

NOLAN WARDEN, PHD

www.nolanwarden.net

Education

PhD: Ethnomusicology: September 2008 – December 2015

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Dissertation: *Wixárika Music, Huichol Music: The Construction and Commodification of an Indigenous Identity*
(Co-Chairs: Anthony Seeger and Steven Loza)

MA: Music (Ethnomusicology): August 2004 – August 2006

Tufts University, Medford, MA

Thesis: *Cajón pa' los Muertos: Transculturation and Emergent Tradition in Afro-Cuban Ritual Drumming and Song* (Advisor: David Locke)

BMus: Music Business and Hand Percussion Performance: June 1999 – December 2002

Berklee College of Music, Boston, MA

Magna Cum Laude

Percussion Performance and Ethnomusicology Studies: August 1997 – May 1999

Indiana University School of Music, Bloomington, IN

Research Interests

Latin America; Afro-Atlantic; Indigeneity; Cuba (Afro-Cuban); Mexico (popular music, rural social music, Wixárika/Huichol people); identity; capitalism; value; piracy and counterfeiting; ethnography as commodification; transculturation; higher education; applied and exoteric ethnomusicology

Awards, Grants, and Scholarships

- **North American Travel Award** — Society for Ethnomusicology: 2018
- **Dissertation Year Fellowship** — UCLA: 2014–2015
- **International Doctoral Workshop in Ethnomusicology** — Univ. of Hanover: 2014 [declined]
- **Collection Study Grant** — American Museum of Natural History: 2013
- **Fulbright Research Grant** — Institute of International Education: 2012–2013
- **Dissertation Grant** — Institute for Mexico and the United States (UC MEXUS): 2011
- **Student Paper Award** — Society for Ethnomusicology, African Music Section: 2010
- **Arnold Rubin Award** — Research grant from Fowler Museum, UCLA: 2010
- **Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Grant** — with Anthony Seeger, UCLA: 2010
- **Ethnomusicology Department Dean's Scholarship** — UCLA: Spring 2010
- **Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Grant** — with Steven Loza, UCLA: 2009
- **UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music Student Opportunity Fund Award** — multiple awards
- **Graduate Student Research Grant** — Tufts University: Spring 2005

Publications and Presentations

Books

- *Afro-Cuban Traditional Music and Transculturation: The Emergence of Cajón pa' los Muertos*. Saarbrücken: VDM, 2007. [Commercial version of updated MA thesis.]

Refereed Journal Articles

- “Ethnomusicology’s ‘Identity’ Problem: The History and Definitions of a Troubled Term in Music Research.” *El Oído Pensante* 4, no. 2 (2016).
<http://ppct.caicyt.gov.ar/index.php/oidopensante/article/view/9403/8390>
- “Crossing Diaspora’s Borders: Musical Roots Experiences and the Euro-American Presence in Afro-Cuban Religious Music.” *African Music* 8, no. 4 (2010): 101–109.
[http://nolanwarden.com/Warden-Diaspora's_Borders_\(2010\).pdf](http://nolanwarden.com/Warden-Diaspora's_Borders_(2010).pdf)
- “A History of the Conga Drum.” *Percussive Notes* 43, no. 1 (February 2005): 8–15.
http://www.nolanwarden.com/Conga_Drum_History%28Warden%29.pdf

Refereed Journal Articles in Preparation

- “A Counterfeit More Original than the Original, or, The Case of the Wixárika (Huichol) Grammy Nominee Who Pirated Himself.” (In preparation for *Ethnomusicology* or *Popular Music*.)
- “Formative Analysis: A Critique of World Music Ensembles by Way of an Experimental Form of Ethnographic Representation.” (In preparation for *Ethnomusicology*.)
- “The Value of Genre for Ideologies and Markets: Making Popular Wixárika (Huichol) Music ‘Traditional.’” (In preparation for *Yearbook for Traditional Music*.)

Other Published Articles

- “The Spousal Subvention: The Unofficial and Unsung Funding Source.” *SEM Student News* 8 (2014): 13.
- “On Facebook: Part One: Why You Should and When You Should Not.” *SEM Student News* 6 (2013): 14–15.
- with A Tribe Called Red. “‘General Generations’: An Archival Collaboration with A Tribe Called Red.” *Ethnomusicology Review* 16 (2011).
<http://ethnomusicologyreview.ucla.edu/journal/volume/16/piece/471>
- “Notes on the Collaboration with A Tribe Called Red.” *Ethnomusicology Review* website (2011).
<http://ethnomusicologyreview.ucla.edu/content/notes-collaboration-tribe-called-red>
- “A New Era for the Journal.” *Ethnomusicology Review* 16 (2011).
<http://ethnomusicologyreview.ucla.edu/journal/volume/16/piece/518>
- “A Brief History of the Journal’s Web Presence.” *Ethnomusicology Review* website (2011).
<http://ethnomusicologyreview.ucla.edu/content/brief-history-journals-web-presence>
- co-authored with Jessie Vallejo. “Interview with Steven Loza.” *Pacific Review of Ethnomusicology* 15 (2010). <http://ethnomusicologyreview.ucla.edu/journal/volume/15/piece/478>
- “Cajón pa’ los Muertos.” *World Percussion & Rhythm* 9, no. 2 (Spring/Summer 2008): 28–29.
http://www.nolanwarden.com/Warden-Cajon_pa_los_Muertos%28WPR-2008%29.pdf
- Interview with Angel Guerrero, Abakuá singer. *World Percussion & Rhythm* 8, no. 2 (Spring/Summer 2007): 12–13.
http://www.nolanwarden.com/Angel_Guerrero_Interview%28WPR-2007%29.pdf
- “Mongo Santamaria Conga Solo.” *Latin Percussionist* 11 (Fall 2000): 9.
http://www.nolanwarden.com/Mongo_Santamaria_Conga_Solo.pdf

Encyclopedia and Dictionary Entries

- “Conga drum” in *The Grove Dictionary of American Music*, 2nd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press (2013). <http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/subscriber/article/grove/music/A2218907>
- “Afro-Cuban,” “Bongó,” “Guaguanco,” “Tito Puente,” “Rumba,” “Timbal,” and “Tumbadora” in *Encyclopedia of Latin American Popular Music*. Westport, CT: Greenwood (2013). [Publisher’s unapproved edits to the manuscripts introduced errors. Contact author before quoting.]

Book and Media Reviews

- *The Artistry of Afro-Cuban Batá Drumming: Aesthetics, Transmission, Bonding, and Creativity* by Kenneth Schweitzer. Reviewed in *Latin American Music Review* 38, no. 2 (Fall/Winter 2017): 247–249. <http://muse.jhu.edu/article/679926>
- *My Havana: The Musical City of Carlos Varela* edited by María Carida Cumana, Karen Dubinsky, and Xenia Reloba de la Cruz. Reviewed in *Notes* 73, no. 1 (September 2016): 117–120. https://www.academia.edu/27691225/_Review_My_Havana_The_Musical_City_of_Carlos_Varela
- *Afro-Cuban Music: A Bibliographic Guide* by John Gray. Reviewed in *Notes* 70, no. 3 (March 2014): 455–457. https://www.academia.edu/5928820/_Review_Afro-Cuban_Music_A_Bibliographic_Guide_By_John_Gray
- *Embodying Mexico: Tourism, Nationalism, and Performance* by Ruth Hellier-Tinoco. Reviewed in *Notes* 69, no. 2 (December 2012): 323–325. https://www.academia.edu/5928771/_Review_Embodying_Mexico_Tourism_Nationalism_and_Performance_By_Ruth_Hellier-Tinoco

Conference Panels Organized & Chaired

- “Tradition Transformed: Economic Determinants and Artistic Priorities.” Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM). Washington, DC, Nov. 11, 2016.
- “‘Pirated’ Indigeneity? Perspectives on a Discourse of Music Ownership, Use, and Entitlement.” Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM). Pittsburgh, PA, Nov. 15, 2014.

Conference Presentations

- “Battles Witnessed in the ‘Guerra de Sonidos’: The Order of Chaos on Mexico’s Permanent Frontier.” Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM). Albuquerque, NM, Nov. 18, 2018.
- “Holy Death, Jesus Bad-Green, and NAFTA: Economic Interpretations of Ultraviolence and Consumerism in Mexico’s New Narcocorridos.” Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM). Washington, DC, Nov. 11, 2016.
- “Are Indigenous Wixárika (Huichol) Music Groups ‘Traditional Mariachi?’: A Study of Value in Genre Assignations for Ideologies and Markets.” Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM). Austin, TX, Dec. 4, 2015.
- “A Counterfeit More Original than the Original, or, The Case of the Wixárika (Huichol) Grammy Nominee Who Pirated Himself.” Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM). Pittsburgh, PA, Nov. 15, 2014.
- “Return to Huilotita: What 115 Years of Recorded Wixárika (Huichol) Music Tells Us About Ethnomusicology Today.” Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM). Indianapolis, IN, Nov. 14, 2013.
- “Huichol Music and the Commodification of Identity.” World Conference of the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM). St. John’s, Newfoundland, Canada, July 18, 2011.
- “Crossing Diaspora’s Borders: Musical Roots Experiences and the Euro-American Presence in Afro-Cuban Religious Music.” Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association (ASA). San Francisco, CA, Nov. 18, 2010. Other versions presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM). Mexico City, Nov. 19, 2009, and Africa Meets North America conference (AMNA). Los Angeles, CA, Oct. 24, 2009.
- “The Sacralization of *Cubanidad*: Making the Nation Sacred in Cuban Cajón Ceremonies.” Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM). Los Angeles, CA, Nov. 14, 2010.
- “Formative Analysis: A Complementary Method of Ethnomusicological Representation.” Annual Meeting of the Southern California & Hawaii Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEMSCHC). Scripps College, Claremont, CA, Feb. 20, 2009.

- “Transculturation in Cuban Cajón Ceremonies: Grounds for a Reconsideration of Syncretism in Afro-Cuban Culture.” Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM). Columbus, OH, Oct. 25, 2007.
- “Cajón al Muerto: Musical Transculturation in Afro-Cuban Reverence for the Dead.” Annual Meeting of the New England Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology (NECSEM). Trinity College, Hartford, CT, April 8, 2006.
- “Cajón al Muerto.” Caribbean Soundscapes. Tulane Univ., New Orleans, LA, March 12, 2004.

Invited Lectures and Presentations

- “Third Coast Percussion’s *Paddle to the Sea*: The Ancient and Global Foundations of a ‘New Music’ Phenomenon.” Purdue University Convocations. West Lafayette, IN, March 6, 2020.
- “Music of Mexico: Traditions and Transformations.” California Institute of the Arts (CalArts). Valencia, California, April 19, 2017.
- “Música ritual afrocubana entre Cuba y los Estados Unidos: la problemática de la diáspora africana como concepto heurístico.” Conferencia magistral [a one-hour topical keynote]. Quinto Seminario Internacional de Etnomusicología [Fifth International Ethnomusicology Seminar]. Ciudad Guzmán, Jalisco, June 5, 2014.
- “Historias de la música wixárika y sus investigadores.” Cátedra Catzín Huehuetotl. Colotlán, Jalisco, May 5, 2014.
- “Músicos y transculturación: construyendo la tradición de ‘cajón pa’ los muertos’ en Cuba” [ethnomusicology version]. Centro Universitario de Arte, Arquitectura y Diseño (CUAAD), Universidad de Guadalajara. Guadalajara, Jalisco, April 15, 2013.
- “Músicos y transculturación: construyendo la tradición de ‘cajón pa’ los muertos’ en Cuba” [anthropology version]. Centro Universitario del Norte (CUNorte), Universidad de Guadalajara. Colotlán, Jalisco, April 12, 2013.
- “Early Career Publishing.” Panel member. Annual Meeting of Southern California & Hawaii Chapter of Society for Ethnomusicology (SEMSCHC). Los Angeles, CA, February 22, 2009.

Campus Talks and Guest Lectures

- Three guest lectures on Mexican music, the African diaspora, and commodification of music and identity. Invited by Lynn Hooker for “World Music” course at Purdue University. West Lafayette, IN, Spring, 2019.
- “Música Wixárika / Wixárika Music.” Invited by Jessie Vallejo for “Latin American Music” course at UCLA. Los Angeles, CA, April 15, 2015.
- “PressPausePlay: Post-Screening Discussion.” Panelist on Open Access issues in academic publishing. Melnitz Movies at UCLA. Los Angeles, CA, October 25, 2011.
- “Afro-Cuban Music and Rhythmic Concepts.” Invited by Münir Beken for “World Music Systems & Structures” course at UCLA. Los Angeles, CA, February 2009, 2010, and 2011.
- “Transculturation in Cuban *Cajón pa’ los Muertos* Ceremonies.” Invited by Deborah Pacini Hernandez and Raquel Rivera for “Music, Blackness, and Caribbean Latinos” course at Tufts University. Medford, MA, February 14, 2005.

Teaching Experience

Academic Instructor

- Lecturer – *Purdue University*: Spring 2020
“World Music”
- Lecturer – *University of California, Los Angeles*: Spring 2016 to Spring 2018
“Music of Europe and the Americas”
“Music of Latin America: Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean Isles”

- Lecturer – *Loyola Marymount University*: Spring 2018
“Introduction to World Music Cultures”
- Lecturer – *California State University, Dominguez Hills*: Fall 2017
“Global Popular Music”
- Teaching Assistant Consultant – *University of California, Los Angeles*: Fall 2010 & 2011
“TA Practicum,” a pedagogical training and orientation course for new TAs
- Adjunct Faculty – *College of Lake County* (Waukegan, IL): Spring 2007 – Fall 2007
“Introduction to Music”
- Adjunct Faculty – *Malcolm X College* (Chicago, IL): Spring 2007
“Introduction to Music” and “Group Piano 1”

Teaching Associate / Assistant

- Teaching Assistantships – *University of California, Los Angeles*: 2009–2011
“Latin American Music” with Steven Loza
“Chicano & Latino Music in the U.S.” with Steven Loza
“Music of Africa & the Near East” with A.J. Racy
“Jazz until 1940” with Charley Harrison
- Ensemble Assistant – *University of California, Los Angeles*: 2008–2009
“Afro-Cuban Drumming Ensemble” with Francisco Aguabella
- Online Graduate Program Course Facilitator – *Boston University*: Fall 2006 – Spring 2007
“African Music”
“History and Philosophy of Music Education”
“The Blues”
- Teaching Assistantships – *Tufts University*: 2004–2006
“Introduction to World Music” with Peter Kvetko
“Music as Culture” with Joe Schloss

Music Instructor

- Private Percussion Instructor – *Indiana, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles*: 1998–2009
(Taught hand percussion, orchestral percussion, drum set, and music fundamentals)
- Drumline Instructor – *Southmont High School, Southmont, IN*: Summer 2000
(Taught drumline that won “Best Percussion” at Indiana State Marching Band Competition)
- Assistant Percussion Instructor – *Jefferson High School, Lafayette, IN*: Summer 2000

Research and Performance

Field Research

- Mexico: 2012–2015
Conducted dissertation fieldwork in Mexico, primarily in the states of Jalisco, Nayarit, & Zacatecas. Studied popular *música regional*, ritual musical practices, and quotidian music of the Wixárika (Huichol) people with grants from Fulbright-IIE, UC MEXUS, and others. Repatriated various archival recordings and photographs from U.S.-based archives and museums to source communities.
- Mexico: August–September 2010
Began dissertation work in Jalisco with Arnold Rubin Award from UCLA’s Fowler Museum.
- United States: Summer 2009
Documented history of Afro-Cuban religious music in the U.S., primarily in metropolitan areas of San Francisco, Chicago, Boston, and New York, with funding from UCLA.
- Cuba: multiple trips, 2000–2005
Studied *batá* drumming and *cajón pa’ los muertos* ceremonies with funding from Tufts University, leading to MA thesis in ethnomusicology.

- Ghana: Spring 2005
Studied Eye and Dagomba drumming at Dagbe Cultural Center with Agbeli family, Dr. David Locke, and ethnomusicology students from Tufts University.
- United States: Spring 2005
Studied musical and religious practices of the United House of Prayer in Roxbury, Massachusetts, an African American church whose worship services are driven by charismatic trombone ensembles.
- Mexico: multiple trips, 2000–2010
Conducted participant-observation in events such as *bailes*, *quinceañeras*, weddings, *matachines* dances, *ferias*, and other regional community events around Colotlán, Jalisco and Guadalajara.

Musical Performance and Study

- Professional Percussionist: 1996 to 2013
 - Appearances on numerous recordings and live sessions in a variety of genres including Afro-Cuban, jazz, rock, orchestral, Zimbabwean mbira and marimba, and Afro-Pop.
 - Performance highlights include Carnegie Hall (NYC), Lincoln Center (NYC), Korea (Seoul International Drum Festival), Casa da Música (Portugal), Barbican Centre (London), Canary Islands, and throughout the U.S.
 - Percussionist in *La Pasión Según San Marcos* by Osvaldo Golijov, 2004 to 2013
- Afro-Cuban traditional and popular music: 1997 to present
 - Hired to drum and sing in Afro-Cuban rituals in Boston and Chicago (2005–2008)
 - Student of Mikael Ringquist & Ernesto Díaz (Boston), Felix Sanabria (NYC), Regino Jimenez (Havana), Francisco Aguabella (Los Angeles), and Grupo Cuero y Cajón (Havana)
- Eye and Dagomba (Ghanaian) drumming studies: 2000 to 2008
 - Student of Joe Galeota (Berklee College of Music), David Locke (Tufts University), Gideon Foli Alorwoyie (Ghana / Univ. of North Texas), Dolsinaa Abubakari Lunna (Ghana / Tufts Univ.), Agbeli family (Ghana)
- Mexican mariachi and conjunto music: 2010 to 2014
 - Studied *vibuela* at UCLA and in northern Jalisco

Related Experience

Service and Professional Activities

- Nuestra Escuelita de Greater Lafayette— *Co-founder and Director*: 2018–present
- Society for Ethnomusicology
 - *SEM Council*: 2018–2020 (elected term)
 - *Academic Labor Committee*: 2014–2015
 - *Peer reviewer for journal Ethnomusicology*: since 2013
- Santa Monica Youth Orchestra – *Member, Board of Directors*: 2017–2018
- Society for Ethnomusicology Student Union
 - *Chair, Nominating Committee*: 2013–2014
 - *Member, Career Concerns Committee*: 2013–2014
- *Ethnomusicology Review* (formerly *Pacific Review of Ethnomusicology*)
 - *Editor-in-Chief*: 2010–2011 (coordinated name change and complete website overhaul)
 - *Managing Editor*: 2008–2009 (oversaw funding, submissions, and administration)
- UCLA Ethnomusicology Graduate Student Organization (EGSO)
 - *Active member*: 2009–2011
 - *Executive Board Member* (i.e., co-president): 2008–2009
- UCLA Herb Albert School of Music – *Student Council Member*: 2008–2009
- University of Chicago Department of Music – *Student Affairs Assistant*: 2007–2008
 - Advised graduate students on their advancement through degree requirements.

- Massachusetts Cultural Council – *Intern*: Fall 2003 – Spring 2004
 - Worked with Maggie Holtzberg, Director of Traditional Arts and Heritage Program
- Society for World Music, Berklee College of Music – *Founder & President*: 1999–2001
- Ethnomusicology Students’ Association, Indiana University – *Secretary*: 1998–1999

Languages

- English (native speaker)
- Spanish (fluent speaking, reading, and writing)
- Portuguese (intermediate reading, basic speaking and writing)
- Wixárika (basic reading, speaking and writing)

Recent Professional Memberships

- American Anthropological Association
 - Music and Sound Interest Group
 - Society for Cultural Anthropology
 - Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology
- College Music Society
- International Council for Traditional Music
- Percussive Arts Society
- Society for Ethnomusicology
 - Economic Ethnomusicology Special Interest Group
 - Indigenous Music Section
 - Latin American and Caribbean Music Section