

# Sam Johnson

## CURRICULUM VITAE

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### EDUCATION

**Doctorate of Musical Arts** 2020

The Ohio State University, School of Music  
Graduate Teaching Associate

D.M.A Document: “Carnal Musicology in a New Edition of Luigi Boccherini’s *Cello Concerto in D major, G. 478*”

Advisor:

Prof. Mark Rudoff, School of Music, The Ohio State University

Committee:

Dr. David Clampitt, School of Music, The Ohio State University

Dr. Kristina MacMullen, College of Music, The University of North Texas

Dr. Juliet White-Smith, School of Music, The Ohio State University

Areas of Candidacy Exams:

Feminist and Queer Musicologies

Analytical Techniques in Performance Practice

Performance Literature: Programming and Politics

Basso Continuo: Historical Practice and Pedagogy

**Master of Music** 2015

The Ohio State University, School of Music  
University Fellow, Graduate Teaching Associate

**Bachelor of Music** 2013

The University of Texas at Austin, Butler School of Music  
Priscilla Pond Flawn Endowment Scholarship

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**2013 – present: Private Studio Instructor, Columbus, Ohio.**

Private lesson instructor to beginning, advanced, and professional cellists.

Student recital coach.  
Studio group class facilitator.

**2017 – 2022: Musicologie, Columbus, Ohio.**

Private lesson instructor to beginning cellists

**2016 – 2019: The Ohio State University School of Music, Columbus, Ohio.**

Appointed Graduate Teaching Associate of Cello, 2016

- Taught cello studio of 9-12 students including undergraduate music performance majors, non-majors, secondary music education majors, and prospective music majors.
- Coached chamber ensembles.
- Served as administrative and research assistant to Professor Mark Rudoff.
- Directed studio and technique classes.
- Conducted, rehearsed, and arranged repertoire for CELLOHIO, the OSU cello ensemble.

**2013 – 2015: The Ohio State University School of Music, Columbus, Ohio.**

Appointed Graduate Teaching Associate of Cello, 2014

- Taught cello studio of 6-8 undergraduate non-majors.
- Served as administrative and research assistant to Professor Mark Rudoff.
- Directed cello ensemble rehearsals.

**2013 – 2014: The Ohio State School for the Blind, Columbus, Ohio.**

Volunteer private lesson instructor.

**2012 – 2013: Austin Chamber Music Center, Austin, Texas.**

Associate coach to chamber ensembles.

## ***PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE***

### **Solo Work**

**2023 – 2024**

- Solo Recital: Solo cello concert exploring the intersection of pedagogy and performance, including J.S. Bach's *Suite No. 6*, Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson's *Lamentations: Black/Folk Song Suite*, Rudolf Matz's *Lights and Shadows Suite*, and the world premiere original work *taurus* for solo cello. Performed at the Bexley Public Library and The OSU Urban Arts Space.

**2021 – 2022**

- "Lividly .2": Live solo cello and vocal music by Sharon Udoh for large dance ensemble. Part two of the Lividly series, dealing with queer desire, shame, and belonging through movement and dance theater. Choreographed by FluxFlow Dance Project's Russell Lepley and Fili Pelacchi. Premiered at Columbus Dance Theater.

**2020 – 2021**

- “DUO”: Chamber Brews video series featuring Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson’s “Calvary Ostinato” from *Lamentations: Black/Folk Song Suite for Solo Cello* with choreography by members of Columbus Modern Dance Company.

#### **2019 – 2020**

- “Ursula”: original cello music composed, arranged, and recorded and inspired by J.S. Bach’s Gigue from *Cello Suite 3 in C major*. Choreographed by FluxFlow Dance Project’s Russell Lepley and Fili Pelacchi. Premiered at the Wexner Center for the Arts.

#### **2018 – 2019**

- Queer History Month at ACPA: performance of the solo music of J.S. Bach with Aubrey Liston, in the context of queering a relationship with art of the past, at The Arts and Colleges Preparatory Academy.
- CELLOHIO Presents: *Bachapalooza*: performances of selections from *Suites 5* and *6* for solo cello. Coached students in their performances of the complete *Six Suites* and original transcriptions from the *Suite 6* for cello orchestra, at Summit on 16th Church.
- DMA Solo Recital: performances of Caroline Shaw’s *in manus tuas*, Kaija Saariaho’s *Sept papillons*, John Tavener’s *Akhmatova Songs* with soprano Nadia Marshall, Alfredo Piatti’s *Caprice 7*, and Luigi Boccherini’s *Cello Concerto in D major, G. 478* with members of The OSU School of Music.
- OSU School of Music Honors Recital: performance of John Tavener’s *Akhmatova Songs* with Nadia Marshall.

#### **2017 – 2018**

- Queer History Month at ACPA: performance of Antonín Dvořák’s *Cello Concerto* at The Arts and Colleges Preparatory Academy.
- The Ohio State University Symphony Orchestra: soloist, performance of Antonin Dvořák’s *Cello Concerto*.
- DMA Preliminary Recital: performances of Antonín Dvořák’s *Cello Concerto* and Olivier Messiaen’s “Louange à l’éternité de Jésus Christ” from *Quatuor pour le fin du temps*.

#### **2016 – 2017**

- CELLOHIO Presents: Complete Bach Suites for Solo Cello and Bach to School concerts: performances of *Suites 3* and *6* for solo cello and original transcriptions from *Suite 6* for cello orchestra.
- The OSU School of Music Honors Convocation Recital: performance of the *Prelude* to Bach’s *Suite 3* for solo cello.

#### **2014 – 2015**

- Stone Village Church Recital: performances of Benjamin Britten’s *Suite no. 1 for solo cello*, J.S. Bach’s *Suite no. 6 for solo cello*, original transcription of Niccolò Paganini’s *Caprice no. 17*, and Bach’s *Chaconne* from *Violin Partita No. 2* arranged for two cellos.
- The OSU Symphony Orchestra concert: soloist, Dmitri Shostakovich’s *Cello Concerto No. 1 in E-flat major, op. 107*.

- The McConnell Arts Center Chamber Orchestra concert: soloist, Shostakovich's *Cello Concerto No. 1*, as winner of Columbus Women in Music concerto competition.
- Musical Chairs: performance of Sergei Prokofiev's *Sonata for Cello and Piano* with Professor Ed Bak, in a benefit concert featuring OSU faculty
- Masters Degree Recital: performances of Sergei Prokofiev's *Sonata for Cello and Piano*, Karl Davydov's *At the Fountain*, and Dmitri Shostakovich's *Cello Concerto no. 1* with Ed Bak.
- "Double Black Diamond Concert": performance of Karl Davydov's *At the Fountain* in a studio recital of high virtuoso cello pieces.

#### **2012 – 2013**

- "Complete works of Beethoven for Cello and Piano": performance of Beethoven's *12 Variations on "See the Conqu'ring Hero Comes" for Cello and Piano*, in a studio recital.
- "The Six Solo Cello Suites of J.S. Bach": performance of Bach's *Cello Suite no. 1*, in a studio recital.

### **Chamber Ensembles**

#### **2023 – 2024**

- "Harmonic Visions": Chamber Brews series featuring works for piano trio, including Jennifer Higdon's *Pale Yellow*, Philip Glass's *Head-On*, Pauline Oliveros's *Breaking Boundaries*, and Rebecca Clarke's *Piano Trio*. Performed at Seventh Son Brewing Company with drink pairings by local mixologists, and on the Johnstone Fund for New Music series at the Short North Stage.
- "The Cordial Sins x Chamber Brews": arrangement and performance of string parts for songs by The Cordial Sins for the release of a series of music videos.

#### **2022 – 2023**

- "LIVID3": Live cello and vocal soundscore with contemporary dance choreography and improvisation. Part three of the Lividly series, dealing with queer desire, shame, and belonging through movement and dance theater. Choreographed by me and FluxFlow Dance Project's Russell Lepley. Premiered at the Beeler Gallery on the campus of Columbus College of Art and Design.
- "In Our Element": Chamber Brews series featuring minimalist string quartets, including Meredith Monk's *Stringsongs*, Pauline Oliveros's *Buffalo Jam*, John Luther Adams's *rising* from quartet *untouched*, and Paul Wiancko's *Only Ever Us*. Performed at Parable Cafe with a drink pairing for each piece in collaboration with local baristas, and at the OSU Urban Arts Space.

#### **2021 – 2022**

- "Sweets By Kate": performance of chamber opera by Griffin Candey at The Ohio State University School of Music.
- "Heirloom": Chamber Brews series featuring duo works for violin and cello by Erwin Schulhoff, Adolphus Hailstork, Zoltan Kodaly, and a commission and world premiere by Sharon Udoh titled *over*. Performed at Seventh Son Brewing

Company featuring drink pairings by local mixologists, and on the Johnstone Fund for New Music's series at the Short North Stage.

- "Lividly .1": performed live cello music by and with Sharon Udoh for small dance ensemble. Part one of the Lividly series, dealing with queer desire, shame, and belonging through movement and dance theater. Choreographed and performed by FluxFlow Dance Project's Russell Lepley and Fili Pelacchi. Premiered at Columbus Dance Theater.

#### **2020 – 2021**

- "dig": Chamber Brews series featuring world premieres of string trios by Sharon Udoh's *dig*, Christopher Weit's *string trio*, and Ohio premiere of Carman Moore's *BLUE RED GREEN*.
- "DUO" Finale: Chamber Brews video series culminating in a video performance of Jessie Montgomery's string quartet *Strum* with choreography by members of Columbus Modern Dance Company.
- 614 Collective Presents: Chamber Brews: intimate and socially distant outdoor string quartet performance of Jessie Montgomery's *Strum* and The Danish String Quartet's *Wood Works*.

#### **2019 – 2020**

- Counterfeit Madison Presents: recording sessions for social media debut of original songs by Counterfeit Madison, Columbus-based singer-songwriter.
- "Play-In": Online chamber music project enabling social media followers to collaborate in performance with members of Chamber Brews.
- "Say A Little Prayer: An Aretha Franklin Celebration": Aretha Franklin tribute concert featuring Wexner Center Artist Resident, Sharon Udoh, at the Lincoln Theatre.
- "Matchgirl": ballet with the Columbus Dance Theatre featuring the music of Aaron Copland and John Rutter.
- "Redefining Space": Chamber Brews quartet performances of Henriette Bosmans' *String Quartet*, Laurie Anderson's *Shutter Island*, Caroline Shaw's *Entr'acte*, and Aftab Darvishi's *Daughters of Sol* at the Snowden Gray Mansion, historical gathering place for women.
- "Be Moved": six choreographed performances of Alexander Ekman's dance *Cacti*, with the Janus String Quartet and Ballet Metropolitan

#### **2018 – 2019**

- CELLOHIO Presents: "Bachapalooza": performance of original cello ensemble transcriptions from J.S. Bach's Sixth Suite, at Summit on 16th Church.
- "Matchgirl": ballet with the Columbus Dance Theatre.
- "PARTY ARTY": an evening of cello-centered fusion music featuring members of CELLOHIO hosted at Trism.

#### **2017 – 2018**

- "PARTY ARTY | Classical Music Rave": the first Classical Music Rave in North America hosted with cutting edge indie-classical fusion music featuring the cello. Performances by CELLOHIO, Sweet Teeth, Xioma, and Mr. Van Walsh, founder of Classical Music Rave hosted at Trism.

- “Chamber Music in the Cathedral”: performance of luka Trio, presented by OSU’s Guerilla Chamber Music and CELLOHIO hosted by Saint Joseph Cathedral, Columbus, OH.
- CELLOHIO Prison Project: a presentation of music by underrepresented composers for inmates and volunteers of the Central Ohio Correctional Reception Center: Julius Eastman and Olivier Messiaen.
- “Closet Noises”: doctoral chamber recital “amplifying voices that history has silenced,” featuring works by minority and underrepresented 20th century composers, including Julius Eastman’s *Stay On It* performed by CELLOHIO and Gideon Klein’s and Jean Cras’s string trios performed by the luka Trio.
- “The Passion of Joan of Arc”: invited resident chamber coach and ensemble member in premiere of original score by Dan Langa to the 1928 film; Amherst, MA.
- “Cellos in the Atrium”: side-by-side cello ensemble performance with Columbus Cello Choir, a youth cello ensemble, in the Columbus Metropolitan Library Main Branch.
- “Art & Soul”: OSU cello studio recital of “Adagio” music in collaboration with Replenish Yoga Studio and the Columbus Museum of Art.
- luka String Trio: outreach concerts in Heirloom Café, Third Way Café, Knowlton Hall, Pizzuti Collection, and Columbus Metropolitan Library North Branch.

#### **2016 – 2017**

- Artistic Director and founding member of CELLOHIO, The OSU cello orchestra.
- OSU Opera and Lyric Theatre presents “Dido & Aeneas”: continuo player for the complete opera by Henry Purcell, in collaboration with the OSU dance department.
- “Cellos in the Atrium”: side-by-side cello ensemble performance with Columbus Cello Choir in the Columbus Metropolitan Library Main Branch.
- TEDx Talks: performance of my cello ensemble arrangement of Olivier Messiaen’s “Louange à l’éternité de Jésus Christ” from *Quatuor pour le fin du temps*.
- Fresh Inc. Festival: premiered chamber music works by young professional composers at Nichols Concert Hall in Chicago and Bedford Hall at the University of Wisconsin Parkside, Kenosha.

#### **2014 – 2015**

- Member of the OSU Cello Ensemble.
- Member of the Carino String Quartet.
- OSU School of Music Honors Convocation Recital.

#### **2012 – 2013**

- Member of the Longhorn Cello Ensemble.
- “Bach Cantata Project”: monthly performances of Bach Cantatas at the Blanton Museum of Art in Austin, TX.

#### **2011 – 2012**

- Member of The University of Texas at Austin Early Music Ensemble.

#### **2010 – 2011**

- “Miró Intensive Quartet Seminar”: weekly coaching and performance of Shostakovich and Mozart quartets with members of the Miró String Quartet.
- Appearances on numerous student recitals at The University of Texas at Austin.

## Faculty Collaborations

### 2016 – 2017

- String quartet collaboration with Dr. Kia-Hui Tan: study of Beethoven String Quartets Op. 18 No. 1 and Op. 135.

### 2015 – 2017

- “Kia-Hui Tan and Fellows: Ysaÿe and Friends”: duo performance of Maurice Ravel’s Sonata for Violin and Cello.
- Regular cello and piano duo partner with Professor Edward Bak.

### 2010 – 2012

- Artist Apprentice program at the Killington Music Festival: performances in numerous faculty festival recitals in 2010 and 2011.
- “Miró Quartet and Friends”: performance of Brahms String Sextet No. 2 in G major with the Miró String Quartet.

## ORCHESTRA POSITIONS

2018 – 2022: Associate musician, Newark Granville Symphony Orchestra, Newark, OH.

2016 – 2019: Principal Cello, The Ohio State University Symphony Orchestra,  
Columbus, OH.

2013 – 2014: Associate musician, Springfield Symphony Orchestra, Springfield, OH.

2013 – 2015: Principal Cello, The Ohio State University Symphony Orchestra, OH.

2012 – 2013: Associate musician, Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra, Corpus Christi,  
TX.

2009 – 2013: Section Cello, The University of Texas at Austin Symphony Orchestra,  
OH.

## MUSIC FESTIVALS

2017: Fresh Inc. Festival

2015: Tennessee Cello Workshop

2013: Texas Christian University Cello Festival

2012: The Castleman Quartet Program (East)

2010, 2011: Killington Music Festival, Artist Apprentice

2009: Colorado College Summer Music Festival

## COMPOSING & ARRANGING

- **J.S. Bach: *Suite for Solo Cello No. 6 in D major***: arrangement for modern four-string cello in G major (2023).
- ***Three Haiku Scenes***: original movements for solo cello (2023).
- **“Dog Days”** and **“Reach”**: string parts arranged and recorded for The Cordial Sins (2023).
- **“Bright and New”**: original string parts composed and recorded for Wiloh (2023).
- **“What I’d Do”**: original string parts composed and recorded for Maisie Kappler (2023).
- **“Lavender Erckel Jones”**: original string parts composed and recorded for Noble Vices (2023).
- **“Lost In Time”**: original string parts composed and recorded for Dynamo Fuzz (2022).
- ***When The Spirit Comes All Over You***: original string parts composed and recorded for the fifth full length album of Sweet Teeth (2022)
- **“The Waves”**: original string parts composed and recorded for Akhila and the Alchemists (2022).
- ***Body Weather***: original string parts composed and recorded for the fourth full length album of Sweet Teeth (2022).
- **“Mental Vacation”**: original string parts composed and recorded for Saint Whatever (2021).
- **“Under Color”**: original string parts composed and recorded for Sam Corlett (2020).
- **Luigi Boccherini: *Cello Concerto in D major, G. 478***: performance edition (2020).
- ***capricorn, gemini, and taurus***: original works for solo cello (2020).
- ***Soft Landing on the Sun***: original string parts composed and recorded for the third full length album of Sweet Teeth (2019).
- **Julius Eastman: *Stay On It***: arrangement for cello ensemble (2017).
- **Olivier Messiaen: “Louange à l'éternité de Jésus Christ” from *Quatuor pour la fin du temps***: arrangement for cello ensemble (2017).
- ***Happy Life with Food***: original string parts composed for the second full length album of Sweet Teeth (2017).
- ***Caprice No. 1***: original work for solo cello (2016).
- **J.S. Bach: *Allemande, Sarabande, Gavottes, & Gigue from Suite for Solo Cello No. 6 in D major***: arrangements for cello ensemble (2016).



- **Niccolò Paganini: *Caprice No. 17 for Solo Violin***: arrangement for solo cello (2015).
- **J.S. Bach: *Chaconne from Partita for Solo Violin No. 2 in D minor***: rework of the arrangement for two cellos by Johanne Perron and Claudio Jaffe featuring quotations of the Solo Cello Suites Nos. 2 and 6 (2015).
- **“Red Haze”**: mashup of Shostakovich’s Cello Concerto No. 1 with John Marshall’s cello ensemble arrangement of “Purple Haze” by Jimi Hendrix (2014).
- ***Pretty Stranger***: original string parts composed for the debut album of Miggy Milla (2012).

## **CROSSOVER PROJECTS**

### **2013 – present**

- Sweet Teeth, Columbus, OH
  - Experimental art punk duo that creates frenetic dance music for guitar, cello, and drum machine.
  - Performs live regularly throughout the Columbus area.
  - Albums include *Household* (2014), *Happy Life with Food* (2017), *Soft Landing on the Sun* (2019), and *Body Weather* (2022).

### **2017 – 2018**

- Sonic Arts Ensemble, Columbus, OH
  - New music ensemble that generates soundscapes using Max/MSP to sample and granulate acoustic sounds.

### **2010 – 2014**

- Seven Pedals, Austin, TX
  - Harps and cello trio playing original tunes and a wide selection of pop covers.
  - Full length album, *The Weight of Water* (2014).

## **AWARDS / HONORS**

**Greater Columbus Arts Council individual artist grant recipient** (2022)  
**The Ohio State University Concerto Competition (Doctoral Division)** (2017)  
**The Ohio State University Symphony Club Scholarship** (2017)  
**Graduate Achievement in Strings**, The Ohio State University (2014, 2015)  
**The Ohio State University Concerto Competition (Masters Division)** (2015)  
**Women in Music Scholarship Competition**, Columbus, OH (2015)  
**Graduate Fellowship**, The Ohio State University (2013)