

# MUSIC THEORY MIDWEST

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## MTMW Spring 2009 Newsletter

### 2009 Conference

We extend our warmest invitation to attend Music Theory Midwest's Twentieth Annual Conference to be held May 15–16, 2009 at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. The conference will be a joint meeting with the Midwest chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology.

The culminating plenary session of this conference will feature the MTMW keynote address by David Huron (The Ohio State University), the MIDSEM keynote address by Andy Sutton (University of Wisconsin–Madison), and panel respondents Sumanth Gopinath (University of Minnesota) and Anna Schultz (University of Minnesota). The abstract for Dr. Huron's lecture, titled "The Art of Listening: Music Scholarship in the Age of Fragmentation," appears below.

*Over the past century, a wealth of different approaches has arisen in the study of music. This methodological explosion has provided a welcome breath of fresh air: we are probing the phenomenon of music from a greater variety of perspectives than ever before. Unfortunately, this plurality of scholarly approaches has led to a fragmented academic community with insular tendencies. In understanding that complex whole which is music, there is a need to build bridges and to learn from each others' experiences. In this talk I attempt to present a hypothetical debate between historical musicology, ethnomusicology, music cognition, and music theory. My aim is to move beyond the caricatures by simply exposing them.*

The conference program is enclosed. Our program committee has assembled a diverse and engaging slate of presentations. Thanks go to Steven Rings (University of Chicago), who chaired the program committee, and to its other members: Kyle Adams (Indiana University), Nicole Biamonte (University of Iowa), Robert Cook (University of Iowa), Sigrun Heinzelmann (Oberlin College Conservatory), Michael Vidmar-McEwen (Indiana University), and Ronald Rodman (Carleton College), ex officio.

Local Arrangements committee chair Matthew Bribitzer-Stull is happy to welcome you to Minneapolis. Sixty hotel rooms are being held for May 14–16 (Thursday–Saturday nights) at the Holiday Inn Minneapolis Metrodome: (800) 448-3663. Rates are \$125 per night plus tax for single or double occupancy. **Reservations must be made by April 23.** The group name is Music Theory Midwest.

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## AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Catherine Losada (University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music)  
Steven Rings (University of Chicago)  
Matthew Bribitzer-Stull (University of Minnesota)  
Elizabeth Margulis (University of Arkansas)

## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Timothy Best (Indiana University)  
Jessica Barnett (University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music)

## WEBMASTER

David Loberg Code (Western Michigan University)

The conference site is an easy walk from the Holiday Inn. The Holiday Inn also offers shuttle service to and from the Metrodome Light Rail station, which connects with the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. The charge for light rail is only \$1–2 depending on time of day.

A few rooms with local faculty and graduate students will also be made available for graduate students traveling in from out-of-town. Please contact Matt Bribitzer-Stull (mpbs@umn.edu) if you are interested in one of these. We have also launched the MTMW Bulletin Board online as an aid to those who might like to locate a roommate for the conference:

<http://www.wmich.edu/mus-theo/mtmw/guestbook.php>

There will be a conference dinner on Saturday night at the superb Campus Club setting with views of the Mississippi River and the Minneapolis skyline.

Driving directions will be available at the MTMW web site, and at

<http://www1.umn.edu/twincities/maps>

Hourly parking is available at the 21st Avenue Ramp (\$12/day maximum on weekdays, \$6 on Saturday, free parking on Sunday). Visit

<http://www1.umn.edu/pts/parking/parkingrates.html#pvpark>

for more information.

Full details of the May conference are becoming available on the MTMW web site:

<http://www.wmich.edu/mus-theo/mtmw/>

See also the new MTMW Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Music-Theory-Midwest/77137696678>

## 2009 Membership

You may begin or renew your membership in MTMW as you complete the conference registration form enclosed with this newsletter. (If you cannot attend the conference but wish to maintain your membership for 2009, simply complete the relevant portions of the registration form.) Annual dues are \$20 for regular membership, \$30 for joint membership, \$15 for emeritus membership, and \$10 for student or emeritus. Donations to the Arthur J. Komar Student Award are always welcome. ***Please renew soon to ensure the continued financial health of our organization and to be eligible to vote in the upcoming elections.***

## Elections

During 2009, the terms of President, Treasurer, Area I Representative (KY, MI, OH), Area III Representative (IA, MN, NE, ND, SD) and Areas II and IV Student Representative (IL, IN, WI, AR, KS, MO, OK, TN) will expire. The Nominations Committee has prepared a slate of candidates to fill these positions; biographies of the candidates are enclosed. Members of MTMW are encouraged to participate in elections in one of two ways:

- You may vote online at the Music Theory Midwest web site:

<http://www.wmich.edu/mus-theo/mtmw/>

...follow the link for "Online Elections."

or

- Current and recent members will find a ballot attached to this newsletter. Complete it and mail it to:

Music Theory Midwest Elections  
c/o Stan Kleppinger, secretary  
229 Westbrook Music Building  
University of Nebraska—Lincoln 68588-0100

Ballots must be postmarked by ***May 1. You must be a current member of MTMW to participate in elections.*** Renewing your membership by May 1 will allow your vote to be counted.

Many thanks to the members of our Nominations Committee for their efforts in assembling this fine selection of candidates: Nora Engebretsen, chair (Bowling Green State University); Per Broman (Bowling Green State University); Michael Oravitz (Ball State University)

**Music Theory Midwest  
Twentieth Annual Conference  
Conducted Jointly with the Midwest Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
May 15–16, 2009**

*Friday, May 15*

8:00           **Registration** (Ferguson Hall Lobby)

9:00–9:15    **Introduction and Welcome** (Ultan Recital Hall)  
Matthew Bribitzer-Stull, Local Arrangements, MTMW  
Anna Schultz, Local Arrangements, MIDSEM  
David Myers, Director of the University of Minnesota School of Music

9:15–10:45   Syntax, Affect, and Cognition (Ferguson Hall 225)

What is Musical Syntax? An Evolutionary Perspective

**David Bashwiner, University of Chicago**

Theorizing Musical Affect: Arvo Pärt's *Passio* (1982)

**Arnie Cox, Oberlin Conservatory**

Temporal Segmentation and Prototypical Phrase Models

**Mitch Ohriner, Indiana University**

9:15–10:45   Motive and Process (Ultan Recital Hall)

Middleground Motives in Beethoven's Last Quartet (Opus 135)

**Jason Britton, Luther College**

The Myth of Modulation: Motivic Unity Across Surface-Level Keys in *Ein Heldenleben*

**Soo Hyun Jeong, University of Minnesota–Twin Cities**

Voice Leading and Emerging Consciousness in a Schoenberg Passage

**Christopher M. Barry, University of Wisconsin–Madison**

11:00–12:30   Brahms and Beach (Ferguson Hall 225)

Brahms *oder* Dietrich? An Analytic Perspective on the Piano Trio in A Major

**Ryan McClelland, University of Toronto**

"Shall I Find Aught New?" The Expressive Potential of Modified Strophic Form in the Songs of Amy Beach

**Victoria Malawey, Kenyon College**

"You Kiss Me as We Part": Unifying Techniques in Two Brahms Song Pairings

**Daniel B. Stevens, University of Delaware**

11:00–12:30   Elusive Aspects of Pitch: Timbre and Sprechstimme (Ultan Recital Hall)

Oppositions and Metamorphosis: Timbre in Saariaho's *Château de l'âme*

**Crystal Peebles, Florida State University**

Functional and Descriptive Accounts of Timbre

**William O'Hara, University of Wisconsin–Madison**

Rap and Sprechstimme: Analyzing the Pitch Content of Hip-Hop

**Christopher Segall, City University of New York**

12:30–2:00   **Lunch (MTMW Executive Board Meeting, Ferguson Hall 280)**

2:00–5:15     Poster Session: Pedagogy (Ferguson Hall Lobby)

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Incorporating Keyboard-Based Mastery Learning into the Music Theory Curriculum: Two Studies

**Leigh VanHandel, Michigan State University**

Barbershop Quartets in the Sight Singing Class

**Bruce Taggart, Michigan State University**

2:00–4:00     Jazz Plus (Ultan Recital Hall)

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Ellington the Improviser: Group Interaction in the *Money Jungle* Recordings

**Garrett Michaelsen, Indiana University**

Metrical Dissonance in Bill Evans' "All the Things You Are"

**Stefan Love, Eastman School of Music**

Ordered Step Motives in Jazz Composition

**Keith Salley, Shenandoah Conservatory**

A "New" Lydian Theory for Frank Zappa's Diatonic Music

**Brett Clement, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music**

3:00–4:00     Modes and Transformations in British Music (Ferguson Hall 225)

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The Modal Organization of Vaughan Williams' Works

**Ian Bates, Yale University**

Form and Transformation in the "Nocturne" from Britten's Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings

**Michael Baker, University of Kentucky**

4:15–5:15     Balkan Meters (Ferguson Hall 225)

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Problems with Unequal Beats: A Discussion of Non-Isochronous Meter in

Balkan Brass Band Music

**Daniel Goldberg, University of British Columbia**

Four-beat Aksak Meter Beyond the Balkans

**Aleksandra Vojcic, University of Michigan–Ann Arbor**

4:15–5:15     Perspectives on Copland's *Quiet City* (Ultan Recital Hall)

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The Structure and Genesis of Copland's *Quiet City*

**Stanley V. Kleppinger, University of Nebraska–Lincoln**

A Tonal Revolution in Fifths and Semitones: Aaron Copland's *Quiet City*

**David Heetderks, University of Michigan–Ann Arbor**

6:00     **Graduate Student Pizza Dinner** (Ferguson Hall 280)

8:00     **Persian Classical Music Concert: Dastan Ensemble** (Ted Mann Concert Hall)

Tickets must be pre-purchased with registration.

Saturday, May 16

8:00           **Registration** (Ferguson Hall Lobby)

9:00–10:30    In Search of Meter (Ultan Recital Hall)

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Projective Meter in Gesualdo's Tenebrae Responsories

**Timothy Chenette, Indiana University**

Parsing Time with Harmony

**Sara J. Bakker, Indiana University**

Durational Idealism and Messiaen's *Livre d'orgue*

**Anton Vishio, Steinhardt School, New York University**

10:45–12:15   Analysis and Performance (Ultan Recital Hall)

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The Act of Interpreting J. S. Bach's Allemande for Solo Flute

**Samantha Inman, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music**

On The Relationship Between Analysis and Performance in Atonal Music

**Timothy C. Best, Indiana University**

Conveying Proportion and Other Performance Issues in John Adams's China Gates

**Kyle Fyr, Indiana University**

12:30–2:00    **Lunch**

1:30–2:00      **Cherolyn Fischer and Andean Music Ensemble Concert** (Ferguson Hall Lobby)

2:00–4:00      Histories and Discourses of Theory (Ultan Recital Hall)

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Heinrich Christoph Koch's Description of the Andante in Joseph Haydn's Symphony No. 42 as a Response to Recent Sonata Theories

**Gregory Hellenbrand, St. Paul, MN**

Reflective Equilibrium and David Lewin's Analytical Methodologies

**Peter Shultz, University of Chicago**

The Universalism of Marin Mersenne's *Harmonie universelle*

**John Reef, Indiana University**

Sympathetic Resonance: György Ligeti's "Cordes à vide" and the Discourses of Theory

**August Sheehy, University of Wisconsin–Madison**

4:00–4:45      **Business Meeting** (Ultan Recital Hall)

5:00–6:00      Plenary Session/Keynote Addresses

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**MTMW Keynote: David Huron (The Ohio State University)**

The Art of Listening: Music Scholarship in an Age of Fragmentation

**MIDSEM Keynote: Andy Sutton (University of Wisconsin–Madison)**

**Panel Respondents: Sumanth Gopinath (University of Minnesota) and Anna Schultz (University of Minnesota)**

6:30–8:30      **Banquet** (University of Minnesota Campus Club)

8:30           **Javanese Gamelan Ensemble Concert**, Joko Sutrisno, director (Ultan Recital Hall; free of charge)