

## **Mark Laver, PhD**

Assistant Professor of Music, Grinnell College  
Research Associate, International Institute for Critical Studies in Improvisation  
1108 Park Ave.  
Grinnell, IA  
50112  
641-269-4849 (office)  
lavermark@grinnell.edu

## **Education**

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- 2011      Doctor of Philosophy in Ethnomusicology  
            University of Toronto
- 2007      Master of Arts in Musicology  
            University of Toronto
- 2005      Bachelor of Music in Jazz Saxophone Performance  
            University of Toronto
- 2001      Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Saxophone Performance  
            Royal Conservatory of Music

## **Research**

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### ***Books as Single Author***

- 2015      *Jazz Sells: Music, Marketing, and Meaning*. New York: Routledge.

### ***Books as Co-Editor***

- Forthcoming    *Improvisation and Music Education: Beyond the Classroom*. New York:  
Routledge (co-edited with Ajay Heble)

### ***Peer Reviewed Articles***

- 2015      “Freedom of Choice: Jazz, Neoliberalism, and the Lincoln Center” in *Popular Music and Society* 38 (July 2015)
- 2014      “Rebels and Volkswagens: Advertising, Charles Mingus, and the Commodification of Dissent” in *Black Music Research Journal* 34 (Fall 2014): 201-227.
- 2014      “Improvise!™: Improvisation and the Aesthetics of Neoliberalism” in *Critical Studies in Improvisation* 9 (2013).
- 2011      “Gender, Genius, and Rock and Roll in ‘Roy Orbison and Friends: A Black and White Night’” in *Popular Music* 30 (Winter 2011): 433-453.
- 2010      “‘The Greatest Jazz Concert Ever:’ Critical Discourse, European Aesthetics, and

the Legitimization of Jazz” in *Critical Studies in Improvisation* 5 (2009)

### **Book Chapters**

Forthcoming “Introduction,” *Improvisation and Music Education: Beyond the Classroom*. New York: Routledge, 2016. (co-authored with Ajay Heble)

Forthcoming “The Share: Improvisation and Community in the Neoliberal University,” *Improvisation and Music Education: Beyond the Classroom*. New York: Routledge, 2016.

### **Peer Reviewed Journals as Editor**

2014 “Ethics and the Improvising Business,” a special issue of *Critical Studies in Improvisation* (Vol. 9, No. 1, 2013)

### **Peer Reviewed Conference Proceedings**

2008 “Musicologist and Muslim: Religion, Caste, and the Erasure of the *Ustad*” in *SAGAR* 17 (Spring 2008): 21-28.

### **Peer Reviewed Book and CD Reviews**

2014 “Timothy D. Taylor, *The Sounds of Capitalism: Advertising, Music, and the Conquest of Culture* (The University of Chicago Press, 2012)” in *Labour* 73 (Spring 2014): 390-392.

2007 “Still Life with Commentator” in *Discourses* 7 (Spring, 2007)

### **Other Publications**

2015 “Jazz Moments: Improvisation, Capitalism, and Time,” *Space is the Place: The Ethnomusicology of Jazz; Ethnomusicology Review* (March 9, 2015)

2014 “An Interview with Joel Bakan,” *Critical Studies in Improvisation* 9 (2013)

2014 “An Interview with Keith Sawyer,” *Critical Studies in Improvisation* 9 (2013)

2014 “Editorial: Ethics and the Improvising Business,” *Critical Studies in Improvisation* 9 (2013) (with Ajay Heble and Tina Piper)

2009 “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Form” in *The Recorder: The Journal of the Ontario Music Educator’s Association* 51 (Spring, 2009): 27-28

2007 “Ethnicmusicalligraphy: World Music in the Class Room” in *The Recorder: The Journal of the Ontario Music Educator’s Association* 49 (Summer, 2007): 24-25

2007 “Playing Outside” in *The Recorder: The Journal of the Ontario Music Educator’s Association* 49 (Winter, 2007): 31

2005 “A Jazzer at the Symphony” in *Canadian Musician* 27 (May/June, 2005): 29

2005 featured in “Canadian Rising Stars” in *The Music Scene* 3.3 (Spring, 2005): 18

***Publications as Music Copy Editor***

2010 Haines, John. *Medieval Song in Romance Languages*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2010. p. 5; 73; 160; 213-296 passim.

2009 Haines, John. *Satire in the Songs of Renart le Nouvel*. Publication romanes et francaises 246. Geneva: Droz, 2009. p. 10; 237-339 passim.

2009 McGee, Timothy. *The Ceremonial Musicians of Late Medieval Florence*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2009. p. xvii; 56-226 passim.

***Presentations at Learned Societies***

2015 Jazz Sells: Improvisation as Consumption.  
Society for American Music Annual Conference.  
Sacramento, CA. March 4-8.

2013 The Share: Improvisation and Community in the Neoliberal University.  
Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference.  
Indianapolis, IN. November 14-17.

2013 The Share: Improvisation and Community in the Neoliberal University.  
Guelph Jazz Festival Colloquium  
University of Guelph  
Guelph, ON. September 4-6.

2012 Improvise!™: Improvisation as a Corporate Ethic  
Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference  
New Orleans, LA. November 1-4.

2012 Improvise!™: Improvisation as a Corporate Ethic  
Guelph Jazz Festival Colloquium  
University of Guelph  
Guelph, ON. Sept. 5-7.

2012 “Freedom of Choice: Jazz, Neoliberalism, and the Lincoln Center”  
IASPM Canada Annual Conference  
Acadia University  
Wolfville, NS. June 14-16.

2012 “Dinner Jazz: Eating and Improvising”  
Society for Ethnomusicology Niagara Chapter Annual Conference  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON. March 23-24.

- 2011 “‘The Bank of Music:’ Sponsorship and the Spectacle of Community”  
Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference.  
Philadelphia, PA. November 17-20.
- 2011 “Autoeroticism: Chryslers, Cyborgs, and the Look of Love”  
Sound Practices: Improvisation, Representation, and Intermediality.  
University of Guelph.  
Guelph, ON. September 7-9, 2011.
- 2010 “American Dreams: Jazz, Cars, and Consumerism”  
Soundlines: Music Text, and Media. University of British Columbia.  
Vancouver, BC. June 24-26.
- 2009 “*Black and White Night*: Roy Orbison, Tom Waits, Bruce Springsteen and  
the Theatrics of Masculinity”  
International Association for the Study of Popular Music, Canada. Dalhousie  
University.  
Halifax, NS. June 11-14.
- 2008 “‘My Gift, My Trade:’ Negotiating Professionalism in Toronto Gospel Music”  
Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference. Wesleyan University.  
Middletown, CT. October 25-28.
- 2008 “The New Sound of Cola: Jazz, Marketing, and Blackness”  
Guelph Jazz Festival Colloquium. University of Guelph.  
Guelph, ON. September 3-6.
- 2008 “‘The Greatest Jazz Concert Ever:’ Pierre Bourdieu and the Shifting Ontology of  
Bebop”  
Canadian University Music Society Conference. University of British Columbia.  
Vancouver, BC. June 4-8.
- 2008 “Guru Trouble: Hagiography, History, and Historiography in North India”  
SEM Niagara Chapter Conference. York University  
Toronto, ON. March 28-30.
- 2006 “Musicologist and Muslim: Religion, Caste, and the Erasure of the *Ustad*”  
Asian Studies Graduate Conference. University of Texas at Austin.  
Austin, TX. October 13-14.
- 2006 “Eleven Pieces for Improvising Trio.”  
Canadian University Music Society Annual Conference. York University,  
Toronto. May 28-31. (Co-Presenter)
- 2006 “Selections from *Eleven Pieces for Improvising Trio*.”

Music Graduate Students Association Conference, 2006. University of Toronto.  
March 3-4. (Co Presenter)

***Invited Presentations***

- 2015            “Improvisation and the Liberal Arts”  
Improvisation Section Annual Meeting, Society for Ethnomusicology  
Austin, TX. December 5, 2015.
- 2015            “Technology and the Arts”  
Humanities Conversation  
Grinnell College  
Grinnell, IA. April 29, 2015.
- 2015            “Jazz Sells: A Book Talk by Mark Laver  
Grinnell College  
Grinnell, IA. April 22, 2015.
- 2015            “Improvisation in the arts and everyday life: a weekend of performances,  
dialogues, and seminars”  
Bowling Green State University  
Bowling Green, OH. April 10-11, 2015.
- 2014            “Life after Musicology/Ethnomusicology/Theory”  
Graduate Colloquium Series.  
University of Toronto.  
Toronto, ON. September 11.
- 2014            “Improvise!™: Improvisation and the Aesthetics of Neoliberalism”  
Ethnomusicology Roundtable  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON. March 10.
- 2013            “To Postdoc or Not to Postdoc.”  
Canadian University Music Society Annual Conference.  
University of Victoria  
Victoria, BC. June 6-9.
- 2013            “Freedom of Choice: Jazz, Neoliberalism, and Jazz @ Lincoln Center.”  
Political Science Department Speakers Series.  
Wilfrid Laurier University  
Waterloo ON. January 23.
- 2011            “Plenary Interview with R. Keith Sawyer”  
Making the Changes: Ethics and the Improvising Business  
Improvisation, Community, and Social Practice, University of Guelph  
Guelph, ON. December 2, 2011

- 2011 “Eat That Chicken: Jazz, Spectacle, and Consumption”  
Sound and Music in Mass Performance  
Jackman Humanities Institute, University of Toronto  
Toronto, ON. April 29-30
- 2011 “Such Sweet Thunder: The Art and Craft of Duke Ellington”  
World Rhythms Performance and Lecture series  
University of Toronto Scarborough Campus  
Toronto, ON. February 9.
- 2010 “Jazz, Commerce and the Commodification of Rebellion”  
Research Workshop: The Culture Industries in the African Diaspora  
The Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on the Global Migrations of African  
People, York University.  
Toronto, ON. April 23-24.
- 2010 “Jazz, Commerce and the Commodification of Rebellion”  
Graduate Student Colloquium. University of Toronto.  
Toronto, ON. March 25.
- 2007 “Musicologist and Muslim: Religion, Caste, and the Erasure of the *Ustad*”  
Graduate Student Colloquium. University of Toronto.  
Toronto, ON. March 22.
- 2006 “Exploring the Saxophone.”  
Learning Unlimited. Toronto. January 11.

### **Honours, Awards, Grants, Fellowships**

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- 2013 Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Connection Grant  
(as principal investigator)
- 2011-2013 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Improvisation, Community, and Social Practice  
(University of Guelph)
- 2010 First Prize, Faculty of Music Graduate Student Paper Competition
- 2008 Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Joseph-Armand  
Bombardier Canada Graduate scholarship
- 2007 Governor General’s Gold Medal nominee
- 2007 Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Doctoral
- 2006 Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Master’s
- 2005 Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Canadian Graduate  
Scholarship Programme, Master’s
- 2005 Music Alumni Scholarship
- 2004 Don Wright Scholarship
- 2004 Jean Chalmers Scholarship
- 2003 Jean Chalmers Scholarship

2003	James Bernard Mouldsdales Essay Prize nominee
2002	Duke Ellington Jazz Society Scholarship
2002	Jean Chalmers Scholarship
2001	General Admission Scholarship
2001	University of Toronto Scholar
2001	Royal Conservatory of Music Gold Medal for Woodwind Performance

## Academic Employment

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### *Grinnell College – Assistant Professor of Music*

Fall 2015	Jazz Improvisation (MUS216)
	Jazz Ensemble (MUS101-17)
	Topics in American Music: Popular Music (MUS202-01)
Spring 2015	The Jazz Tradition in America (MUS204)
	Jazz Ensemble (MUS101-17)
	Topics in Music and Culture: Music and Capitalism (MUS203)
Fall 2014	Jazz Ensemble (MUS101-17)
	Topics in American Music: Popular Music (MUS202-01)

### *Other Academic Teaching Appointments*

2014	Course Instructor, Music in World Cultures (MUS 250WB) Humber College
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed course syllabus</li> <li>• Lectured twice weekly on global musics and topics in ethnomusicology</li> </ul>
2014	Course Instructor, Music, Commerce, and Commodification (MU480A) Wilfrid Laurier University
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Created course, designed syllabus</li> <li>• Lectured and directed twice-weekly seminar discussions</li> </ul>
2013	Course Instructor, Genre and Style in Western Art Music (MUSC*2330) University of Guelph
2012-2014	Course Instructor, Music and Popular Culture (MUSI/PCUL1F00) Brock University
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designed course syllabus</li> <li>• Lectured twice weekly on popular music and popular culture in North America</li> </ul>

- 2013 Course Instructor, Music in Contemporary Society (SOCI 206)  
Humber College
- Designed course syllabus
  - Lectured weekly on topics related to contemporary music sociology and anthropology
- 2012-2014 Course Instructor, Ethnomusicology (MBE.342)  
Humber College
- Developed course syllabus
  - Lectured twice weekly on global musics and topics in ethnomusicology
- 2012 Workshop Facilitator, Summer Institute  
Improvisation, Community, and Social Practice  
University of Guelph
- 2008-2012 Course Instructor, Jazz Band (VPMA/B/C73/74H)  
University of Toronto Scarborough Campus
- Directed rehearsals and performances
  - Worked with students collectively and on an individual basis on musicianship, improvisation and composition
- 2009 Course Instructor, Jazz (VPMB94H3Y)  
University of Toronto Scarborough Campus
- Designed course syllabus
  - Lectured weekly on topics in jazz history and twentieth century North American culture

### ***Research Assistantships***

- 2011 Research Assistant to Prof. H. Colin Slim  
2008 - 2011 Research Assistant to Prof. Timothy McGee  
2007 - 2011 Webmaster, [www.notaquadrata.ca](http://www.notaquadrata.ca) (Prof. John Haines)  
2006 - 2011 Research Assistant to Prof. John Haines  
2006 Research Assistant to Prof. James Kippen.

### **Academic Service**

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#### ***Grinnell College***

- 2015 Peer Connections Pre-Orientation Program (PCPOP) – Faculty Adviser  
Artists @ Grinnell – board member

#### ***Society for Ethnomusicology***

- 2015 Co-chair and Secretary Treasurer, Section on Improvisation  
2013 Chair, Special Interest Group on Improvisation (2013-2015)

#### ***Critical Studies in Improvisation (Peer reviewed Journal)***



2015 Advisory Board member

## Music Performance and Teaching

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### Recordings

2015 *Starlets*, Shiverbeck  
 2012 *Near Northern Static*, See Through Trio  
 2012 *Rules*, Steamboat  
 2011 *Invocation/Transformations*, MuskoX  
 2010 *Worm Songs*, The Earthtones  
 2010 *Kaleidoscope*, Arkana Music  
 2009 *Five Pieces*, MuskoX  
 2009 *Lines and Spaces*, See Through Trio  
 2009 *The Path*, Toronto Jazz Orchestra  
 2008 *No Contest*, Feuermusik  
 2008 *Gallantries*, MuskoX  
 2007 *Our Own Devices*, See Through Trio  
 2007 *A Sea of Tiny Lights*, Nathan Lawr  
 2007 *Fever Dream*, MuskoX  
 2007 *Hyprovisation*, Arkana Music  
 2007 *Caveman, Caveman Crystal Skull*, MuskoX  
 2006 with The Fembots, CBC Radio 3  
 2006 *Dirrty Dog*, The Chris Hunt Tentet  
 2005 with The Sea Snakes, CBC Radio 3  
 2004 *Rivers*, University of Toronto 10 O’Clock Jazz Orchestra  
 2003 *Under a Tree*, Toronto Jazz Orchestra  
 2002 *The Chris Hunt Tentet*, The Chris Hunt Tentet

### Notable Performances

2015 with Nicole Mitchell, Herrick Chapel, Grinnell College  
 2014 with Dong Won Kim and Eric McIntyre at Sebring Lewis Hall, Grinnell College  
 2013 with Nicole Mitchell, William Parker, and Dong Won Kim at the Guelph Jazz Festival  
 2012 multiple performances at Guelph Jazz Festival as director of the Guelph Jazz Workshop  
 2010 multiple performances with Korean percussionist Dong Won Kim, of Yo Yo Ma’s Silk Road Ensemble  
 2009 Guest artist with Nexus at the New Music Festival, University of Toronto  
 2007 Featured soloist with the Kingston Symphony Orchestra  
 2006 Toronto Jazz Orchestra, featuring Seamus Blake at the Royal Conservatory of Music  
 2005 with Lee Konitz at the Glenn Gould Studio  
 2005 Toronto Jazz Orchestra, featuring Kurt Elling at the Royal Conservatory of Music  
 2005 10 O’Clock Jazz Orchestra, featuring Kirk MacDonald  
 2004 10 O’Clock Jazz Orchestra, featuring Rich Perry  
 2004 Featured soloist with the Guelph Symphony Orchestra  
 2003 Soloist with the Royal Conservatory Orchestra

2003 10 O'Clock Jazz Orchestra, featuring Phil Nimmons  
2002 Soloist with the University of Toronto Wind Ensemble  
2002 Toronto Jazz Orchestra, featuring Hugh Fraser  
2001 Toronto Jazz Orchestra, featuring Phil Nimmons

**Teaching**

August 2012 Director, Guelph Jazz Workshop  
July 2011 Woodwind Faculty, The Band Camp  
August 2006 Saxophone Faculty, National Music Camp of Canada  
November 2006 Clinician, De La Salle Band Camp in Muskoka  
July 2005 Clarinet Staff, "Power Music Camp," University of Toronto  
May 2005 Clinician, De La Salle College, Toronto  
November 2004 Clinician, De La Salle College, Toronto  
October 2004 Clinician, De La Salle Band Camp in Huntsville  
July/August 2003 English and Mathematics Tutor, Evergreen Tutorial Centre, Scarborough  
May/June 2002 Educational Assistant, Chester Jr. PS, Toronto  
2000 Private Teacher (saxophone, flute, clarinet, piano, theory): ongoing

**Instruments**

- saxophones (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone)
- flute
- clarinet
- piano