

**Amanda J. Weidman**

Department of Anthropology  
Bryn Mawr College  
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010  
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**Education**

Columbia University, New York, NY  
PhD with distinction, Anthropology, May 2001

University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
MA, Anthropology, June 1995

Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA  
BA with honors, Anthropology, May 1992

**Publications**

Books:

*Brought to Life by the Voice: Playback Singing and Cultural Politics in South India*. University of California Press (2021) (Winner, Alan Merriam Book Prize, 2022; Winner, Edward Sapir Book Prize, 2024) <https://www.ucpress.edu/book/9780520377066/brought-to-life-by-the-voice>

*Singing the Classical, Voicing the Modern: The Postcolonial Politics of Music in South India*. Duke University Press (2006) (Honorable Mention, Ananda Coomaraswamy Book Prize 2008) <https://www.dukeupress.edu/singing-the-classical-voicing-the-modern>

Journal Articles:

“Stigmas of the Reality Stage.” *Indian Theatre Journal* 6(1): 11-23. (August 2022) [peer-reviewed]

“Vision, Voice, and Cinematic Presence.” (co-authored with Constantine Nakassis) *differences* 29(3): 107-136. (December 2018). [peer-reviewed]

“Anthropology and Voice.” *Annual Review of Anthropology* 43: 37-51 (October 2014) [invited]

“Neoliberal Logics of Voice: Playback Singing and Public Femeness in South India.” *Culture Theory and Critique* 55(2): 175-193 (July 2014) [peer-reviewed]

“The Ethnographer as Apprentice: Embodying Socio-Musical Knowledge in South India.” *Anthropology and Humanism* 37(2): 214-235 (December 2012) [peer-reviewed]

“Voices of Meenakumari: Sound, Meaning, and Self-Fashioning in Performances of an Item Number.” *Journal of South Asian Popular Culture* 10 (3): 307-318 (July 2012) [peer-reviewed]

“Anthropology and the Voice.” *Anthropology News* 52(1):13 (January 2011)

“Sound and the City: Mimicry and Media in South India.” *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 20(2): 294-313 (September 2010). [peer-reviewed]

“Can the Subaltern Sing? Music, Language, and the Politics of Voice in Early Twentieth-Century South India.” *Indian Economic and Social History Review* 42(4): 485-511 (December 2005). [peer-reviewed]

“Guru and Gramophone: Fantasies of Fidelity and Modern Technologies of the Real.” *Public Culture*, 15 (3): 453-476 (October 2003).

“Gender and the Politics of Voice: Colonial Modernity and Classical Music in South India.” *Cultural Anthropology* 18(2): 194-232 (May 2003). [peer-reviewed]

Commentaries:

Invited comment on “Voicing, Looking, Perspective,” C. Nakassis. Forthcoming, *Current Anthropology*.

Chapters in edited volumes:

“Pāṭṭukku Oru Talaivar”: Making a Dravidian Voice” and “Afterword.” *The Radiance of Tamil: Ten Years of the Chicago Tamil Forum*, ed. C. Nakassis, E. Annamalai, and F. Cody, forthcoming.

“Colonial Modernity and the Karnatic Violin, or How an Instrument’s Sound becomes its ‘Voice.’” *Oxford Handbook of Music and Colonialism*, ed. Y. Liao, E. Johnson-Williams, and R. Kok, forthcoming.

“Imitation.” In *International Encyclopedia of Linguistic Anthropology*. Ed. James Stanlaw. Wiley Blackwell, 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118786093.iela0167>

“The Remarkable Career of L.R. Eswari.” In *Vamping the Stage: Female Voices of Asian Modernities*, ed. Andrew Weintraub and Bart Barendregt. University of Hawaii Press, 2017, pp 174-191.

“Iconic Voices in Post-Millennium Tamil Cinema.” In *Music in Contemporary Indian Film: Memory, Voice, Identity*, ed. Jayson Beaster-Jones and Natalie Sarrazin, Routledge, 2016, pp 120-132.

“Echo and Anthem: Representing Sound, Music, and Difference in Two Colonial Modern Novels.” In *Audible Empire*, ed. Ron Radano and Tejumola Olaniyan. Duke University Press, 2016, pp 314-333.

“Voice.” In *Keywords in Sound Studies*, ed. David Novak and Matt Sakakeeny. Duke University Press, 2015, pp 232-245.

“Musical Genres and National Identity.” In *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Indian Culture*, eds. Vasudha Dalmia and Rashmi Sadana. Cambridge University Press, 2012, pp 247-264.

“In Search of the Guru: Technology and Authenticity in Karnatak Music.” In *Performing Pasts: Reinventing the Arts in Modern South India*. Ed. Indira Peterson and Daves Soneji. Oxford University Press, 2008, pp 225-251.

“Listening to the Violin in South Indian Music.” In *Theorizing the Local: Music, Practice in South Asia and Beyond*. Ed. Richard Wolf. Oxford University Press, 2008, pp 49-63.

“Stage Goddesses and Studio Divas: Agency and the Politics of Voice.” In *Words, Worlds, and Material Girls: Essays on Language, Gender, Globalization*. Ed. Bonnie McElhinny, Mouton de Gruyter press, 2007, pp 131-156.

Book Review Essays

“The Tragedy of Comedy: Staging Gender in South India.” New Releases review, *Anthropological Quarterly*, 78 (3): 751-764 (July 2005).

“Beyond Honor and Shame: Performing Gender in the Mediterranean.” New Releases review, *Anthropological Quarterly*, 76 (3): 519-530 (July 2003).

Book Reviews (selected):

Gabriel Dattatreya, *The Globally Familiar: Digital Hip Hop, Masculinity, and Urban Space in Delhi*. *Journal of Anthropological Research* 78(1): 137-138 (2022).

Sirpa Tenhunen, *A Village Goes Mobile* and Ravi Aggarwal, *India Connected*. *Journal of Asian Studies* 80(3): 177-180 (2021).

- Constantine Nakassis, *Doing Style: Youth and Mass Mediation in South India*. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 30(2): 273-274. (2020).
- Roshanak Khesti, *Modernity's Ear: Listening to Race and Gender in World Music*. *Journal of Popular Music Studies* 29(3) (2017).
- Francis Cody, *The Light of Knowledge: Literacy Activism and the Politics of Writing in South India*. *Anthropological Quarterly* 87(3): 961-964 (2014).
- Susan Reed, *Dance and the Nation: Performance, Ritual and Politics in Sri Lanka*. *Anthropological Quarterly* 83(4): 937-940 (2010).
- Lisa Mitchell, *The Making of a Mother Tongue: Language, Emotion, and Politics in South India*. *Anthropological Quarterly* 82(4): 1091-1095 (2009).

### **Current Employment**

Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA (2005-present)  
*Professor*, Department of Anthropology, Fall 2022-present  
*Associate Professor*, Department of Anthropology, Fall 2012- Spring 2022  
*Assistant Professor*, Department of Anthropology, Fall 2005-Spring 2012  
*Chair*, Department of Anthropology, AY 2014-15, AY 2016-17, AY 2021-22, AY 2022-23  
*Director*, Social Science Center, Fall 2020-Spring 2023

### Courses taught:

South Asian Ethnography (Fall 2005)  
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2009, Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2017, Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022)  
Language in the Social Context, renamed The Power in Language (Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Fall 2008, Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2015, Fall 2017, Fall 2019, Spring 2021, Fall 2022)  
Cultures of Technology (Fall 2006)  
Ragas to Rap: Music and Performance in South Asia and its Diaspora (Fall 2007)  
Gender in South Asia: Media, Performance, Politics (Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2013, Fall 2015)  
Beyond Bollywood: Gender, Performance and Popular Culture in South Asia (Fall 2019)  
Anthropology of Media (Spring 2014, Fall 2019)  
History of Anthropological Theory (Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2024)  
Anthropology of Sound (Fall 2016, Fall 2022)  
Belonging and Difference in the Contemporary U.S. (Freshman seminar, Fall 2018)  
The Politics of Belonging and Exclusion in the 'New India' (Fall 2018, Fall 2020, Spring 2024)  
Field Research in Linguistic Anthropology (Spring 2020, Spring 2024)  
Caste and Race: Analogies and Intersections (Spring 2023)  
Sensory Ethnography (Fall 2024)  
Senior Conference in Anthropology (2005-present)

### **External Grants and Fellowships**

American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Research Fellowship, supporting 6 months of research in Tamil Nadu, India (between Sept 2024 and Sept 2026)  
Mellon Mid-Career Fellowship, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University (salary support, 2017-18)  
American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship (ACLS/NEH/SSRC International and Area Studies) (salary support, 2012-2013).  
Fulbright-Nehru Research Fellowship. Supported 4 months of research in Chennai, India (2012-2013)  
American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Research Fellowship funded by National Endowment for the Humanities. Supported 6 months of research in Chennai, India (2009-10)  
Penn Humanities Forum Mellon Regional Faculty Research Fellowship (2007-08)

School of Advanced Research, Santa Fe, NM. funding to conduct a two-day seminar entitled “Modernity and the Voice: Histories from Beyond the Metropole” (April 2008)  
American Dissertation Fellowship, American Association of University Women (2000-2001)  
Columbia University, President’s Fellowship (2000-2001)  
Columbia University, Faculty Fellowship (1999-2000)  
American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Performing Arts Fellowship (1997-98)  
Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (summer 1996)  
American Institute of Indian Studies Language Study Fellowship (1995-96)  
National Science Foundation pre-dissertation fieldwork grant (1994)  
National Science Foundation Graduate Study Fellowship (1992-1995)

### **Bryn Mawr College Grants**

Social Science Center funding for publication subvention (2020)  
Faculty Grant for publication subvention (2020)  
Social Science Center funding to support translation assistance (2016-17)  
Faculty Grant for research on historic South Indian sound recordings (2007)  
Faculty Grant for publication subvention (2006)

### **Research Languages**

Tamil: Semi-fluent speaking, reading, and writing  
Telugu: Basic speaking competence

### **Field Research**

Preliminary research for Amman songs project, Chennai and Madurai, India. October 2023  
Follow-up research for playback singers project, Chennai, India. January 2015, January 2018  
Research for playback singers project, Chennai, India. October 2009- January 2010; November 2012- January 2013; May-June 2013  
Archival research for playback singers project. Colombo, Sri Lanka. June 2013.  
Follow-up fieldwork for first book project (*Singing the Classical, Voicing the Modern*), Chennai, India. June-July 2002; December-January 2003-2004  
Dissertation fieldwork, Chennai and Madurai, India. September 1997-December 1998  
Language study and dissertation fieldwork in Madurai, India. September 1995-May 1996  
Pre-dissertation fieldwork, Chennai, India. July-September 1993; September 1994-January 1995  
Fieldwork on music in the South Asian diaspora community, Philadelphia, PA. October 1991-June 1992

### **Invited Lectures, Colloquia, and Participation in Symposia/Workshops**

2025 Invited Speaker, Roman Jakobson Symposium, Harvard University, April 28, 2025.  
2024 “Voices for Hire.” Invited paper co-presented with Laura Kunreuther, Symposium, “Properties of Voice,” Rutgers University, March 2024.  
2023 “Economies of Voice and the Performativity of Vocal Acts.” Invited lecture, Bauman Distinguished Lecture Series, Indiana University, October 27, 2023.  
2022 “From Sweet and Ringing to Husky and Raw: The Semiotics of Vocal Timbre in Tamil Playback Singing.” Symposium on Caste, Community and Capital: New Research on the Performing Arts of South India. University of Pennsylvania, Sept 9-10, 2022.  
2022 “Brought to Life by the Voice: Thinking with Playback.” Colloquium presentation, Department of Music, University of Pennsylvania, Feb 8, 2022.  
2021 Invited speaker for symposium “Nucleo de Investigacion Vocal.” Pontifica Universidad Catolica, Valparaiso, Chile, Aug 12-13, 2021.  
2021 Invited speaker for “The Arduous Arts: Caste, History, and the Politics of ‘Classical’ Dance and Music in South India.” UCLA Center for India and South Asia webinar, Jan 11, 2021.

- 2020 "Making a Dravidian Voice." Invited virtual lecture for Roja Muthiah Research Library Madras Week Celebration, Chennai, India, Sept 2, 2020
- 2019 "Redefining Vocal Masculinity in South India, from the Bhagavatars to T.M. Sounderarajan." Speaker in symposium, "New Cultural Histories of South India." University of Pennsylvania, Nov 9-10, 2019.
- 2019 Participant, "Word, Image Sound" Workshop. Submitted work in progress for discussion, "Ambiguities of Animation." Columbia University, April 4-5, 2019.
- 2019 "The Raw and the Husky: Vocal Qualia and Gender Politics in Post-Millennium Tamil Cinema." Colloquium, Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Music, UC Santa Barbara, Feb 6, 2019.
- 2018 Speaker, Berkeley Sawyer Seminar on the Intersection of Linguistic Anthropology and Literary and Cultural Studies. Berkeley, CA, Oct 10-11, 2018.
- 2018 Participant, 5<sup>th</sup> Chicago Tamil Forum. Submitted work in progress for discussion, "A Leader for All Song: Making a Dravidian Voice." Chicago, May 26-28, 2018.
- 2016 Participant, 3<sup>rd</sup> Chicago Tamil Forum. Submitted work in progress for discussion, "Circulating Voices: The Gendered Beginnings of Playback." Chicago, May 19-21, 2016.
- 2016 "Trading Voices: The Gendered Beginnings of Playback." Invited presentation for Sound in South Asia Conference, University of Michigan South Asia Center, October 7-8, 2016; Ethnomusicology Colloquium, Columbia University, December 5, 2016.
- 2015 "Iconic Voices in Post-Liberalization Tamil Cinema." Colloquium Presentation, Northwestern University Sounds of South Asia Series, October 23, 2015.
- 2015 Participant, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chicago Tamil Forum. Submitted work in progress for discussion, "The Voice of Dravidianism? The Star Power of T.M. Sounderarajan." Chicago, May 28-30, 2015.
- 2015 Speaker, "The Music Box and its Reverberations: Technology and Music in India." Conference held at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India, Jan 15-17, 2015.
- 2014 "The Remarkable Career of L.R. Eswari." Colloquium Presentation, Department of Music, Ohio State University, October 23, 2014.
- 2014 Participant, 1<sup>st</sup> Chicago Tamil Forum. Submitted work in progress for discussion, "Female Voices in the Public Sphere: Playback and Performance in South India." Chicago, May 22-24, 2014.
- 2014 Speaker, "Voices of Asian Modernities Project." Symposium held at University of Pittsburgh, April 4-6, 2014.
- 2013 Participant, "Audio Cultures of South Asia." Workshop held at University of Chicago, Sept 16-17, 2013.
- 2013 "Female Voices in the Public Sphere: Cinema, Playback Singing, and Performance in Tamil South India." Colloquium presentation, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, India, June 20, 2013.
- 2012 "Voice-Body Relationships and the Acoustic Organization of Tamil Cinema, 1940-1960." Colloquium presentation, Center for Visual Culture, Bryn Mawr College, Oct 3, 2012.
- 2011 Invited Speaker to the working group "Materialities of the Voice and Technologies of Selfhood" University of California Humanities Research Institute, UC Irvine, October 17, 2011
- 2011 Speaker, "Music, Race, and Empire." Symposium held at University of Wisconsin, Madison, April 28-30, 2011.
- 2011 "Female Voices in the Public Sphere: Research on Playback Singers in South India." Presentation given at the Asian University for Women, Chittagong, Bangladesh, January 17, 2011.
- 2010 "The Changing Sound and Image of Female Playback Singers in South India." Colloquium presentation given at Columbia University Center for Ethnomusicology, March 2010; University of Virginia Department of Music, April 2010; Indiana University Department of Culture and Communication, April 2010.
- 2009 "Research Methodology in Anthropology and Ethnomusicology." Seminar presentation given to PhD students at the Centre For the Study of Society and Culture, Bangalore, India, November 2009.
- 2009 Speaker, "Sound Works: Musicians and Media in South Asian Cities." Symposium held at University of Chicago, May 14-15, 2009.

- 2009 Speaker, "Listening In, Feeding Back." Symposium held at Columbia University, February 14-15, 2009.
- 2008 "The Female Voice in Tamil Cinema." Presentation given at the Penn Humanities Forum, University of Pennsylvania, January 22, 2008, and for the Music Department Colloquium, New York University, January 24, 2008.
- 2007 Invited Speaker, Ethnomusicology Working Group, Duke University, March 30, 2007.
- 2006 "Behind the Scenes: Playback Singing and the Female Voice in South India." Presentation given at the South Asian Studies Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania, September 28, 2006.
- 2005 Participant, workshop on "Cultures of Circulation," organized by Elizabeth Povinelli and Michael Warner and the Center for Cultural Analysis, Rutgers University, November 12, 2005.
- 2004 Speaker, "Language, Genre, and the Historical Imagination in South India," Conference held at Yale University, February 20-23, 2004.
- 2004 Participant, "Local Theory, Local Practice: Musical Culture in South Asia," Symposium held at the Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, February 27-March 2, 2004.
- 2003 Participant, "Words, Worlds, and Material Girls: A Workshop on Language, Gender, and Political Economy," Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto, October 2003.

### **Conference Panel Presentations**

- 2025 "Voices for Hire" co-presented with Laura Kunreuther, Society for Linguistic Anthropology Biennial Conference, Chicago, May 29-31.
- 2024 "Sounding the Goddess: Amman Songs and Amman Politics in Two Recent Tamil Films." Presented in the Symposium "(In)Visible Archives," Annual Conference on South Asia, Oct 30, 2024.
- 2019 "Stigmas of the Reality Stage." Presented in panel "The Subjects of Reality: Performance, Celebrity, and Value on the South Asian Small Screen." Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI Oct 18, 2019.
- 2018 "Voicing Strategies and Participant Roles in Indian Playback Singing." Presented in panel "The Labor of Mediation in Neoliberal Conditions." Society For Linguistic Anthropology, Philadelphia, PA March 8-10, 2018.
- 2017 "Sonic Ambiguity in Tamil Cinema" Presented in panel "Audio-Vision," American Anthropological Association, Washington DC Dec 2, 2017.
- 2016 "The Semiotics of being 'Just the Voice'." Presented in panel "Talk about Talk." American Comparative Literature Association, Boston, MA, March 18-20, 2016.
- 2012 "Neoliberal Logics of Voice." Presented in panel "Music and Music-Making in Neoliberal Times." Society for Ethnomusicology, New Orleans, LA, Nov 1-4, 2012.
- 2011 "Voice." Presented in Panel "Toward a Conceptual Lexicon for Sound Studies." American Anthropological Association, Montreal, Canada, Nov 17-19, 2011.
- 2011 "Playback Singers and Public Femeness in South India." Presented in panel "Public Femeness in South Asia: Cinema, Entertainment, Politics." South Asia Conference, Madison, WI, October 20-22, 2011.
- 2011 "Female Voices in South Indian Film Music." Invited to be presented at the International Council for Traditional Music, St. John's, Newfoundland, July 13-17, 2011.
- 2010 "The Circulation and Remediation of Tamil film songs." Presented in panel "Sound Circulations." American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, November 17-21, 2010.
- 2010 "Female Voices in the Public Sphere: Playback Singing and Ideologies of Gender in the Tamil Culture Industry." Presented in the panel "Tamil Mediations." South Asia Conference, Madison, WI. October 14-18, 2010
- 2009 "Sound and the City: Mimicry and Phonography in South India." Presented in the panel "Authority and Authenticity in Discourse: Linguistic and other Mediatic Dimensions." American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, PA, December 2-4, 2009.
- 2009 "Female Voices in the Public Sphere: Playback Singing as Cultural Phenomenon in South India." Feminist Theory and Music 10 Conference, Greensboro, NC, May 27-31, 2009.

- 2009 "Sound and the City: Contextualizing Historic South Indian Recordings." Social Science Center Third Friday Presentation, Bryn Mawr College, March 20, 2009.
- 2008 "Mediating Voices: Phonographic Mimicry and the Representation of Social Types in South India." Presented in the panel "Media Ideologies," American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA, November 22, 2008.
- 2007 "Voicing the City: Mimicry and the Phonograph in South India." Presented in the invited panel, "Media and Voice: Papers in Honor of Richard Bauman," American Anthropological Association, November 28-December 2, 2007.
- 2007 "'Well Done, Sabha Secretary!' Staging Classical Music in South India." Presented in the panel "Sabhas: Changing the Landscape of Chennai's Music, Dance, and Drama." Association for Asian Studies, Boston, MA, March 22-25, 2007.
- 2006 "Echo and Anthem: Aurality and the Listening Subject of Colonial Modernity." Presented in the panel "Listening In: Spatial and Discursive Approaches to an Anthropology of Sound." American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA, November 15-19, 2006.
- 2006 "Is it Live or Is it Playback? Ideologies of Voice in 20<sup>th</sup>-century South India." Presented in the panel "Voicing Modernity: Anthropological Histories of the Voice in South and East Asia," Association of Asian Studies, San Francisco, April 6-9, 2006.
- 2006 "Technological Mediation, Playback Singing, and the Limits of Female Respectability in South India." Presented in the panel "Liveness and Mediation," International Association for the Study of Popular Music, US Branch, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, February 16-19, 2006.
- 2002 "Guru and Gramophone: Fantasies of Fidelity in South India." American Anthropological Association Meetings, New Orleans, LA, November 2002.
- 2002 "Female Voices and the Gramophone in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century India." Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference, Estes Park, Colorado, October 2002.
- 2001 "Gender, Classical Music, and the Politics of Voice in South India." American Anthropological Association Meetings, Washington, DC, November 2001.
- 2001 "Sounding the Classical in Tamil Film Music: The Production of a Popular Music Aesthetic in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century South India." Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference, Detroit, MI, October 2001.
- 2000 "Gender and the Politics of Classical Music in South India." Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference, Toronto, November 2000.
- 2000 "In Search of the Guru: Technology and Authenticity in Karnatic Music." South Asia Conference, Madison, WI, October 2000.
- 1999 "Inner Voices and Colonial Pasts: A History of the South Indian Violin." American Anthropological Association meetings, Chicago, IL, November 1999.
- 1999 "Voicing/Ventriloquizing: The Violin in South India." Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference, Austin, TX, November 1999.
- 1999 "Music, Subjectivity, and Language Politics in South India." South Asia Conference, Madison, WI, October 1999.
- 1997 "Echoes of the Canon: Making Karnatic Music Classical." American Ethnological Society, Seattle, WA, March 1997.
- 1995 "The Guru-Sisya System and the Female Teacher: A Story of Musical Politics from South India." University of Washington Anthropology Colloquium, Seattle, WA, May 1995.
- 1994 "The Orphaned Text: Narrative and Desire in a (Post)Colonial Courtesan Novel." University of Washington Graduate Student Conference, Seattle, WA, April 1994.

### **Conference Panels and Seminars Organized**

- 2025 "Labors of Voice." Co-organized with Laura Kunreuther, Society for Linguistic Anthropology Biennial Conference, Chicago, May 29-31.
- 2021 "Raising Voice: A Conversation on the Structural Contradictions and Affordances of Mediated Voices." American Anthropological Association, Baltimore, MD, Nov 17-21, 2021.
- 2021 "Acts of Vocal Animation." Society for Ethnomusicology, Atlanta, GA, Oct 28-30, 2021.

- 2019 “The Subjects of Reality: Celebrity, Performance, and Value on the South Asian Small Screen.” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, Oct 18, 2019.
- 2017 “Voice and Race.” One-day symposium at Bryn Mawr College with 3 participants, Feb 25, 2017.
- 2017 “Conduits of Voice.” Two-day workshop co-organized with Laura Kunreuther, with 6 participants, held at Bryn Mawr College, February 23-24, 2017.
- 2014 “Conduits of Voice: Mediation, Animation, and Affect.” Co-organizer with Laura Kunreuther, American Anthropological Association, Washington DC, December 2014.
- 2011 “Female Publicness in South Asia: Cinema, Entertainment, Politics.” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 21, 2011.
- 2008 “Modernity and the Voice: Histories from beyond the Metropole.” 2-day seminar, School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, NM, April 22-23, 2008.

### **Invited Discussant Roles for Conference Panels and Symposia**

- 2022 Graduate Student workshop on Emerging Scholarship on the South Indian Performing Arts, mentor and discussant, University of Pennsylvania South Asian Studies Department, Feb 19-20, 2022.
- 2018 “Explorations at the Intersection of Linguistic Anthropology and Visual Culture.” Society for Linguistic Anthropology, Philadelphia, PA March 8-10, 2018.
- 2017 “Techno-Semiotics: Entextualization in the Age of Mechanical Reproducibility.” American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC Dec 2, 2017.
- 2015 “Listening in South Asia.” South Asia Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI October 22-25, 2015.
- 2014 “In Relation to Whom and Why? New Perspectives on South Asian Music and Nationalism.” Society For Ethnomusicology, Pittsburgh, PA Nov 16, 2014.
- 2014 “Strident Voices” Society for Ethnomusicology, Pittsburgh, PA Nov 16, 2014.
- 2011 “Indian Cinema of the 1970s.” Symposium, Temple University New India Forum, April 15, 2011.
- 2010 “Give Voice a Voice: Anthropologies of the Voice.” American Anthropological Association, November 17-21, 2010.
- 2010 “Women Performers as Agents of Change.” South Asia Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI October 14-18, 2010.
- 2008 “Remediation and Appropriation.” Society for Ethnomusicology, Middletown, CT, October 27, 2008.
- 2007 “Women in Indian Music.” Roundtable, University of Pennsylvania, September 28, 2007.
- 2007 “Vernacular Public Spheres in South Asia.” Conference, Yale University, April 6-7, 2007.

### **Graduate Student Supervision**

- Niko Higgins, Department of Music, Columbia University. Dissertation Title: “Confusion in the Karnatic Capital: Fusion in Chennai, India” (defended Nov 2012)
- Kathryn Hardy, Department of South Asian Studies, University of Pennsylvania. Dissertation title: “Becoming Bhojpuri: Producing Cinema and Producing Language in Post-Liberalization India” (defended June 2014)
- Scott Carter, Department of Music, University of Wisconsin. Dissertation title: “Vox Americana: Voice, Race and Nation in U.S. Music, 1890-1924” (defended May 2014)
- Anaar Desai-Stevens, Department of Music, Cornell University. Dissertation title: “Singing Through the Screen: “Indian Idol” and the Crafting of Selves in Post-liberalization India” (defended June 2017)

### **Professional Service**

- Reviewed approximately 12 book manuscripts for university presses including Duke, University of California, Oxford, Cambridge, Wesleyan, Indiana
- Reviewed approximately 35 article manuscripts for journals in cultural and linguistic anthropology, ethnomusicology, and South Asian studies.



**Performance Experience**

I am a long-time student of Karnatic (South Indian classical) music and have performed as a solo Karnatic violinist and accompanist in about 20 concerts in India and the United States since 1995.