

Colter Harper

Education

- 2011 **Ph.D. in Music (Ethnomusicology)**, University of Pittsburgh. "*Crossroads of the World*": A Social and Cultural History of Jazz in Pittsburgh's Hill District, 1920-1970. Advisor; Dr. Nathan Davis.
- 2006 **M.A. in Music (Ethnomusicology)**, University of Pittsburgh. *Jazz Guitarist Jimmy Ponder: A Case Study of Creative Processes and Identity Formation in American Popular Music*.
- 2001 **B.M. in Performance (Jazz Guitar)**, Duquesne University Mary Pappert School of Music. Study abroad (fall, 2000), University of Ghana.
-

Teaching Experience

- 2015- Adjunct Faculty, **Robert Morris University**
- *Digital Imaging*
- 2013-2015 Visiting Scholar, **University of Ghana**
- *Composition & Theory*
 - *Transcription & Analysis*
 - *Form & Analysis*
 - *Studio Recording & Production*
 - *Orchestration*
 - *Songwriting*
- 2005-2008 Teaching Assistant/Fellow, **University of Pittsburgh**
- *History of Jazz*
 - *World Music*
 - *Class Piano*
- 1998-9 (Sum) Lecturer/Councilor, Duquesne University Multicultural Computer Academy
- *Music Technology*
- 1996- Private Studio, Musik Innovations, African-American Music Institute (Pittsburgh)
- *Guitar Instruction*
-

Publications

- 2015 *African Guitar Styles*. Music in Africa. <http://www.musicinafrica.net/>
- 2015 *Dark Suburb: Rocks Summons its Voice in Ghana*. Music in Africa. <http://www.musicinafrica.net/>
- 2015 [Under review] "Performing Value in *Seperewa* Music: The Proverb as Analytical Framework of African Expressive Arts." *Journal of the African Theater Association*
- 2015 [Forthcoming] *Highlife*. *Sage Encyclopedia of Ethnomusicology*
- 2015 [Forthcoming] Review "Experiencing 'Flow' in Jazz Performance," *Popular Music*
- 2015 [Forthcoming] Review "Icons Among Us: Jazz in the Present Tense [documentary]," *Jazz Perspectives* 7/2
- 2013 "What These Hands Have Seen: Guitarist Jimmy Ponder." *Fretboard Journal* 28 (Winter), pp.72-83.

- 2012 Review “*Buena Vista in the Club.*” *Popular Music* 31/2, pp. 321-323.
- 2008 Recording Review “Djanbutu Thioossane: Ass, Mass, & Pap.” *Ethnomusicology* 52/3 (Fall), pp. 506-508.
- 2008 “Life, Death, and Music in West Africa.” *Contexts, A Publication of the American Sociological Association* (Winter), pp. 44-51.
- 2006 “Review of *Bright Balkan Morning: Romani Lives and the Power of Music in Greek Macedonia.*” *Visual Studies* 21/1, pp. 96-97.

Recordings and Performance Experience

- 2015 [Forthcoming] Osei Korankye. *Ghanaian Seperewa Highlife* (Akwaaba Music). Featured as producer and guitarist.
- 2015 Dark Suburb (Ghanaian rock). Featured as a producer and mixing engineer.
- 2007-2013 Rusted Root (band). Full member guitarist, percussionist, and vocalist featured in national tours, television appearances and studio recordings
- 2013 *Fool's Resolution* (CD) Colter Harper (Self Released). Featured as composer and guitarist
- 2012 *The Movement* (CD). Rusted Root (Shanachie Records). Featured as guitarist and percussionists
- 2012 *Songs from the War Streets* (CD). Colter Harper (Mount Royal Studios). Featured as composer, singer, and guitarist
- 2011 *Ashe* (CD). Preach Freedom (Freedom Records). Featured as guitarist and bassist
- 2010 *Undiscovered Country* (CD). Lindsey Horner (ArtistShare Records). Featured as guitarist
- 2010 *Wanderlust* (CD). Georgetown (Georgetown Records). Featured as guitarist
- 2009 *Contemporary Dynamic* (CD). Tony DePaolis (Tony DePaolis Records). Featured as guitarist
- 2008 *Stereo Rodeo* (CD). Rusted Root (Touchy Pegg/Adrenaline/DKE Records). Featured as guitarist
- 2008 *Fly Boys: Western Pennsylvania's Tuskegee Airmen* (documentary). WQED Pittsburgh. Featured as guitarist on Emmy award winning soundtrack.
- 2007 *Once Upon a Mind* (CD). Colter Harper (Self Released). Featured as guitarist and composer
- 2007 *Red Dust* (stage production). Mathew Rosenblum. Opera presented by the Pittsburgh Opera Theater. Featured as guitarist
- 2007 *Torch of Blue* (CD). Phat Mandee (Phatti-O-Phonic Records). Featured as guitarist and composer
- 2006 *Evermore* (CD). Gemini (Gemini Records). Featured as composer
- 2005 *Don't Count on Glory* (CD). Lindsey Horner (Cadence). Featured as guitarist
- 2003 *Under a Quiet Sun* (CD). Colter Harper. Featured as guitarist and composer
- 2003 *Big Silence* (CD). Jim Dispirito (Wichita Blue Records). Featured as guitarist

Papers Presented

- 2015 (Fall) "Akwaaba Music: Curating a Post-World Music Aesthetic in African Popular Music Distribution," presented at the 60th Annual Meeting of the Society of Ethnomusicology, Austin, Texas.
- 2014 (Summer) "Performing Wisdom in Seperewa Music: The Proverb as Analytical Framework of African Expressive Arts," presented at the 8th International African Theater Association Conference, University of Ghana, Accra.
- 2011 (Fall) "Jazz, Race, and the Visual Narrative: Constructing Identity through the Photography of Charles "Teenie" Harris," presented at the 56th Annual Meeting of the Society of Ethnomusicology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.
- 2011 (Spring) "Seeing Musical Life: Photo Elicitation in Ethnomusicology," presented at the Annual Meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology (MACSEM), University of Pittsburgh
- 2010 (Fall) "Seeing Musical Life: Photo Elicitation in Ethnomusicology," this paper was accepted but not presented at the 55th Annual Meeting of the Society of Ethnomusicology, UCLA
- 2008 (Fall) "The Paradox of Freedom: Jazz and Social Transformation in Pittsburgh during the 1960s," presented at the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Society of Ethnomusicology, Wesleyan University
- 2007 (Fall) "The Chitlin Circuit: The Embodiment of Jazz in Physical Space and Social Action," presented at the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Society of Ethnomusicology, Columbus

Invited Lectures

- 2015 (Fall) "The Seperewa (Akan harp) in Ghanaian Highlife," University of Pittsburgh, *World Music*
- 2015 (Spring) "Composing Across Borders: Drawing from Argentina, Brazil, and Ghana," Public Lecture and Performance, Instituto Chileno Norteamericano, Santiago, Chile
- 2014 (Spring) "Ghanaian Music and Jazz: Exploring Cycle in Creative Processes," Alliance Française Accra, Live in Accra Jazz Festival.
- 2013 (Spring) "Life, Death, and Music in West Africa: Funeral Music of the Lobi of Ghana," Williams College, *Music in Africa*
- 2013 (Spring) "Jazz and Urban U.S. History Through the Photography of Charles 'Teenie' Harris," Public Lecture, Instituto Chileno Norteamericano, Santiago, Chile
- 2009-2010 (Fall) "Musical Syncretism: The Role of Guitar in African Popular Music," University of Pittsburgh, *Music in Africa*
- 2005-2010 (Fall) "Musical Traditions and Funeral Rites of North Western Ghana," Duquesne University, *Global Sociology*
- 2008 (Spring) "Composition Techniques for Bridging Jazz and Popular Music," Duquesne University, *Introduction to Composition II*

Awards and Honors

- 2012 **Hewitt Pantaleoni Prize**, Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology (MACSEM), awarded for the best student paper delivered at the annual meeting (2011)
- 2008 **Outstanding Paper Award**, awarded by the University of Pittsburgh's Eighth Annual Arts and Sciences Grad Expo
- 2008 **Andrew Mellon Predoctoral Fellowship**, University of Pittsburgh
- 2007-2008 **Teaching Assistant Mentor**, University of Pittsburgh. Fall and Spring semesters
- 2007 (Summer) **Arts & Sciences Graduate Summer Fellowship**. University of Pittsburgh. Research grant provided to study Portuguese and traditional music in Salvador, Brazil

2006-2008	Teaching Fellow , University of Pittsburgh
2005-2006	Teaching Assistant , University of Pittsburgh
2004-2005	Arts and Sciences Graduate Fellow , University of Pittsburgh
2001	Cum Laude, Bachelor of Music , Duquesne University
1999	Woman's Advisory Board Scholarship , Duquesne University. Based on juried performance
1997	Pittsburgh Jazz Society Scholarship , Duquesne University. Based on juried performance

Field Experience

2000-2015	Ghana, West Africa: Study of Lobi xylophone traditions of North Western Ghana, Ghanaian popular music, and the West African music industry
2013	Morocco, North Africa: Private instruction with Gnawa musicians on guembri (spiked lute)
2007 (Summer)	Salvador, Brazil: Study of Bahian drumming traditions. Supported by Graduate Summer Fellowship

Membership in Societies

- Society of Ethnomusicology
- College Music Society

Special Skills

- Experienced with music notation software (Finale, Sibelius) and sound recording software (Pro Tools, Ableton Live, Logic)
- Experienced in film based and digital photography (Lightroom, Photoshop)

Photo Exhibits

2012 (Fall)	"After Dark: Pittsburgh Artists Redrawn," Sponsored by the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust. 709 Penn Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA
2008 (Spring)	"Celebrations of Life and Death in West Africa," Sponsored by the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust. 709 Penn Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA
2006 (Fall)	"The Music of Ghana," Sponsored by Wash Arts, Washington, PA
