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Department of Anthropology  
Bryn Mawr College  
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Education

Columbia University, New York, NY  
PhD with distinction, Anthropology, May 2001

University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
MA, Anthropology, June 1995

Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA  
BA with honors, Anthropology, May 1992

Publications

Books

Brought to Life by the Voice: Playback Singing and Cultural Politics in South India. University of Chicago Press, 2011. <https://www.uchicago.edu/>

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Journal Articles:

"Stigmas of the Reality Stage." *Indian Theatre Journal*

"Gender and the Politics of Voice: Colonial Modernity and Classical Music in South India." *Cultural Anthropology* 18(2): 194-232 (May 2003). [peereviewed]

Chapters in edited volumes:

"Imitation." In *International Encyclopedia of Linguistic Anthropology*. Ed. James Stanlaw. Wiley Blackwell, 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118786093.iela0167>

"The Remarkable Career of L.R. Eswari." In *Jumping the Stage: Female Voices of Asian Modernities*. Ed. Andrew Weintraub and Bart Barendregt. University of Hawaii Press, 2017, pp. 174

"Iconic Voices in PostMillennium Tamil Cinema." In

Lisa Mitchell, The Making of a Mother Tongue: Language, Emotion, and Politics in South India.  
Anthropological Quarterly



2014 “The Remarkable Career of L.R. Eswari.” Colloquium Presentation, Department of Music, Ohio State University, October 23, 2014.

2014 Participant, 1st Chicago Tamil Forum. Submitted work in progress for discussion, “Female Voices in

- 2017 "Sonic Ambiguity in Tamil Cinema" Presented in panel "Audition," American Anthropological Association, Washington DC Dec 2, 2017.
- 2016 "The Semiotics of being 'Just the Voice'." Presented in panel "Talk about Talk." American Comparative Literature Association, Boston, MA, March 2016.
- 2012 "Neoliberal Logics of Voice." Presented in panel "Music and Making in Neoliberal Times." Society for Ethnomusicology, New Orleans, LA, Nov 4, 2012.
- 2011 "Voice." Presented in Panel "Toward a Conceptual Lexicon for Sound Studies." American Anthropological Association, Montreal, Canada, Nov 17, 2011.
- 2011 "Playback Singers and Public Femaleness in South India." Presented in panel "Public Femaleness in South Asia: Cinema, Entertainment, Politics." South Asia Conference, Madison, WI, October 20-2011.
- 2011 "Female Voices in South Indian Film Music." Invited to be presented at the International Council for Traditional Music, St. John's, Newfoundland, July 13-2011.
- 2010 "The Circulation and Remediation of Tamil film songs." Presented in panel "Sound Circulations." American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, November 11, 2010.
- 2010 "Female Voices in the Public Sphere: Playback Singing and Ideologies of Gender in the Tamil Culture Industry." Presented in the panel "Tamil Mediations." South Asia Conference, Madison, WI. October 14-18, 2010
- 2009 "Sound and the City: Mimicry and Phonography in South India." Presented in the panel "Authority and Authenticity in Discourse: Linguistic and other Mediatic Dimensions." American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, PA, December 4, 2009.
- 2009 "Female Voices in the Public Sphere: Playback Singing as Cultural Phenomenon in South India." Feminist Theory and Music 10 Conference, Greensboro, NC, May 27, 2009.
- 2009 "Sound and the City: Contextualizing Historic South Indian Recordings." Social Science Center Third Friday Presentation, Bryn Mawr College, March 20, 2009.
- 2008 "Mediating Voices: Phonographic Mimicry and the Representation of Social Types in South India." Presented in the panel "Media Ideologies," American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA, November 22, 2008.
- 2007 "Voicing the City: Mimicry and the Phonograph in South India." Presented in the panel, "Media and Voice: Papers in Honor of Richard Bauman," American Anthropological Association, November 28-December 2, 2007.
- 2007 "Well Done, Sabha Secretary! Staging Classical Musii .i

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2000 "Gender and the Politics of Classical Music in South India." Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference, Toronto, November 2000.

2000 "In Search of the Guru: Technology and Authority in Karnatic Music." South Asia Conference, Madison, WI, October 2000.

1999 "Inner Voices and Colonial Pasts: A History of South Indian Violin." American Anthropologist 101.2 (1999): 291-307.

2008 "Remediation and Appropriation." Society for Ethnomusicology, Middletown, CT, October 27, 2008.

2007 "Women in Indian Music." Roundtable University of Pennsylvania, September 28, 2007.

2007 "Vernacular Public Spheres in South Asia." Conference, Yale University, April 6-7, 2007.

#### Graduate Student Supervision

Niko Higgins, Department of Music, Columbia University. Dissertation Title: "Confusion in the Karnatic Capital: Fusion in Chennai, India" (defended Nov 2012)

Kathryn Hardy, Department of South Asian Studies, University of Pennsylvania. Dissertation title: "Becoming Bhojpuri: Producing Cinema and Producing Language in Liberalization India" (defended June 2014)

Scott Carter, Department of Music, University of Wisconsin. Dissertation title: "Vox Americana: Voice, Race and Nation in U.S. Music, 1890-1924" (defended May 2014)

Anaar Desai Stevens, Department of Music, Cornell University. Dissertation title: "Singing Through the Screen: 'Indian Idol' and the Crafting of Selves in Liberalization India" (defended June 2017)

#### Professional Service

Reviewed approximately 21 book manuscripts for university presses including Duke, University of California, Oxford, Cambridge, Wesleyan, Indiana

Reviewed approximately 30 article manuscripts for journals in cultural and linguistic anthropology,