

James G. Carroll

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Education

Ph.D., Afro-American studies.

2013

W.E.B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Dissertation: *Composing the African Atlantic: Sun Ra, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, and the poetics of African diasporic composition*, Steven Tracy, advisor.

Winner of the 2013 Esther M. Terry award for the most distinguished dissertation in Afro-American studies.

Areas of Study: American cultural history; African American music history and historiography; African and African-diasporic music history; Atlantic history; music and cultural memory; critical theory and musicology; cultural-political history of the Black Power and Black Arts movements; anthropological and ethnomusicological theory; music compositional and improvisational theory; musical aesthetics.

M.M., jazz composition

2008

Department of Music and Dance
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Amherst, MA

Professional Diploma, jazz composition (magna cum laude)

2002

Berklee College of Music
Boston, MA

M.I.A., concentration in international education

1995

School for International Training
Brattleboro, VT

B.A., English & history

1987

University of New Hampshire
Durham, NH

Experience

Lecturer

Springfield Technical Community College, Gateway to College Program, Springfield, MA. January 2017 – present.

(Winter 17) HIST 101 – Modern Western Civilization

(SP 17) HIST 110 – Early American History

(SP 17) HIST 111 – Modern American History

University of Massachusetts, University Without Walls, Amherst, MA. October 2014 – August 2015.

(SP 15) UWW 191G – Frameworks of Understanding

(SU 15) UWW 370 – Writing About Experience

Holyoke Community College, Department of Social Sciences, Holyoke, MA. January – May 2014.

(SP 14) HIST 109 – African American History: Reconstruction, the Blues, and Civil Rights

Westfield State University, Department of Ethnic and Gender Studies, Westfield, MA. 2012 – 2014.

(SP 14) EGST 101 – Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Studies

(FA 13) EGST 101 – Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Studies (2 sections)

(FA 12) EGST 101 – Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Studies

Smith College, Department of Afro-American Studies, Northampton, MA. August 2007-May 2008; January-May 2013.

(SP 13) AAS 222 - Introduction to African American Music

(SP 08) Directed Special Studies for Susannah Flint (Smith College student): Musical materials and African American literature

(SP 08) Respondent, Smith Department of Afro-American Studies student conference.

(SP 08) AAS 366-02 - African American Musical Aesthetics

(Intersession 2008) Kahn Liberal Arts Institute Fellow: The Nature and Uses of Memory

(Intersession 2008) IDP 100 - Critical Reading and Discussion: *Blues People*

(FA 07) Guest Lecturer, Otelia Cromwell Day Workshops: The Roots and Branches of African-American Dance and Music

(FA 07) Directed Independent Study for Mike Marcinowski (UMass student): Introductory Jazz Composition

(FA 07) AAS 222 - Introduction to African American Music

Greenfield Community College, Music department, Greenfield, MA. January-May 2009.

(SP 09) Music 102 – Jazz Eras and Styles

Teaching Assistant & Teaching Associate

Feb 2003-May 2009

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

(FA 08-SP 09) Teaching Associate, Program for Undergraduate Mentoring and Achievement

(FA 07 – SP 08) Director of Special Events, Program for Undergraduate Mentoring and Achievement

(SP 07) Teaching Associate, AfroAm 156: Revolutionary Concepts in African American Music

(FA 03 - FA06) Teaching Associate, Music 102: African American Music and Musicians

(SP 04, SP 06) Teaching Associate, Music 267: Jazz History

(SP 03-SP 04) Teaching Assistant, ComHlth 213 & 214: Peer Health Education

Academic Director

Aug 1995-Dec 2002

SIT Study Abroad, School for International Training

Botswana: Kalahari Conservation and Ecology Program (Mogoditshane, Botswana): 8/95-12/98, 9-12/00

Ghana: Arts and Culture Program (Accra, Ghana): 1-5/99

Kenya: Coastal Cultures Program (Mombasa, Kenya): 8-12/02

Consultant

April 1997-May 1999

U.S. Experiment in International Living, Summer Abroad

Peace Corps Volunteer English Teacher

Nov 1991-Dec 1993

Additional Professional Activities

12/12-Present: *Co-Director*, New Africa House Ensemble, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

5-9/06: *Teacher*, Institute for Reading Development, Newton, MA.

6-8/02: *Workshop Coordinator*, Academic Directors' Workshop, SIT Study Abroad, School for International Training, Brattleboro, VT.

8/99: *Guest Lecturer*, Boston University Charter School, Granby, MA

5/97 - 6/97: *Consultant*, Botswana Orientation Centre, Gaborone, Botswana

7/97: *Guest Lecturer*, Appalachian Mountain Club, Gorham, NH

1/97: *Guest Lecturer*, The Derryfield School, Manchester, NH

5/96: *Training Consultant*, Botswana Orientation Centre, Gaborone, Botswana

4/95 - 5/95: *Technical Training Consultant*, Peace Corps/Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana

3/95: *Training Consultant*, Cheshire Foundation of Botswana, Mogoditshane, Botswana

3/95: *Training Consultant*, Junior Achievement of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana

10/94-1/95: *Technical Trainer for Education*, Peace Corps/ Botswana, Gaborone and Kanye, Botswana

9/94: *Training Consultant*, Cheshire Foundation of Botswana, Mogoditshane, Botswana

6-8/94: *Logistical Coordinator*, Peace Corps/Botswana, office move, Gaborone, Botswana

4/94: *Logistical Coordinator*, Peace Corps/Botswana, Anglophone Language Training of Trainers, Gaborone, Botswana

3-4/94: *Project Assistant*, Veld Products Research, Gabane, Botswana

1-12/93: President of Peace Corps/Botswana Volunteer Council

Publications and Conference Presentations

Composing the African Atlantic: Sun Ra, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti and the Poetics of African Diasporic Composition. Book manuscript in progress, Spring 2016.

The student asked, "So why isn't Black History Month racist?": The stubbornly pervasive blanching of history. Guest lecturer, Black History Month Celebration, February 2015, Consulate General of Haiti, Boston, MA.

Masculinities. Panel discussant, October 2013, Westfield State University, Westfield, MA.

Composing the African Atlantic: Sun Ra, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, and the Poetics of African Diasporic Composition. Presented at the conference "Remapping the Black Atlantic: Diaspora (Re)Writings of Race and Space," April 2013, DePaul University, Chicago, IL.

Du Bois's Gifts to Black Art: A Roundtable Discussion. Panel discussant, February 2013, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

Kazet from Timbuktu: The Presence and Absence of Music in Mali Today. *The Massachusetts Review Blog* February 2013.

Astro-Blues and Cosmo-Spirituals: Sun Ra the Traditionalist. Presented for the Emergent Research Colloquium, March 2009, Africana Studies Cluster Faculty and the W.E.B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

Composing the Black Atlantic: Fela, Sun Ra, and the Black Arts Movement. Presented at International Association for the Study of Popular Music annual meeting, April 2008, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.

Capping and Signifyin(g): The Cultural Exchanges of James Brown and Fela Anikulapo-Kuti. Presented at New England Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting, April 2008, Amherst College, Amherst, MA. Submitted and under review, *Journal of Popular Music Studies*.

Blues in Our Blood: The Artistic Evolution of Taj Mahal and Carole Fredericks. Wrote the text for the Taj Mahal portion of this museum exhibit. Springfield Museums, Connecticut Valley Historical Museum, February-November 2008, Springfield, MA.

The Roots and Branches of African American Roots and Dance. Presentation with Donna Mejia (Smith College Department of Dance), Otelia Cromwell Day Workshops, October 2007, Smith College, Northampton, MA.

Astro-Blues and Cosmo-Spirituals: Sun Ra as a Musical Traditionalist. Presented at: Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Convention, September 2007, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC.

The 'Professional Negro': The Racial Contract and Censorship in Jazz. Presented at the International Association for the Study of Popular Music annual conference, April 2007, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.

Free Composing Nature: Signs and Structures in Marion Brown's 'Afternoon of a Georgia Faun.' Presented at the American Folklore Society Annual Conference, October 2006, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI.

'The Untamable, Unassimilable Negro': The Influence of Black Power Ideology on the Music of Fela Anikulapo-Kuti. Presented at Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Convention, September 2006, Emory University, Atlanta, GA.

Compositions in Progress

Mpho. Short, multi-movement jazz chamber work for oboe, guitar, double bass, and drums.

The Wildebeest Road. Jazz chamber work in sonata form for trumpet, alto sax, tenor sax, trombone, guitar, double bass, and drums.

Livingstone at Deception. Multi-movement piano composition.

Compositions for Big Band and Small Groups

Nxoga; Lekgoa mo Kgalagading; Mosimanyana; Watch Out for the Elephant; Xade; VJ.

Jazz Composition Recital, performed with a small group, Lawrence Berk Recital Hall, Berklee College of Music, August 2002.

E-Mail from Africa. Performed by Berklee Lab Jazz Big Band, Lawrence Berk Recital Hall, Berklee College of Music, April 2002; Performed by University of Massachusetts Jazz I Big Band, Bezanson Recital Hall, University of Massachusetts, April 2003.

Bent Head. Performed with a small group, Bezanson Recital Hall, University of Massachusetts, October 2004.

Barry Walks. Recorded with Lab Ensemble, Berklee College of Music, May 2002.

Kalahari Stomp. Performed with a small group, Mount Holyoke College, November 2004.

Blues for the Place of Bones. Performed with a small group, Mount Holyoke College, November 2004.

Annah Banda. Rehearsed and recorded with Lab Ensemble, Berklee College of Music, May 2002.

Imagining Thomas Mapfumo. Performed with a small group, Graduate Jazz Composition Concert, Bezanson Recital Hall, University of Massachusetts, May 2004.

Ke Tsile. Composed for small group but not yet rehearsed, January 2006.

Rivers. Composed for chorus but not yet rehearsed, January 2006.

Xade Revisited. Composed for small group. Performed February 2008.

Happy Girl. Composed for small group. Performed University of Massachusetts, February 2008.

Composition for Dance

Water, Julie Weismantel choreographer. Performed April 2004, Emerging Choreographers Series, Five Colleges Department of Dance, Amherst, MA.

Blues for Tap, Pam Raff choreographer. Performed November 2004, Faculty Choreographers' Series, Mount Holyoke College department of dance, South Hadley, MA.

Hiroshima, Julie Weismantel choreographer. Performed April 2005, Alive with Dance Concert Series, University of Massachusetts Department of Music and Dance, Amherst, MA.

Mosimanyana, Carol Webster choreographer. Recorded November 2004. Dance performance April 2005, Leuvin Dance Studio, Leuvin, Belgium.

Composition for Theater

The Trestle at Pope Lick Creek (*Naomi Wallace*), Aaron Schmookler director. Co-composed and performed underscoring and scene-introductory music with Steven Tracy. Ten performances, Oct-Nov 2008, Curtain Theater, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

Written Arrangements

Mr. Follow Follow (*Fela Anikulapo-Kuti*). Performed by the New Africa House Ensemble, February 2013.

Upper Manhattan Medical Group (*Billy Strayhorn*). Performed by University of Massachusetts Jazz I Big Band, Bezanson Recital Hall, University of Massachusetts, October 2003.

I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face (*Alan Lerner & Frederick Loewe*). Performed by University of Massachusetts Studio Orchestra, Bowker Auditorium, University of Massachusetts, May 2003.

IIBS (*Charles Mingus*). Performed by University of Massachusetts Lab Jazz Big Band, Bezanson Recital Hall, University of Massachusetts, November 2003.

Stolen Moments (*Oliver Nelson*). Rehearsed and recorded by Lab Ensemble, Berklee College of Music, October 2001.

Que Pasa (*Horace Silver*). Arranged for small group. Performed February 2006.

Four & Six (*Oliver Nelson*). Small group arrangement. Performed February 2008.

Darn That Dream (*Jimmy van Heusen*). Small group arrangement. Performed February 2008.

Awards

2013 Esther M. Terry award for the most distinguished dissertation in Afro-American studies

Khan Liberal Arts Institute Fellow, Smith College

W.E.B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies Fellowship, University of Massachusetts

University of Massachusetts Dean's List
Magna Cum Laude, Berklee College of Music
Berklee Achievement Scholarship
Berklee Dean's List
Berklee Dean's Club

Memberships & Affiliations

Association for the Study of African American Life and History
American Studies Association
Society for Ethnomusicology
Black Music Research Association
International Association for the Study of Popular Music

Languages

Western musical notation, fluent
French FSI 2+ (1989), doctoral reading proficiency (2006)
Setswana FSI 2 (1991)
Ikalanga, basic (1993)
Kiswahili, basic (2002)