

KRISTI BROWN-MONTESANO

Colburn Conservatory of Music
Colburn School of Performing Arts
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POSITIONS HELD

2003– Faculty and Chair, Colburn Conservatory of Music (BM and MM degree programs)

- Chair of Music History (2010–)
- Curriculum Advisory Committee (2021–)
- Undergraduate advisor (2013–)
- Advisor: capstone projects for MM degree (2015–2016; 2018-19; 2020-21; 2021–)
- Academic Affairs Committee (2005–2020)
- Steering Committee for Launching of Degree Program, Colburn Conservatory of Music, 2003–2004

2010 University of California, Los Angeles: Visiting Faculty Lecturer

2002 Dominican University: Adjunct Faculty

2001 University of California, Davis: Lecturer

1998 University of California, Davis: Lecturer

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Music History and Literature, University of California, Berkeley, 1997, with distinction

Dissertation: *A Critical Study of the Female Characters in Mozart's Don Giovanni and Die Zauberflöte*. Supervised by Daniel Heartz

M.A. Music History and Literature, University of California, Berkeley, 1988

B.A. Music, University of California, Davis, 1985, magna cum laude

PUBLIC MUSICOLOGY

PODCASTS AND STREAMED MEDIA

- 2021 Script creator and narrator: The Da Camera Society, podcast on Ethel Smyth. Produced by Julius Reder-Carlson (Artistic and Academic Director of The Da Camera Society) and John Schneider (Host, Global Village Thursdays, KPFK Public Radio). Forthcoming. <https://dacamerasociety.org/watch/ethyl-smyth/>
- 2021 Featured expert: "North Stage Door," Episode 2 (podcast): Mozart's *Così fan tutte*; San Francisco Opera, 20 July 2021. <https://sfopera.com/online/audio/northstagedoor/>
- 2021 Featured expert: "Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex*" (podcast); Los Angeles Opera Connects, 1 June 2021. <https://www.laopera.org/discover/podcasts/tag/oedipus-rex>
- 2020 Cohost for livestream concert series: "A Serving of Beethoven: Lunchtime Concerts"; The Colburn School, 14 May–16 July.
- 2018 Panelist: "'Music, Women, Diversity,'" with Rhiannon Giddens (American Roots musician), Assal Habibi (Assistant Research Professor in Psychology, USC), Jessie Vallejo (Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology and Mariachi Director in Cal Poly Pomona's Music Department), Fredara Hadley (Founder of Jooksi and scholar of African American and popular music), and Shana L. Redmond (Associate Professor of Musicology in the Herb Alpert School of Music and African American Studies at UCLA); Women in Music Festival, Mount Saint Mary's University, Los Angeles, 25 March 2018. <https://womeninmusicfestival.org/>

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CONCERT LECTURES, INTERVIEWS, AND PUBLIC PANELS

The Colburn School, preconcert lecturer and interviewer (2017–2020)

- Lecture for Colburn Beethoven 250 concert with the Calidore Quartet; repertoire: Beethoven: String Quartets Op. 18 No. 5, Op. 95, Op. 127, 18 October 2019.
- "Beethoven and the String Quartet"; kickoff lecture for Beethoven 250 concert series; 16 October 2019.
- Preconcert interview with conductor James Conlon leading the Colburn Orchestra; repertoire: Prokofiev, Symphony No. 3 "Fiery Angel"; 21 September 2019.
- Preconcert lecture and interview with conductor Alexander Prior leading the Colburn Orchestra; repertoire Bruckner, Symphony No. 4; Ginastera, Concerto for Harp; 13 April 2019.
- Preconcert lecture and interview with Joachim Thomsen, flute; Colburn Orchestra concert; repertoire: Nielson, Concerto for Flute; 3 March 2018.

- Preconcert interview with conductor Edo de Waart leading the Colburn Orchestra; repertoire: Adams, *Harmonielehre*; 12 October 2017.

La Jolla Music Society, preconcert lecturer for Chamber Music / Piano Series (2019–2021)

- Yefim Bronfman, piano; works by Beethoven, Chopin, and Debussy; 12 May 2021.
- Danish String Quartet; works by Bach, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Webern, and Bartok; 22–23 November 2019.
- SummerFest Finale, “Concerto Grosso” with Nicholas McGegan, conductor; works by Bach, Norman, Mozart, Vivaldi, Handel, and Zwillich; 23 August 2019.
- David Finckel, cello, and Wu Han, piano; works by Bach, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Debussy, and Britten; 10 May 2019.
- Gil Shaham, violin, and Orli Shaham, piano; works by Kreisler, Dorman, Wheeler; 25 April 2019.
- Midori, violin, and Jean-Yves Thibaudet, piano; works by Schumann, Fauré, Debussy, and Enescu; 12 April 2019.
- Danish String Quartet; works by Haydn, Mozart, Nielsen, and Widmann; 8 February 2019.

Los Angeles Opera, panelist and moderator (2020)

- Keynote conversation with Christopher Koelsch (President and CEO of Los Angeles Opera) and composer Matthew Aucoin (Los Angeles Opera Artist in Residence), part of the *New Media and Opera Future Tense Conference*, 14 February 2020.
- Moderator for post-performance conversation with Beth Morrison (producer), Danielle de Niese (soprano), and Raehann Bryce-Davis (mezzo-soprano); world premiere of Matthew Aucoin’s *Eurydice*, 8 February 2020.

Los Angeles Philharmonic, “Upbeat Live” preconcert lecturer (2017–2020)

- Lecture on Haydn, “Lord Nelson” Mass and Beethoven, Mass in C; 25–26 May 2019.
- Lecture on Beethoven, Piano Concertos 1–3; 17–19 May 2019.
- Lecture on Debussy, *Iberia*; Ravel, Piano Concerto for Left Hand; Respighi, *The Pines of Rome*; 26–28 April 2019.
- Interview with featured composers and conductor Susanna Mälkki for the Green Umbrella series; new works by Francesco Filidei, Arnulf Herrmann, Lotta Wennäkoski, Miroslav Srnka, and Yann Robin; 13 November 2018.
- “Upbeat Live” lecture for the first public concert of the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s 100th season; interview with composer Andrew Norman (world-premiere of *Sustain*) and lecture on Salonen, *La Variations* and Beethoven, Triple Concerto; 4-7 October 2018.
- Lecture for all-Schumann program (Overture to *Genoveva*, Cello Concerto, Symphony No. 3, and Symphony No. 4); 24–27 May 2018.

- Lecture on Brahms, Symphony No. 1; 25–26 January 2018.
- Interview with composer Tania León (world premiere of *Ser*); lecture on Bernstein, Serenade after Plato's *Symposium*; 1–3 December 2017.

Mason Home Concerts: Topic-specific preconcert lecturer (2018–2020)

- "Music for Piano Four Hands," 18 January 2020.
- "Béla Bartók and Igor Stravinsky: Commonalities and Contrasts," 16 March 2019.
- "The Classic String Quartet," 9 February 2019
- "Reinhold Glière and Bedřich Smetana," 14 April 2018.
- "Beethoven, Archduke Rudolph, and the Piano Trio, Op. 97," 20 January 2018.

Performances à la Carte, Preconcert lecturer (2018)

- "The Women of Mozart's Operas," benefit performance for "Girls on the Run," 25 February 2018

Salon de Musiques: Preconcert lecture and Moderator of Q&A (2015-2019)

- "Russian Chamber Music: A Duo, Trio, Quartet, and Quintet"; works by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, and Arensky; 12 January 2020.
- "Viennese Classicism and Chamber Music"; works by Handel, Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven; 6 October 2019.
- "Beethoven and Brahms Piano Trios"; works by Beethoven and Brahms; 2 June 2019.
- "Late Brahms Chamber Works: Inspiration and Revision," special subscriber event; all-Brahms program; 23 May 2019.
- "Sonatas for Solo String and Keyboard"; works by Bach, Chopin, and Saint-Saëns; 7 April 2019.
- "Schubert Lieder and Piano Trios"; all-Schubert program; 10 February 2019.
- "Three Schumanns"; works by G. Schumann, R. Schumann, and Wieck-Schumann; 2 December 2018.
- "Three Works for Four Strings"; works by Purcell, Schubert, and Mendelssohn; 7 October 2018.
- "New Musical Nationalisms in Northern Europe"; works by Grieg, Sibelius, and Bridge; 3 June 2018.
- "Mendelssohn and Bach," special subscribers' event; all-Mendelssohn program; 17 May 2018.
- "The Belyayev Circle: Russian Music after The Five"; works by Rimsky-Korsakov, Borodin, Glazunov, Liadov, Nápravník and Shostakovich; 8 April 2018.
- "French Musical Identity and the Société National de Musique"; works by Franck, Saint-Saëns, and Chausson; 11 March 2018.
- "The Russians! Tchaikovsky's Influence"; works by Tchaikovsky, Arensky, and Rachmaninoff; 14 January 2018.
- "Minor Modes: Keys and Meaning in Three Chamber Works"; works by Beethoven, Spohr, and Schubert; 15 October 2017.

- “Romantic Evocations: Chamber Works as Song without Words”; works by Mendelssohn, R. Strauss, and P. Scharwenka; 4 June 2017.
- “Trios, with and without Clarinet,” special subscribers’ event; works by Beethoven, Brahms, and Bruch; 23 March 2017.
- “Romantic Classicists”; works by Brahms, Bruch, E. Zeisl, and J. Röntgen. 5 March 2017.
- “The Moscow School”; works by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Taneyev and Arensky; 8 January 2017.
- “German Chamber Music at the end of the 19th Century: Hidden Treasures”; works by R. Strauss, Schumann, and X. Scharwenka; 6 November 2016.
- “Beethoven’s Op. 59 Quartet: New Style Directions”; works by Beethoven, Schubert, and G. Lekeu; 2 October 2016.
- “The ‘woman-composer problem’ in the 19th Century”; works by Mendelssohn-Hensel, Wieck-Schumann, and Schumann; 12 June 2016.
- “Two Masterful String Quartets,” special subscribers’ event; works by Schubert and Schumann; 12 May 2016.
- “Ravel’s Chamber Music and French neoclassicism,” works by Ravel and Paul Juon; 15 May 2016.
- “Sonatas for Cello and Piano”; works by Ravel and (10 April 2016)
- “Fantasias and Four-Hand Piano,” special subscribers’ event; works by Schubert and Schumann; 17 March 2016.
- “The English Musical Renaissance into the Twentieth Century”; works by Bowen, Bax, and Clarke; 6 March 2016.
- “Schubert and Vienna; all-Schubert program; 7 February 2016.
- “Russian Nationalism and the St. Petersburg Conservatory”; chamber and vocal works by Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Rachmaninoff, and Shostakovich; 10 January 2016.
- “Three German ‘Classic-Romantics’”; works by Mendelssohn, Bruch, and M. Moszkowski; 6 December 2015.
- “Strauss before and during the Third Reich”; chamber and vocal works by R. Strauss; 8 November 2015.
- Grand Opening Concert: “Tears of Joy, Tears of Sorrow,” works by Schubert and P. Scharwenka; 4 October 2015.

EDUCATIONAL LECTURES FOR K–12 TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Los Angeles Opera: Opera for Educators (2015–2021)

Professional development seminars for K-12 educators

- “The Women of Don Giovanni” 23 January 2021.
- “Teaching Rhetoric through Musical Style: Sounds of Class, Gender, and Emotion in Mozart’s *Figaro*” 30 May 2020.
- “Opera and Children: Historical Contexts and New Directions” 21 March 2020.
- “Fairytale, Opera, and the Art of Retelling” 3 November 2018.
- “Dante and *Gianni Schicchi*: The Quest for ‘Italian’ Art” 22 August 2015.
- “Class and Gender Politics in *Le nozze di Figaro*,” 21 February 2015.

- “The Two *Barbers*, or Paisiello Vs. Rossini,” 7 February 2015.
- “Old and New Musical Styles: *The Ghosts of Versailles*,” 17 January 2015.

Los Angeles Philharmonic: Invited Rehearsals (2019-2020)

Educational initiative for middle- and high-school music students

- “In Search of “American” Symphonies: Charles Ives & Antonín Dvořák” 27 February 2020.
- “Music in the Weimar Republic,” 7 February 2020.
- “Beethoven and the Orchestra,” 24 January 2020.
- “William Grant Still,” 16 February 2019.

Los Angeles Philharmonic: Symphony for Schools

Preparatory seminar and curriculum for teachers grades K-12; special concert for teachers and students

- Seminar lecturer and moderator: “Film Music” with Conrad Pope and Ed Barguiarena, 26 and 31 January 2019.
- Seminar lecturer: “William Grant Still and the Harlem Renaissance,” 12, 17 and 24 January 2019.
- Seminar lecturer “New Opera: *A Trip to the Moon*” in dialogue with composer Andrew Norman, 25 and 27 January, 8 February 2018.

Philharmonic Society of Orange County/Orange County Youth Symphony

- Narrator and script advisor: “Concerts for Fifth Graders,” Johannes Müller Stosch, director, 21 and 31 January.

Southern California Schools and Conservatories, K-12

- “**A Brief History of the Violin and the French Violin School**,” Summer Bootcamp for CSPA string students, 22 June 2020.
- “**The Early String Quartet**,” Summer Bootcamp for CSPA string students, 23 June 2020.
- “**Mozart’s ‘Milanese’ Quartets: Content and Form**,” Summer Bootcamp for CSPA string students, 26 June 2020.
- “**Exploring ‘Classical’ Music**,” Notre Dame Academy, Los Angeles, CA. 9 January 2020.
- “**Introduction to Chamber Music**,” Summer Intensive for String Players, 12 June 2019.
- “**Women and Opera: Characters, Singers, Composers, Producers**,” Orange County School of the Arts, 13 November 2018.

SEMINARS AND COURSES FOR ADULT LEARNERS

Colburn Community School

- Instructor/content creator: “Music between the World Wars” for the Adult Education division of the Colburn Community School, 30 Jan–6 March 2021.
- Instructor/content creator: “Exploring Beethoven’s Ninth” for the Adult Education division of the Colburn Community School, 3–24 October.

Los Angeles Opera

- Instructor/content creator: “Music between the World Wars” for the LAO Board of Directors, 8 May–5 June 2021.

Opera League of Los Angeles

- Seminar lecture: “Music, Politics, and Mercy: Mozart’s *La clemenza di Tito*,” 17 February 2019.
- Seminar lecture: “Early Verdi: The Creative Arc from *Nabucco* to *Rigoletto*,” 8 October 2017.
- Seminar lecturer: “The Women of Hoffmann’s *Tales*: From Life to Fantasy Stories to Opera,” 12 March 2017.

Creative Consultant/Contributor for Presentations and Production

- Technical Advisor: Mozart-focused television series under development. Head writers: Todd Kessler, Alberto Arvelo, and David Mazzarri. Advised on pilot script and two-season storyline, March 2020–present.
- Research consultant for script by John de Lancie: pre-concert show for Cleveland Orchestra on Mozart’s early years and the “Haffner” Serenade in D Major, K. 250, January–March 2010.

Publications, Papers and Editorial Work

Book publications:

- *Understanding the Women of Mozart’s Operas* (University of California Press, 2007)

Articles in Books and Journals:

- “Outperforming Sherlock: Musical Imagination and Representation of Genius in House M.D.,” *New Theories* 3, forthcoming.

- “Terminal Bach: Technology, Media, and the *Goldberg Variations* in Postwar American Culture,” *BACH: Journal of the Bach Riemenschneider Bach Institute*, 50/1 (Spring 2019), 81–117.
https://www.academia.edu/39684145/Terminal_Bach_Technology_Media_and_the_Goldberg_Variations_in_Postwar_American_Culture
- “The Troll Among Us” in *Changing Tunes: Issues in Music and Film*. Edited by Phil Powrie and Robynn Stilwell. (Ashgate Press, January 2005).
https://www.academia.edu/11994826/The_Troll_Among_Us
- “*Pathétique Noir: Beethoven and The Man Who Wasn’t There*,” *Beethoven Forum*, 10/2 (Fall 2003).
https://www.academia.edu/11994809/Pathetique_Noir_Beethoven_and_The_Man_Who_Wasnt_There
- “Iron Ludwig Sees His Shadow: A Cautionary Tale,” *Journal of Musicological Research*, 19/1 (1999), 27–36

Critical Essays:

- “Choose to Challenge: Women’s History Month 2021,” Los Angeles Opera Special Content, 12 March 2021. <https://www.laopera.org/discover/la-opera-content/choose-to-challenge/>
- “Voicing Protest: Rzewski’s Songs of Insurrection,” liner notes for Frederic Rzewski, *Songs of Insurrection*; Thomas Kotcheff (13 November 2020).
<http://coviellomusic.com/files/2020/09/COV92021-Booklet-EVersion.pdf>
- “LA Classical: Women Who Stepped Up,” special content for The Colburn School, 27 March 2018. <https://www.colburnschool.edu/la-classical-women-who-stepped-up/>
- “Holding Don Giovanni Accountable,” *Musicology Now* (5 Dec 2017).
https://www.academia.edu/36741456/Holding_Don_Giovanni_Accountable
- “A Very Modern, Major Generalist (at the Conservatory),” *Musicology Now* (6 March 2017).
https://www.academia.edu/51046135/A_Very_Modern_Major_Generalist_at_the_Conservatory
- “Ah! non credete al perfido!: The Women of *Don Giovanni*,” program essay for Asociación Bilbaina de Amigos de la Ópera, 2016.
- “The Queen’s Humanity,” program essay for La Monnaie, *Der Zauberflöte*, 2018–19 season.
- “The Classical Style, of Sorts,” *Musicology Now* (20 June 2014).
https://www.academia.edu/51046305/The_Classical_Style_of_Sorts
- “Ah! non credete al perfido: la mujeres y Don Giovanni”; program essay for Asociación Bilbaina de Amigos de la Ópera, 2016.
- “Sisters of Choice: Susanna and the Countess”: program essay for the National Opera, Washington DC, April 2010; also published by the Houston Grand Opera in 2011.
- “The Taming of Isis: Women and Freemasonry in *The Magic Flute*”; program essay for the Royal Danish Theater (Det Kongelige Teater), January 2010,

- **“Vivan le femmine! Las mujeres en *Don Giovanni*”** [Vivan le femmine! The Women in *Don Giovanni*"]; program essay for Asociación Bilbaina de Amigos de la Ópera, 2005.

Book Reviews:

- Larry Wolff, *The Singing Turk: Ottoman Power and Operatic Emotions on the European Stage from the Siege of Vienna to the Age of Napoleon*, Austrian Studies Newsletter, Center for Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota (Fall 2017)
https://www.academia.edu/51081523/ASN_Fall_2017_KBM_review_Singing_Turk

Papers Read:

- **“Controlling the Narrative: Challenges in Staging Mozart’s *The Magic Flute*,”** keynote lecture for the Exploring Opera Symposium, University of North Carolina, Wilmington and Opera Wilmington, 21-22 February 2020.
- **“Star-Cross’d: Houston Grand Opera’s Serial Web Opera,”** New Media and Opera Future Tense Conference, 14 Feb 2020.
- **“Opera as Contemporary Edutainment: Andrew Norman’s A Trip to the Moon,”** Music and Stage Conference, Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance, (Kent, UK), 20–21 October 2018.
- **“The Wagnerian Roots of Lars von Trier’s ‘Depression’ Trilogy”;** Annual Meeting of the American Musicological Society: Rochester, NY (12 November 2017)
- **“Public Musicology as Skilled Performance,”** Annual Meeting of the College Music Society, Santa Fe (October 2016)
- **“Monstrous Burden: Wagner’s *Ring* and Lars von Trier’s ‘Depression Trilogy’”;** Music and the Moving Image Conference, NYU/Steinhardt (27–29 May 2016)
- **“‘Strad Fever’ and Sherlock’s Violin”;** UCLA Musicology Department, Distinguished Lecture Series (20 November 2015)
- **“The Secret of Sherlock’s Violin: A Study in (Musical) Motives”;** presented at the North American and British Studies Association biennial conference, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (July 31 –August 3, 2014)
- **“Opera Education, Ethics, and Carmen for Families”;** presented at the 6th VERGE Conference: Arts and Ethics, School of the Arts, Media, and Culture, Trinity Western University, Langley, BC (October 18-19, 2012)
- **“The Magic Flute as Family Entertainment”;** presented at the Mozart Society of American biennial conference, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. (20-23 October 2011)
- **“No Child’s Play, or A Young Person’s Guide to *The Magic Flute*”;** interdisciplinary conference, “After *The Magic Flute*” conference, University of California, Berkeley (March 5-7, 2010)

- ***“Il dissoluto punito, or Don Giovanni Unmasked,”*** presented at scholarly seminar and panel *“In Search of Don Giovanni: The Origins, Interpretations, and Legacy of Mozart and Da Ponte’s Anti-Hero,”* sponsored by the Center for Austrian Studies and the School of Music Opera Theatre, University of Minnesota (April 2005)
- ***“When Sharon met Sergei or Bibbidi Bobbidi Bach: Creating Popular Markets for Classical Music for Children,”*** presented at the U.S. Chapter Meeting of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music, University of California Los Angeles (September 2003)
- ***“Pathetique Noir: Beethoven, Isolation, and Longing in The Man Who Wasn’t There,”*** presented at the conference *Reviewing the Canon: Borrowed Music in Film*, Stanford University (May 2003)
- ***“Perfectly Executed: Bach’s Music, Technology, and Violence in Film,”*** presented at the National Meeting of the American Musicological Society, Columbus, OH (November 2002)
- ***“Cultured Killers, or Terminal Bach,”*** presented at the conference *Music/Image in Film and Multimedia: Cliché or Emerging Language?*, New York University (June 2001)
- ***“The Daughter of Superstition and Patriarchal Reason: Power and Parenting in Die Zauberflöte,”*** presented at the conference *Feminist Theory and Music II: A Continuing Dialogue*, Eastman School of Music/University of Rochester (June 1993)

Invited Lectures (Academic):

- ***“Sherlockian Genius and Music in House. M.D,”*** Academy of Dramatic Art, University of Zagreb, 2 June 2021.
- ***“Schubert’s ‘Death and the Maiden’ Works,”*** Department of Comparative Literature, UCLA, 24 Oct. 2017.
- ***“‘Strad Fever’ and Sherlock’s Violin,”*** Distinguished Lecture Series, Department of Musicology, UCLA; 20 November 2015.
- ***“Intersections of Gender and Class in Così fan tutte,”*** Department of Musicology, UCLA, 1 December 2004.
- ***“Bach at the Movies,”*** Department of Musicology, UCLA, 2 June 2004.

Editorial and Journalist Experience:

- Peer reviewer for the *Journal of the American Musicological Society*, *Music and the Moving Image*, *Elements in Music Since 1945*, and the University of California Press.
- Content Editor, 2011-12 US Academic Decathlon on Romantic Music.
- Reviewer, *San Francisco Classical Voice* (April 1999–September 2000)
- Co-founding Editor, ***Repercussions: Critical and Alternative Viewpoints on Music and Scholarship*** (vols. 1–2, 1992–1993)
- Assistant Editor, ***Nineteenth-Century Music*** (Spring 1985–Fall 1986)

Performance experience

- Training on flute, piano, and voice
- Extensive choral singing experience, including professional chorister with the American Bach Soloists (1993–2002)
- Vocal studies with Stephanie Friedman and Jeffrey Thomas

Professional Memberships and Service

- American Musicological Society
- Pacific Southwest Chapter of the American Musicological Society; served as Secretary from June 2015–July 2019.
- Chair, Committee for Emerson Prize (Mozart Society of America, 2011 and 2012)
- Committee for Emerson Prize (Mozart Society of America, 2010)