

MATT BRENNAN

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Education

- PhD candidate (expected completion July 2007)
Film and Media Studies, University of Stirling, UK
Thesis: "Down Beats and Rolling Stones: Comparing the Rise of American Jazz and Rock Journalism"
Supervisor: Professor Simon Frith
- Master of Science (2003)
Film and Media Studies, University of Stirling, UK
Thesis: "The rough guide to critics: musicians discuss the role of the music press"
- Bachelor of Arts with Distinction (2002)
English and Philosophy, Mount Allison University, Canada
- Studied Jazz Drums Performance (1997-1999)
Music, McGill University, Canada

Publications

Peer reviewed journal articles:

- "The Rough Guide to Critics: Musicians Discuss the Role of the Music Press", *Popular Music*, Volume 25/2, 2006: 221-234.
- "Down Beats and Rolling Stones: The American Jazz Press Decide to Cover Rock in 1967", *Popular Music History*, forthcoming 2007.

Book chapters:

- "When the horn fits, blow it: music in erotic poetry", Byron, Glennis and Andrew Sneddon, eds., *Poetry and Sexuality*, Amsterdam: Rodopi Press, forthcoming 2007.

Articles in circulation:

- "Failure to Fuse: The Jazz-Rock Culture War at the 1969 Newport Jazz Festival", submitted to *The Source: Challenging Jazz Criticism*, October 2006.

Research in progress

- comparative book review of John Gennari's *Blowin' Hot and Cool: Jazz and Its Critics* (2006) and Ulf Lindberg *et al's Rock Criticism From the Beginning* (2005), requested for publication by book review editor for *Popular Music*.
- PhD thesis completion.

Conference Papers

"Comparing the Shaming of Jazz and Rhythm and Blues in Music Criticism",

presented at Ain't That A Shame: Experience Music Project Pop Conference, Seattle, April 2006.

“Was Newport 1969 the Altamont of Jazz? The Role of Music Festivals in Shaping the Jazz-Rock Fusion Debate”, presented at Jazz, Politics and the Popular: Leeds International Jazz Conference, Leeds College of Music, March 2006.

“Down Beat vs. Rolling Stone: The Battle for Authority in the American Music Press, 1967-1970”, presented at Mapping the Magazine, Cardiff University, September 2005, and at Making Music, Making Meaning: IASPM Biennial Conference, Università La Sapienza, July 2005.

“The Story of Selling Out: The Tension Between Art and Commerce in the Popular Music Press”, presented at Media, Communication and Cultural Studies Association Postgraduate Forum, University of Central England, September 2005.

“The Role of the Ideology of Independence in the Music Industry”, presented at Intensive European Program for Doctoral Research in Communications, University of Helsinki, August 2004.

“The Use of Music in Erotic Poetry and Popular Song Lyrics”, presented at Poetry and Sexuality, University of Stirling, July 2004.

Teaching areas

Popular music, popular culture, cultural studies, media studies, film studies, textual analysis, sociology of culture.

Teaching experience

Course director and principal lecturer

- Introduction to Popular Music Studies, Department of Adult and Continuing Education, Glasgow University, 2006.

Teaching Assistant

- Film and Music, Department of Film and Media Studies, University of Stirling, 2004 and 2006.
- Introduction to the British Media, Department of Film and Media Studies, University of Stirling, 2005.

Guest Lecturer

- Music and Culture, Department of Music, Memorial University of Newfoundland, 2005.
- Popular Culture: Theory and Debate, Department of Folklore, Memorial University of Newfoundland, 2005.
- Music History and Critical Evaluation, Department of Music, Perth College, 2004.

Awards

- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Fellowship Award (2006-2007)
- Faculty of Arts Studentship, University of Stirling (2003-2006)
- Valedictorian, Mount Allison University Class of 2002
- Mount Allison University Scholarship (1999-2001)
- Crake Summer Undergraduate Research Award (2001)
- Student of the Year, Mount Allison University (2000)
- Jeff “Skip” Fraser Memorial Scholarship (2000)
- James T. McGill Scholarship (1997-1999)

Committee experience

- Media, Communications, and Cultural Studies Association (MeCCSA) Postgraduate Network (2004-2006)
- University of Stirling Postgraduate Society (2004-2005)
- CHMA Community and Campus Radio Board of Directors (2001-2002)
- Chair of Amnesty International, Mount Allison University chapter (2000-2001)
- Students Administrative Council, Mount Allison University (1999-2000)

Relevant experience in media, music, and culture

Broadcast media:

- Guest on “Spotlight – Arts, Lifestyle, and Culture in Canada,” CBC Radio Online. Interviewed on the rock opera form (2006).
- Guest on “Information Morning,” CBC Radio, Moncton NB. Interviewed on the history of the Rolling Stones (2005).
- Producer and presenter of “The Art of Pop: A Discussion on the Beauty and Meaning in Popular Music,” CHMA, Sackville NB. 90-minute radio documentary broadcast on campus and community radio stations across Canada (2001).

Print media:

- Arts contributor to *The Dominion* newspaper.
 - “Race, rock, and soul: *Jamaica to Toronto* Raises Questions About Canada’s Pop Past”, September 6, 2006
 - “Professor Undressor: Sumi-E Experiment”, December 22, 2003
 - “New Brain Machine Improves Musical Creativity”, September 12, 2003
 - “Manitoba: Up In Flames”, July 11, 2003
 - “Sounds Prohibited: Censorship Rockin’ in the Free World”, June 26, 2003

Media management:

- Program director of CHMA campus and community radio, Sackville NB (2001-2002)

Musical performances:

- Zoey Van Goey (band). Actively performing in top Scottish music venues

- including 13th Note, Barfly, and Nice and Sleazy's (2006)
- Maritime Rock Opera Club (band). Performed at Stereophonic music festival (2005-2006)
- The Distractions (band). Performed rock covers throughout Scotland and supported BBC Radio 1 DJ Colin Murray (2004-2006)
- Drummer for maritime singer-songwriter David Myles. Performed at Charlotte Street Arts Centre (2005)
- Rhume (band). Toured Canadian maritime provinces supporting the Rheostatics (2000)
- Channel 4 (band). Winners of the Atlantic Canadian University Battle of the Bands (2000)

Music publishing:

- Songwriter. Member of the Society of Canadian Composers, Authors and Music Publishers of Canada (SOCAN) (2001-2006)

Recordings:

- Zoey Van Goey (band). Contributing track to forthcoming compilation from the critically-acclaimed Wendy House (2007)
- The Distractions (band). *The Distractions*. Recorded at Chemikal Underground, Glasgow (2005)
- Orjazzm (band). Contributed a track to *Conduct Becoming 2* (2002)
- Channel 4 (band). Contributed a track to *Conduct Becoming: A Benefit for Cancer Research* (2001)
- Matt Brennan (solo artist). Contributed a track to *Conduct Becoming: A Benefit for Cancer Research* (2001)

New media:

- Personal website, www.mattbrennan.ca (2004-2006)

Languages

- English and French