

# JOHN A. GRAHAM

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## EDUCATION

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Ph.D., Musicology, Princeton University, 2015  
Dissertation: *The Transmission and Transcription of Georgian Liturgical Chant*  
Committee and Readers: Rob Wegman, Peter Jeffery, Theodore Levin

M.A., Musicology, Princeton University

B.A., Ethnomusicology, Wesleyan University

## APPOINTMENTS

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Lecturer in Musicology, Yale University, 2015-2016

Visiting Scholar, Dartmouth College, 2014-2015

Teaching Assistant, Princeton University, 2007-2008

## GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS

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Award: "2016 Outstanding Foreign National Scientist of Georgian Studies," Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of the Georgian Government

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Yale University, 2015-2016

Writing Fellow, Princeton University (PIIRS), 2012-2013

Arthur Mendel University Fellowship in Music, Princeton Music Dept., 2006-2007

Fulbright Research Grant, Tbilisi, Georgia, 2004-2005  
Project Title: *Manuscript Evidence for the Chant Revival in Tbilisi, Georgia*

## PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICE

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### ARTICLES

"Georgian Primary Sources: An Analysis of Chant Manuscript Q-684," *Proceedings of the Fifth International Symposium on Traditional Polyphony*. V. Sarajishvili State Conservatory Press, Tbilisi, Georgia. 2019: 353-361.

"Orthodox Paschal Cycle," introductory essay for the Anchiskhati Choir compact disk recording that accompanied their eponymous US Tour (2016).

"The Rediscovery of Zakaria Paliashvili's *Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom*," co-authored with Parker Jayne. *American Choral Review*, Vol. 56, No. 1. 2014: 1-10.

“Without Parallel: Voice-Crossing and Textual-Rhythm in West Georgian Chant,” *Proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Orthodox Church Music*. Joensuu Theological Center, Joensuu, Finland. 2013: 164-177.

“Ivliane Nikoladze: the Alternate Redacteur of the Georgian Heirmoi,” *Proceedings of the Fifth International Symposium on Traditional Polyphony*. V. Sarajishvili State Conservatory Press, Tbilisi, Georgia. 2012: 425-446.

“The Role of Memory in the Transmission of Georgian Chant,” *Proceedings of the Fourth International Symposium on Traditional Polyphony*. V. Sarajishvili State Conservatory Press, Tbilisi, Georgia. 2010: 498-515.

#### TRANSLATION — EDITING — REVIEWS

Musicology Consultant, Egon Wellesz "*History of Byzantine Music and Hymnography*", Georgian translation by Zaal Tsereteli (April, 2020)

Co-Editor, *Chven Mshwidoba* notation collection, edited by David Shugliashvili (2020)

Co-Editor, *Essays and Issues* by Kukuri Chokhanelidze (November, 2020)

Co-Editor, *Georgia: History-Culture-Ethnography*. Volumes I, II. New York: Nova Science Publishers (2020)

Co-Editor, *Anthology of Georgian Chant*, Volumes 2-7. Edited by Svimon Jangulashvili and Levan Veshapidze (April, 2019)

Co-Editor, *Kartuli Galoba [Georgian Chant]*. Chant Center of the Georgian Patriarchate  
Vol. II. *Chants of the Twelve Movable and Immovable Feasts, Gelati School*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2008  
Vol. IV. *The Lenten Triodion and Pentecostarian Chants*, 2006  
Vol. V. *The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, Gelati and Shemokmedi Schools*, 2009  
Vol. VI. *Chant for the Paraclesis Services of the Holy Theotokos and our Lord Jesus Christ*, 2011  
Vol. VII. *Chants of the Twelve Movable and Immovable Feasts, Svetitskhoveli School*, 2014

Review: "Funeral Chants from the Caucasus," Hugo Zemp, 1991. Reviewed by John A. Graham in *Ethnomusicology*, Vol 53, No. 2, 2009: 357-360

#### SERVICE

Peer Reviewer: *Ethnomusicology*. 2019

Peer Reviewer: *Musicology Today*, Journal of the University of Romania, Bucharest

Peer Reviewer: *Res Musica*, Estonian Musicology Yearbook, Tallinn

Peer Reviewer: *Yearbook for Traditional Music*, International Council for Traditional Music

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### CLASSROOM

- "Polyphonies East and West," Yale University graduate course, Spring 2016
- "Seminar in Ethnomusicology: Discipline and Contemporary Perspectives," Anthropology MA Dept., Javakishvili State University, Tbilisi, Georgia, Fall 2013
- "Survey of Music from Chant to Stravinsky," Teaching assistant for Professor Simon Morrison, Princeton University
- "Music Theory and Composition," and "Beliefs, Traditions, and Religious Ethics," Exploration High School Academic Program, Yale University
- "Wesleyan Singers," Teaching assistant for Professor Ron Ebrecht, Wesleyan University

### ADVISING

- Reader: Ethnomusicology Masters thesis, Wesleyan University (2016-2017)
- Reader: Ethnomusicology Masters thesis, University of Istanbul (2012-2013)
- Reader: Numerous undergraduate thesis papers relating to Georgian music (2010-2016)

## **PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

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### INVITED TALKS

- "Introduction to Georgian Chant Studies," Institute of Sacred Music, University of Notre Dame, keynote lecture for weeklong Georgian choir residency, January 19-24, 2019
- "Working with Georgian Sources," Giorgi Mtatsmindeli Chant College, Tbilisi, Georgia, May 19th, 2018
- "Georgian Liturgical Polyphony in Practice: Performing Sacred Text," Library of Congress American Folklife Center, a lecture-demonstration with the Anchiskhati Ensemble (Tbilisi, Georgia) as part of the Homegrown Concert Series. March 10th, 2016
- "Hearing Melody, Singing Harmony: Structural Choices in Georgian Polyphonic Performance," a lecture-demonstration with the Anchiskhati Ensemble (Tbilisi, Georgia), Yale University Music Department colloquium series, March 4th, 2016.
- "Polyphonic Possibilities: The Elegance of the Parallel 9th in Georgian Chant Harmony," Music Dept. Colloquium Series, Wesleyan University, March 2nd, 2016
- "Georgian Orthodox Polyphonic Chant: The Genesis of a Performance Revival," Fellows Luncheon Series for the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, Sept. 24, 2015

"The Last Master: Georgian Orthodoxy and the Oral Chant Tradition," lecture series of the Center for East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies (CEERES), University of Chicago, April 9, 2013

#### GUEST LECTURES

"Sonic Landscapes in Caucasus Georgia: Cathedral Acoustics and Round-Dance Sonorities," guest lecture in *Music, Film, and Media Studies*, Professors Carlos Casas and Ted Levin, Dartmouth College, Feb. 26, 2015

"Religion in the Caucasus," guest lecture in *Blood, Sex, and Oil: The Caucasus*, Professor Michael Reynolds, Princeton University, Fall 2013

"Comparative Polyphonies from Africa to Taiwan," guest lecture in *Music of Africa*, Professor Kofi Agawu, Princeton University 2009

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Georgian Primary Sources: An Analysis of Chant Manuscript Q-684," Fifth International Symposium on Traditional Polyphony, V. Sarajishvili State Conservatory Press, Tbilisi, Georgia. Nov. 1, 2018

"Monophony or Polyphony: The Short Life of the Byzantification Movement in the Georgian Chant Revival," Society for Christian Scholarship in Music (SCSM) annual meeting, Boston University, Feb. 11, 2016

"Safeguarding Georgian Liturgical Chant: Practicalities and Challenges," University of Notre Dame sponsored conference: *Safeguarding Eastern Christian Chant*, Rome, Italy, May 25th, 2015

"Reinventing Improvisation: Performing Georgian Liturgical Chant from Neume Notation," American Musicological Society National Conference, Milwaukee, WI, November 8th, 2014

"Contested Harmonization: Authors, Editors, and Marginalia of the Kereselidze Manuscript Collection," at the Ilia Abuladze Third International Conference, National Centre of Manuscripts, Tbilisi, Georgia, (in Georgian), November 25th, 2013

"Heard but not Sung: Voice-Crossing in West Georgian Chant," at the Fourth International Conference on Orthodox Church Music, Joensuu Theological Center, Joensuu, Finland, 2011

#### **APPLIED ETHNOMUSICOLOGY AND SCHOLARLY OUTREACH**

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##### PERFORMANCE TOURS

Tour Organizer/Producer, Capitol Hill Chorale of Washington DC (USA) toured and performed for nine days throughout Georgia. The traveling party included 90 choir members, directors, and family members. I organized and publicized 6 concerts,

coordinated international flights, all accommodation, transportation, and six optional daytrips, as well as workshops and collaborations with local Georgian choirs (June, 2019).

Tour Organizer/Producer, "Anchiskhati Choir" of Tbilisi, Georgia. 20 performances and masterclasses at venues including the University of Iowa, University of Chicago, Yale University, Wesleyan University, New England Conservatory, Library of Congress, etc. (February-March, 2016)

Tour Producer/Manager, "Sakhioba Ensemble" of Tbilisi Georgia. Organized, publicized, managed, and translated for this 4 week tour. 27 performances, workshops, masterclasses, and lecture-demonstrations. \$60,000 budget. Delivered pre-concert lectures at Princeton University, the Harriman Institute of Columbia University, the Davis Center of Harvard University, Mt. Holyoke College, and Wesleyan University. Designed tour website: [www.georgianchant.org/tours/sakhioba](http://www.georgianchant.org/tours/sakhioba), October, 2012

#### SYMPOSIA

Symposium Organizer/Presenter, "Georgian Orthodoxy: The Revival of Art and Religion in the Caucasus," Yale University, March 4th, 2016

Conference Organizer. Assisted with logistics for the conference on African Music organized by Kofi Agawu, Princeton University, 2009

#### PROJECTS

Producer, "Aghsavali Choir in performance." High quality video/audio filmed on location at Shio Mghvime monastery, for presentation in the St. Ketevan World Sacred Music Festival, Goa India (Feb. 2021)

Organizer, BBC-4 Radio Program in Georgia hosted by Sam Lee, "Song Hunters: Suppression and Survival." (June, 2019)  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0004cpm>

Organizer/Presenter, one week residency at U. Notre Dame with a 13-member guest choir from Tbilisi, Georgia. Events included multiple lectures, masterclasses, and concerts, a Georgian feast, and outreach programs with local children's choirs.

Presenter, "Aghsavali Choir in performance." Five concerts in Goa, India (Feb. 2018)

Producer, "Orthodox Paschal Cycle," compact disk project by the Anchiskhati Choir. Arranged track listings, cover art, wrote introductory essay, 2016

Producer-Performer, "Mgalobeli Ensemble in Rome," a concert for the University of Notre Dame sponsored conference: *Safeguarding Eastern Christian Chant*, Rome, Italy, May 26th, 2015

BBC Consultant, "Sacred Music in the Republic of Georgia." Facilitated research trip in Georgia for radio journalist Caitlan Carroll and photo-journalist Andreas Reeg, 2012

“Chernobyl Songs Project Group.” Organized and presented project at Princeton University, directed a joint concert with the Columbia University Hilga ensemble and the Princeton Georgian Choirs, 2011

Producer-Performer, "Mirkani Ensemble in Paris," a series of two lecture-concert events at the American Cathedral in Paris, March, 2010

#### PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLES

Ensemble Director/Founder: "Yale University Georgian Chant Group." Recruited, organized, and directed choir specializing in the performance of the chant repertory of the late Georgian master chanter, Artem Erkomaishvili. Organized two concerts per year, wrote program notes, managed funding and publicity, 2015-2016

Ensemble Director/Founder, Princeton Georgian Choirs. Recruited, organized, and directed a men's choir, and women's choir. Organized two concerts per year, wrote program notes, managed funding and publicity, 2006-2013

Ensemble Director/Founder, Cantus Firmus Choir. Recruited, organized, and directed a men's choir specializing in Georgian chant at Wesleyan University. 2002-2003

#### MASTERCLASSES

Yale University. Masterclasses for the Yale Women's Slavic Chorus, 2016

Wesleyan University. Masterclass for the Wesleyan Spirits acapella group, March, 2016

Rome, Italy. Masterclass for graduate music students on tuning and harmonization in Georgian liturgical chant, University of Notre Dame sponsored conference 'Safeguarding Eastern Christian Chant', in Rome, May 25th, 2015

New Canaan, NY. Two-day workshop co-teaching with Georgian ethnomusicologist Malkhaz Erkvanidze, Nov. 2012

San Francisco, CA. Workshop on sacred and folk music hosted by the St. John Maxomovich Cathedral, Nov. 2011

Joensuu, Finland. Five-day masterclass on Georgian chants of the Divine Liturgy. Featured musical subject of the Fourth International Conference on Orthodox Church Music, hosted by the Joensuu Theological Institute, June, 2011

### **MUSICAL COMPETENCIES AND STUDIES**

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#### TEACHING COMPETENCIES (HISTORICAL MUSICOLOGY)

Western Music Theory and Counterpoint

Medieval - Renaissance Art Music (General Exam field with Rob Wegman)

American Music (Special Interest field with Neely Bruce, General Exam field)

Byzantine, Georgian, and Russian Liturgical Music (Coursework with Peter Jeffery)

Notational Development to the 16th Century (General Exam field with Peter Jeffery)

#### TEACHING COMPETENCIES (ETHNOMUSICOLOGY)

Vocal Polyphonic Traditions of the World

Modal Theory of Raga, Makam, Oktoechos (General Exam field with Peter Jeffery)

Sub-Saharan African Traditional Music (General Exam field with Kofi Agawu)

Traditional Music of Eastern Europe (General Exam field)

Central Asian Music (Special Interest Topic with Theodore C. Levin)

#### INSTRUMENTAL TRAINING

Classical Violin, with MaryAnn Smith

Classical Guitar, with Laura Oltman

Classical Voice, with Priscilla Gale and Chai-lun Yueh

Pipe Organ, with Ron Ebrecht

Piano, Violin, Recorder, Chonguri, Panduri, Gankogui, various percussion

### **PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE**

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#### AMERICAN-EUROPEAN VOCAL PERFORMANCE

*Handel Society of Dartmouth College*, Hanover, NH

*Musica Alta Renaissance Ensemble* (Choir, Recorder), Princeton University

*Collegium Musicum*, Wesleyan University, with Jane Alden

*Wesleyan Singers* (Assistant Director), Wesleyan University, with Ron Ebrecht

*Trinity Cathedral Church Choir*, Copley Square, Boston, with Brian Jones

*Sacred Harp and New Compositions Ensemble*, with Neely Bruce

*Gospel Choir*, Wesleyan University, with Marichal Monts

*Rosentest Choir*, New Scandanavian Compositions, NYC, with Edward Jensen

*Wesleyan Spirits* (artistic director), contemporary men's chorus, 2 albums, toured Japan

*Valley Forge Men-Boy's Choir*, England/Wales Tours, with Peter Conte and Bernard Kunkel

*Pennsylvania District Chorus*, *Regional Chorus*, and *State Chorus*, auditioned competitions

#### OTHER VOCAL PERFORMANCE

*Kashweti St. George Church Choir*, Tbilisi, Georgia

*Yale Georgian Chant Group* (director), Yale University

*Princeton Georgian Choirs* (director), Princeton University

Karnatak raga, studied with Fr. M.P. George, Orthodox Theological Seminary, Kottayam, Kerela, India

*Okros Stumrebi Georgian Folk Choir*, Tbilisi Georgia, with Carl Linich

Bulgarian, South African, Corsican repertory with the "Northern Harmony Choir," eight week professional tour in England, with Patty Cuyler, Larry Gordon

South Indian vocal and solkattu, with TJ Vishwanathan and David Nelson, Wesleyan University  
*Cantus Firmus* (director), Wesleyan University

#### INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE

*Brazilian Maracatu Ensemble*, with Scott Kettner  
Cuban Bata Drumming, with Elizabeth Sayre  
Recorder, Musica Alta Renaissance Ensemble, Princeton University  
West African Ewe drumming/vocal/dance, with Abraham Adzenyah  
*Brazilian Samba percussion ensemble*, with Eric A. Galm

#### ONLINE MEDIA

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Founder of [GeorgianChant.Org](http://GeorgianChant.Org), resource for the study of Georgian liturgical chant (2006-present)

GeorgianChant.Org [Youtube Channel](#)

Founder of [JohnGrahamTours](http://JohnGrahamTours), an academic travel company (2006-present)

John Graham Tours [Youtube Channel](#)

Princeton Georgian Choirs [Youtube Channel](#)

Television special "[Chant as Sacred Process](#)," Patriarchate Television (Georgian), 2012

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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American Musicological Society (AMS)

Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM)

International Society for Orthodox Church Music (ISOCM)

Pan-Orthodox Society for the Advancement of Liturgical Music (PSALM)

International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM)

International Research Center for Traditional Polyphony (IRCTP)

Axion Estin Foundation for Byzantine music in North America

Society for Christian Scholarship in Music (SCSM)

Society for Oriental Liturgy (SOL)

#### ACADEMIC REFERENCES

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Rob C. Wegman, Princeton University, (609) 258-4248, [rwegman@princeton.edu](mailto:rwegman@princeton.edu)

Peter Jeffery, University of Notre Dame, (574) 631-6211, [pjeffery@nd.edu](mailto:pjeffery@nd.edu)

Ted Levin, Dartmouth College, (603) 646-1393, [theodore.c.levin@dartmouth.edu](mailto:theodore.c.levin@dartmouth.edu)

Kofi Agawu, Princeton University, (609) 258-4246, [kagawu@princeton.edu](mailto:kagawu@princeton.edu)

Mark Slobin, Wesleyan University, (860) 685-2606, [mslobin@wesleyan.edu](mailto:mslobin@wesleyan.edu)



## **LANGUAGES**

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English: native speaker

Georgian (Kartuli): speaking/reading/writing

French: speaking/reading/writing

German: reading

Classical Georgian: reading

Ancient Greek: reading