NL, June 2022): Negativity bias in the spread of voter fraud conspiracy theory tweets during the 2020 US election
- University of Tennessee, Center for the Dynamics of Social Complexity (Knoxville, TN, Apr 2022): From psychology to phylogeny: bridging levels of analysis in cultural evolution
- Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Department of Human Behavior, Ecology, and Culture (Leipzig, DE, Apr 2022): Distinctiveness, copying, and complexity in the cultural evolution of cattle brands
- Institut Jean Nicod, Évolution & Cognition Sociale (Paris, FR, Feb 2022): From psychology to phylogeny: bridging levels of analysis in cultural evolution
- Queens College, Biology Department Colloquium (Flushing, NY, Oct 2021): From psychology to phylogeny: bridging levels of analysis in cultural evolution
- Early Career Social Learning Researcher's Society (Virtual Meeting, Oct 2021): Cultural transmission bias in the spread of voter fraud conspiracy theories on Twitter during the 2020 US election
- Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Theory in Cultural Evolution Lab (Leipzig, DE, Sept 2021): Cultural transmission bias in the spread of voter fraud conspiracy theories on Twitter during the 2020 US election
- Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution (Leipzig, DE, Sept 2021): From psychology to phylogeny: bridging levels of analysis in cultural evolution
- University of Pennsylvania, Social and Cultural Evolution Working Group (Philadelphia, PA, Sept 2021): From psychology to phylogeny: bridging levels of analysis in cultural evolution
- International Council on Systems Engineering, Social Systems Working Group (Virtual Meeting, May 2021): Agent-based modeling and generative inference in cultural evolution
- Thinking About the Cultural Evolution of Thinking Workshop (Düsseldorf, DE, Jan 2021): Inferring cognitive phenomena from cultural evolutionary patterns
- Stony Brook University, Institute for Advanced Computational Science (Stony Brook, NY, Jan 2021): Bridging pattern and process in cultural evolution and social behavior
- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Cognition and Comparative Psychology Colloquium (New York, NY, Sept 2018): Pattern and process in cultural evolution
- Queens College, CUNY, Biology Symposium (Flushing, NY, Jan 2018): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution

#### Conference Talks

- Cultural Evolution Society Conference (Durham, UK, Sept 2024): Language-like efficiency and structure in house finch song
- European Association of Archaeology Conference (Rome IT, Aug 2024): Statistical signals of copying are robust to time- and space-averaging
- Cultural Evolution Society Conference (Aarhus, DK, Sept 2022): Signals of random copying in the cultural evolution of cattle brands are robust to time- and space-averaging
- New America Foundation, Digging into the Data on Jan 6 (Washington, DC, Dec 2021): Cultural transmission bias in the spread of voter fraud conspiracy theories on Twitter during the 2020 US election
- Cultural Evolution Society Conference (Virtual Meeting, June 2021): Content bias in the cultural evolution of house finch song
- European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association (Virtual Conference, Mar 2021): Phylogenetic reconstruction of the cultural evolution of electronic music via dynamic community detection (1975-1999)
- Animal Behavior Society (Virtual Conference, July 2020): A Raspberry Pi-based, RFID-equipped birdfeeder for the remote monitoring of wild bird populations

- Cultural Evolution Society Conference (Tempe, AZ, Oct 2018): The cultural transmission of sampling traditions in a network of musical collaborators
- Cultural Evolution Society Conference (Tempe, AZ, Oct 2018): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution
- International Behavioral Ecology Congress (Minneapolis, MN, Aug 2018): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution
- Applications in Cultural Evolution Conference (Tartu, EE, June 2018): The cultural transmission of sampling traditions in a network of musical collaborators
- Applications in Cultural Evolution Conference (Tartu, EE, June 2018): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution
- Cultural Evolution Society Conference (Jena, DE, Sept 2017): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution

## Awards, Grants, & Fellowships

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(\*personnel not PI)

### Awards

- Finalist, Richerson Award for Best PhD in Cultural Evolution (2022)

### Fellowships

- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Institute for Advanced Computational Science (2023-present)
- Science Undergraduate Research Fellowship (2012-2014): The epigenetic expression of dopamine receptor D4 in the deer mouse (*Peromyscus*)

### Grants

- Institute for Advanced Computational Science, Seed Grant (2024, \$249,421): Dynamics of creativity in complex social networks
- Advancing Cultural Evolution, Outreach Grant (2023, \$1,625): Non-human cultural extinction
- Cultural Evolution Society Transformation Fund (2023, £17,774): Phylogenies of literature
- Sigma Xi Grant-In-Aid of Research (2018, \$1,000): The neural basis and spatiotemporal dynamics of female preferences for male bird song
- Doctoral Student Mini-Grant, Queens College (2018, \$500): A Raspberry Pi-based, RFID-equipped birdfeeder for the remote monitoring of wild bird populations
- Doctoral Student Research Grant, Graduate Center (2018, \$1,000): The neural basis and spatiotemporal dynamics of female preferences for male bird song
- Research Enhancement Award, Queens College (2017, \$6,000): The neural basis and spatiotemporal dynamics of female preferences for male bird song
- \*John Templeton Foundation (2016-2018, \$89,000): Towards a new synthesis for cultural evolution
- Summer Research Training, Methods in the Neuroscience of Drug Abuse, University of Texas at El Paso (2013): The role of dopamine D2 receptor in brain development and ethanol-induced behavioral disinhibition

## Advising

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### PhD Students

- Alina Shabaeva (2025-2026): PhD in Linguistics, Stony Brook University – Creativity and word order in online experiments

### Masters Students

- Agnes Dietrich (2021-2022): MA in African Verbal and Visual Arts, University of Bayreuth
- Macarena G. GomezdeLaTorre Clavel (2019-2020): MA in Biology, Queens College, CUNY – Relationship between personality and cognitive traits in domestic rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)
- Wendy Castillo (2019-2021): MA in Biology, Queens College, CUNY – Cultural variation in the birdsong of Hawaiian house finches (*Haemorrhous mexicanus*)

### Undergraduate & Postbaccalaureate Students

- Lilia Kurnosova (2021-2022): Friedrich Schiller University Jena
- Elia Weber (2021-2022): Friedrich Schiller University Jena
- Joderick Castillo (2019-2021): BA in Biology, Queens College, CUNY
- Ratna Kanhai (2019-2021): BA in Biology, Queens College, CUNY
- Rahhid Khan (2019): BA in Biology, Queens College, CUNY
- Sheila Gogineni (2019): BA in Psychology, Queens College, CUNY
- Christina Takos (2019): BA in Biology, Queens College, CUNY
- Sachin Surendra (2018-2019): BA in Biology, Queens College, CUNY
- Andrea Lopez (2018-2020): BA in Biology, Queens College, CUNY
- Shari Zimmerman (2017-2020): BA in Biology, Queens College, CUNY
- Ar Kornreich (2017-2019): BA in Biology, Queens College, CUNY



## Committee Membership

- Macarena G. GomezdeLaTorre Clavel (2019-2020): MA in Biology, Queens College, CUNY – Relationship between personality and cognitive traits in domestic rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)

## Bootcamps & Summer Schools

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### New York University Startup Accelerator Program

Hosted by the New York University Entrepreneurial Institute

New York, NY  
2025 – 2025

### Diverse Intelligences Summer Institute

Fellow, hosted by the University of St. Andrews

St. Andrews, UK  
2022 – 2022

### Statistical Rethinking: A Bayesian Course with Examples in R and Stan

Hosted by the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology

Leipzig, DE  
Spring 2022

### Acoustic Communication: Methods and Techniques for Studying Animal Sound

Hosted by the University of Southern Denmark

Odense, DK  
2017

## Professional Service

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### Journal Editing

- Special collection on the Cultural Evolution of the Arts in *Evolutionary Human Sciences* (Co-edited with Oleg Sobchuk): Oct 2023 – present

### Society Leadership

- The Cultural Evolution Society (CES): Membership Secretary and Executive Committee Member: Sept 2025 – present
- The Association of Early-Career Social Learning Researchers (ESLR): Web Secretary and Committee Member: Nov 2021 – July 2025
- Animal Behavior Society: Twitter Management: Mar 2019 – Aug 2020

### Event Organizing

- Collective Creativity [3-Day Workshop] (Stony Brook, NY): Apr 2025
- ESLR and Cultural Evolution Society Seminar Series [Weekly] (Virtual): May-June 2024
- ESLR Seminar Series [Weekly] (Virtual): May-June 2023
- Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology, The Evolution of Cognitive Technologies [3-Day Workshop] (Leipzig, DE): Apr 2023
- Max Planck Institute for the Study of Human History, From Cultural Evolution to Computational Humanities: Building a Bridge [3-Day Workshop] (Jena, DE): June 2022

### Peer Reviewing

- Journals: *Nature Communications*, *Science Advances*, *PLOS Biology*, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, *PLOS Computational Biology*, *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, *Journal of Animal Ecology*, *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, *Royal Society Interface*, *Cognitive Science*, *PNAS Nexus*, *Poetics*, *Animal Behaviour*, *International Journal of Infectious Diseases*, *npj Complexity*, *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, *Palgrave Communications*, *Royal Society Open Science*, *Ecology and Evolution*, *Topics in Cognitive Science*, *Journal of Language Evolution*, *PLOS ONE*, *Frontiers in Psychology*, *Animal Cognition*, *Journal of Complex Networks*, *Open Mind*, *Ornithology*, *Biology and Philosophy*, *Qeios*
- Themed issue proposals: *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*
- Grants: Cultural Evolution Society Transformation Fund (John Templeton Foundation)
- Conferences: Computational Humanities Research Conference (2023)

## Consulting & Freelance

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### Arclet

Lead AI Engineer

Asheville, NC  
2024 – present

- Public health start-up creating communications tools for providers: <https://www.arclet.com/>
- My focus: building agentic AI systems for culturally-sensitive public health communications

### Critica

Chief Technology Officer

New York, NY  
2024 – present

- Non-profit fighting health-related misinformation: <https://criticascience.org>
- My focus: designing and assessing infodemiology interventions

### Lyrar

Chief Architect

Stony Brook, NY  
2023 – present

- Start-up creating digital acoustic twins of architectural spaces: <https://lyrai.tech/>
- My focus: building deep learning models of sound propagation in complex environments

<b>Critica</b> Research Scientist	New York, NY 2023 – 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-profit fighting health-related misinformation: <a href="https://criticascience.org">https://criticascience.org</a></li> <li>• My focus: using statistical modeling and natural language processing to assess conversation quality</li> </ul>	
<b>We Are Listen</b> Research Scientist	Brooklyn, NY 2021 – 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design firm specializing in sonic branding: <a href="https://wearelisten.com">https://wearelisten.com</a></li> <li>• My focus: reviewing the scientific literature of the psychology of sound and music, to directly inform the sonic design of a luxury electric vehicle for Ford Motor Company</li> </ul>	

## Programming Skills

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**Languages:** R, Python, C++, Bash, Markdown  
**Machine Learning & AI:** PyTorch, TensorFlow, Stan  
**High-Performance & Cloud Computing:** Slurm, AWS, Google Cloud Platform  
**Web Technologies:** HTML/CSS, WordPress, GitHub, APIs

## Artistic Output

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### Alaka'i 1777 (Installation/Performance, 2025)

Alaka'i 1777 is an immersive sound installation that uses machine learning to reconstruct the lost song culture of the Kava'i 'ō'ō, an extinct Hawaiian bird, by weaving together archival recordings with interacting artificial agents.

- Reforesters Laboratory, 24.2-channel audio (Brooklyn, NY, June 21-22, 2025)
- TechnoMirage, 8-channel audio (New York, NY, Sept 21, 2025)
- NEW INC and the New Museum's Creative Science Dinner at the Prospect Park Boathouse, 8-channel audio (Brooklyn, NY, Oct 14, 2025)
- 25 Saint James Place, 8-channel audio (New York, NY, Nov 20, 2025)
- Something Fierce Festival at Flux Factory, 8-channel audio (Queens, NY, Nov 22-23, 2025)
- Oberlin College, Technology in Music and Related Art, 16-channel audio (Oberlin, OH, Dec 5, 2025)

### Deep Listening for Nonhuman Perspective-Taking (Workshop, 2024)

Deep Listening for Nonhuman Perspective-Taking is a participatory, immersive sound workshop where participants listen deeply to diverse sounds of nonhuman life—infrasound booms of whales, drumming displays of spiders, and complex songs of endangered and extinct birds.

- University of St. Andrews (St. Andrews, Scotland, July 10, 2024)
- Hex House (Brooklyn, NY, Dec 7, 2024)
- The Bakery (Brooklyn, NY, Mar 29, 2025)
- Rutgers Art Network at Rutgers University (New Brunswick, NJ, Oct 29, 2025)
- 25 Saint James Place (New York, NY, Nov 20, 2025)

## Artist Residencies & Incubators

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<b>NEW INC</b> Member of Creative Science cohort, hosted by the New Museum	New York, NY 2025 – 2026
<b>Reforesters Laboratory</b> Artist-in-residence	Brooklyn, NY 2025 – 2025
<b>Diverse Intelligences Summer Institute</b> Storyteller, hosted by the University of St. Andrews	St. Andrews, UK 2024 – 2024