

Anna Stirr, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Asian Studies; Director, Center for South Asian Studies
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
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www.annastirr.com

Academic Employment History

2021-present Director, Center for South Asian Studies, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
2021 Acting Chair, Asian Studies Department, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
2018-2019 Affiliate Scholar, Anthropology and Fine Arts, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal
Fulbright Senior Research Scholar August 2018-Jan 2019; CAORC-NEH Fellow Feb-May 2019
2017-present Associate Professor of Asian Studies, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
2012-2017 Assistant Professor of Asian Studies, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
2011 Postdoctoral Fellow, Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Leiden, The Netherlands
2009-2011 Mellon Career Development Fellow in Ethnomusicology and Research Associate, Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology, Oxford University
2009 Instructor of Nepali Language, Graduate Program in International Affairs, The New School, New York
2004-2006 Graduate Teaching Fellow in Ethnomusicology, Columbia University
2003 Lecturer in Music, Kathmandu University, Bhaktapur, Nepal

Education

Ph.D. 2009, Ethnomusicology, Columbia University, New York, NY
M.Phil. 2006, Ethnomusicology, Columbia University, New York, NY
M.A. 2005, Ethnomusicology, Columbia University, New York, NY
B.A. 2002, Music (flute) and Religious Studies, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI

Fellowships and Grants Received

2022 UH CALL Humanities Summer Fellowship
2021-2024 NEH Scholarly Editions and Translations Grant (Project Director)
2018-2019 CAORC NEH Senior Research Fellowship
2018-2019 Fulbright Scholar Award
2014-2017 Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation Collaborative Research Grant (co-PI)
2015 UH Research Council Faculty Travel Grant
2014 UH SEED Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access, and Success (IDEAS) Grant
2013 UH Research Council Faculty Travel Grant
2012 UH Research Council Faculty Travel Grant
2012 Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies Senior Fellowship
2012 UH Research Council Humanities Summer Fellowship
2011 Oxford Knowledge Exchange Grant
2009-2010 ACLS/Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship [declined]
2008-2009 ACLS/Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2008-2009 Ford Foundation Diversity Dissertation Fellowship [Alternate, withdrawn]
2007-2008 PEO Scholar Award
2006-2007 Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship
2006-2007 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Award
2006-2007 Fulbright IIE [declined]

Honors and Awards

Jana Sewa Shree Medal, Government of Nepal, 2021 (US near equivalent: Congressional Bronze Medal)
Bernard S. Cohn Prize for First Book in South Asian Studies, Association for Asian Studies, 2019
Nominated for Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, UH Mānoa, 2016
Ali Miya Prize, Ali Miya Folklore Academy, Pokhara, Nepal, 2016
Phi Beta Kappa (Academic honor society), 2002
Pi Kappa Lambda (Music honor society), 2002
Mortar Board (Service and academic honor society), 2002

Publications

Documentary Films

Bhakta Syangtan and Anna Stirr. *Singing A Great Dream: The Revolutionary Songs and Life of Khusiram Pakhrin*. Sukumaya Productions, 2019. (Winner: Best Documentary, Best Director (International), Darbhanga International Film Festival, India, 2020). www.singingagreatdream.com.

Anna Stirr. *What Keeps Us Company: Popular Music and Nepalis in Bahrain* (2018, companion to article in *Global Nepalis*).

Single-Authored Book

Singing Across Divides: Music and Intimate Politics in Nepal. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2017. (Winner: Bernard S. Cohn Book Prize for first books on South Asia, Association for Asian Studies, 2019).

Critical Editions/Translations

Anna Stirr, Lochan Rijal, Mason Brown, and Hikmat Khadka. *Music and Dances of Central Nepal: Subi Shah's Works on Pangdure (Maruni) Performance*. London: Open Book Publishers (forthcoming 2024).

Edited Journal Issue

Guest Editor, Special Issue on "Music, Sound, and the Sacred." *Religions* 11, 2020.
https://www.mdpi.com/journal/religions/special_issues/music.

Refereed Journal Articles

- "Revolution and Reality Shows: Nepal's CPN and the Media Worlds of Late Capitalism." *Indian Theatre Journal* 6, special issue on "Reality TV in South Asia: Performance, Negotiation, Imagination," eds. Amanda Weidman and Kristen Rudisill, 2022, pp. 25-40.
- "Raktim Pariwar's Red Lanterns: Dance and Cultural Revolution in Nepal." *Asian Theatre Journal* 38(2), 2021, pp. 395-423.
- "Subi Shah's Holistic Theory of Nepali Performing Arts: Implications for Research and Teaching." *Jurai Sembah* 2(1), 2021, pp. 22-27.
- "Making a Living through Music in Nepal: Multiple Regimes of Value in a Changing Popular Folk Music Industry." *Himalaya* 38(1), 2018, pp. 160-176.
- "Ruralizing the City: Migration and Viraha in Translocal Nepal." *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* special issue on "Urban Emotions: Responses to the City c. 1850-1960," 2017, pp. 667-680.
- "Music and Cultural Policy in Nepal: Views from Lok Dohori." *European Bulletin of Himalayan Research* 48, 2016, pp. 43-76.
- "Sounding and Writing a Nepali Public Sphere: The Music and Language of Jhyaure." *Asian Music* 46(1), 2015, pp. 3-38.
- "Changing the Sound of Nationalism in Nepal: Deuda and the Far West." *South Asian Popular Culture* 10(3), 2012, pp. 1-11.
- "Singing Dialogic Space into Being: Communist Language and Democratic Hopes at a Dohori Competition on Radio Nepal." *Studies in Nepali History and Society* 15(2), 2010, pp. 297-330.

“May I Elope”: Song Words, Social Status, and Honor among Female Nepali Dohori Singers. *Ethnomusicology* 54(2), 2010, pp. 257-280.

“Dohori in the New Nepal.” *World Literature Today* 82(1), 2008, pp. 30-37.

Refereed Book Chapters

“Music Analog, Digital, and Embodied: Circulation in Rural Nepal.” In Jayson Beaster-Jones and K. Goldschmitt, eds. *Oxford Handbook of Global Music Industries*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (forthcoming)

“Love, Politics, and Life Between Village and City in Nepali Lok Dohori.” In Zoe Sherinian and Sarah Morelli, eds. *Music, Dance, and Everyday Life in South Asia*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press. (forthcoming)

Anna Stirr and Bhakta Syangtan. “People’s War and Tribute Documentary: Personal, Political, and Musical Choices in Making *Singing A Great Dream*.” In Christopher Ballengee, ed. *Music, Sound, and Documentary Film in the Global South*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2022.

“Popular Music among Nepalis in Bahrain: Nightclubs, Media, Performance, and Publics.” In David Gellner and Sondra Hausner, eds. *Global Nepalis: Religion, Culture, and Community in a New and Old Diaspora*. Oxford and New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2018, pp. 188-209.

“Tears for the Revolution: Nepali Musical Nationalism, Emotion, and the Maoist Movement.” In Marie Lecomte-Tilouine, ed. *Revolution in Nepal*. Oxford and New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2013, pp. 367-392.

Non-Refereed Book Chapters/Conference Proceedings

Stirr, Brown, and Rijal. “Embodied Theories of Melody in Nepali Music: A Case Study from Central Dhading.” In *Proceedings of the Annual Conference on Nepal and the Himalaya* (2022). Forthcoming.

“Subi Shahko Kalamathi Samagra Drishtikon Ra Sthaniya Gyanko Mahattva” [Subi Shah’s Holistic Views on Art and the Importance of Vernacular Knowledge]. In *Proceedings of the Tenth Annual Conference of the Nepal Folklore Council*. Kathmandu: Nepal Lok Barta Parishad, 2023.

“Lok Dohoriko Parichaya” (Introduction to Lok Dohori). In *Smarika: Lok Tatha Dohori Geet Pratisthan Nepalko Sathau Mahadhiveshan (Souvenir: Seventh Convention of the Folk and Dohori Song Academy Nepal)*. Kathmandu: Lok Tatha Dohori Geet Pratisthan Nepal, 2019.

“Mediating the Migrant Experience: *Dukha, Viraha, and Nostalgia in Nepali Lok Dohori Songs*.” In Deepak Thapa, ed. *Proceedings of the Annual Kathmandu Conference on Nepal and the Himalaya* (2015). Kathmandu: Himal Books, 2018.

“Class Love and the Unfinished Transformation of Social Hierarchy in Nepali Communist Songs”. In Robert Adlington, ed. *Red Strains: Music and Communism Outside the Communist Bloc. (Proceedings of the British Academy)*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013, pp. 283-298.

“Blue Lake: Tibetan Popular Music, Place, and Fantasies of the Nation.” In Robert Barnett and Ronald Schwartz, eds. *Tibetan Modernities: Notes from the Field on Cultural and Social Change (Proceedings of the 11th meeting of the International Association of Tibetan Studies)*. Leiden: Brill, 2008.

“Dohori on Sajha.com: Music Videos and the Politics of Memory.” In *Social Sciences in a Multicultural World: Proceedings of the International Conference, 11-13 December 2006*. Kathmandu: Sociological/Anthropological Society of Nepal (SASON) & Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR), 2007.

Newspaper, Magazine, and Blog Articles

Feature Article. Mrityusanga Najhukne Kalakarharu [Artists Who Don’t Flinch at Death]. *Naya Patrika*. Kathmandu, May 16, 2020 (Jeth 3, 2077).

Feature Article. Nachna Jaana Paam [Let Us Dance] (in English except for title). *The Record*. August 30,

2019. Online at <https://www.recordnepal.com/wire/features/nachna-jaana-paam/>
 Blog Post. #AsiaNow Speaks With Anna Stirr. Association for Asian Studies. February 2019. Online at <https://www.asianstudies.org/asianow-speaks-with-anna-stirr/>
 Blog Post. Festival Dohori in the Kathmandu Valley. OUPblog. November 14, 2017. Online at <https://blog.oup.com/2017/11/festival-dohori-kathmandu-valley/>
 Blog Post. Village Echoes (And Reverb, And Delay): The drums of Nepal's rural festivals and the booming speakers of urban dohori restaurants. OUPblog. October 24, 2017. Online at <https://blog.oup.com/2017/10/nepal-folk-music-dohori/>
 Op-ed. In Nepal, lift spirits through music. *CNN*. May 1, 2015. Online at <http://www.cnn.com/2015/05/01/opinions/stirr-nepal-earthquake/>
 Feature Article. Linguistic Diversity in Nepal's Music Industry. *Fair Observer*. March 2, 2014. Online at http://www.fairobserver.com/region/central_south_asia/linguistic-diversity-nepal-music-industry-49973/

Reviews, Reports, and Multimedia Publications

- Book Review. Andrew Weintraub and Bart Barendregt, eds. *Vamping the Stage: Female Voices of Asian Modernities. Music and Performing Arts of Asia and the Pacific*. Honolulu: UH Press, 2018. *MUSICultures*. (2021).
- Book Review. Dan Bendrups, *Singing and Survival: The Music of Easter Island*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019. *Music & Letters*. (2020).
- Encyclopedia article. "Caste". In *Sage Encyclopedia of Ethnomusicology*.
- Book Review. Kiran Narayan, *Everyday Creativity: Singing Goddesses of the Himalayan Foothills*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2016. *JRAI* 24(2), 2018, pp. 413-414.
- Book Review. Coralynn Davis, *Maithil Women's Tales: Storytelling on the Nepal-India Border*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2016. *Himalaya* 38(1), 2018, pp. 209-212.
- Book Review. Mark Bender, editor. *The Borderlands of Asia: Culture, Place, Poetry*. Amherst, NY: Cambria Press, 2017. *China Review International* 23(2), 2018, pp. 142-144.
- Book Review. Richard Widdess, *Dapha: Sacred Singing in a South Asian City. Music, Performance, and Meaning in Bhaktapur, Nepal*. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2013. *Ethnomusicology Forum* 25(1), 2016, pp. 136-138.
- Book Review. Dhana Hughes, *Violence, Torture, and Memory in Sri Lanka: Life After Terror*. London: Routledge. *Journal of Contemporary Asia*. 2014, pp. 565-567.
- Book Review. Brian Diettrich, Jane Freeman Moulin, and Michael Webb, *Music in Pacific Island Cultures. (Experiencing Music, Expressing Culture)*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. *Music and Letters* 94(2), 2013, pp. 563-565.
- Book Review. Raymond Ammann, *Sounds of Secrets: Field Notes on Ritual Music and Musical Instruments on the Islands of Vanuatu*. KlangKulturStudien 7. Zurich and Berlin: Lit Verlag, 2012. *Music and Letters* 94:1, 2013, pp. 198-200.
- Album Review. Alejandro Sanchez-Samper, producer. *Nepali Ho!* Released on Bandcamp, November 2011. *Ethnomusicology* 57:1, 2013, pp. 155-158.
- Research Report. "Migration, Gender and Nation in Nepali Dohori Performance." *Himalaya* 25(1-2), 2008, pp. 43-44.
- Online feature. "Damai Music." Online at Spiny Babbler Museum, 2005. (inactive).

Other Published Translations

2017. English to Nepali. Abinales, Patricio. "Note from Underground." Published as "Yuvakalma Bhumighat Bhaeko Budhako Chiththi" in *Rato Laltin*, December 2017.
2005. Nepali to English, with Manjul Nepal. Shah, Surendra Bikram (Subi). CD Liner notes to *Lok Bhakama Ekal Prayas. (Nepali Folk Music: One Man's Endeavors)*. Kathmandu: East Meets West Music Box.

2005. Spanish to English. Chapter 2 of: Ochoa Gautier, Ana María. *Entre los deseos y los derechos: un ensayo crítico sobre políticas culturales. (Between Desires and Rights: A Critical Essay on Cultural Policy)*.

Teaching

2012-present Asian Studies, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Undergraduate

ASAN 101 Intro to Asian Studies
ASAN 310 Studying Asia Culturally
ASAN 320I Asia Past and Present: South Asia
ASAN 320Z Asia Past and Present: Himalayas
ASAN 491G Emotion and Music in Asia
ASAN 491G Inter-Asia Migration and Mobility
ASAN 478/MUS 478H Musical Cultures: India
ASAN 499 Directed Reading:
Dance in Modern India
Writing about Dalit Lives in Nepal

Graduate

ASAN 600I Approaches to Asian Studies: South Asia
ASAN 611/411 Comparative Muslim Societies in Asia
ASAN 620 Asian Public Spheres
ASAN 623 Gender in Asian Performing Arts
ASAN 654 South Asia Now
ASAN 700 Thesis Supervision
ASAN 750I Research Seminar: South Asia
ASAN 699 Directed Reading:
Modern Nepal
Modern Tibet
Social Theory and South Asian Studies
Dance in Modern India
Nepali Language

2009-2011 Music, Oxford University

Undergraduate Music Ethnography
Theory and Ethnography of Performance

Graduate The Social and Cultural Study of Music
Audiovisual Documentation in Ethnographic Fieldwork (graduate workshop)

2009 Graduate Program in International Affairs, The New School
Beginning Nepali Language

2008 Columbia University Center for Ethnomusicology
Academic Grantwriting; Video Editing workshops

2004-2006 Music, Columbia University
Music of the United States (TA)
Music Humanities (TA)
Music of South and West Asia (TA)
Mediating Man and Nature: Music of East Asia (TA)

2003 Music, Kathmandu University, Bhaktapur, Nepal
History of Western Music
Introduction to Western Music Theory

Research Supervision

Saima Makhdoom, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Chair. UH Mānoa.
Alia Jeraj, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Chair. UH Mānoa.
Anna Yu, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Chair. UH Mānoa.
Joseph Jeremy Yamamoto, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Chair. UH Mānoa.
Shawn Michael Warner, MA, Music (Ethnomusicology). Committee Chair. UH Mānoa.
Hung Wen, PhD, Music (Composition). Committee Member, UH Mānoa.
Saloni Mahajan, PhD, Theatre (Performance Studies). Committee Member, UH Mānoa
Caitlin Hayes, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Member, UH Mānoa.
Youngseo Kim, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Member, UH Mānoa.
Kimery Lynch, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Member, UH Mānoa.
Iroha Mochida, undergraduate. Undergraduate Research Opportunity Mentor, UH Mānoa.
Hilary Brady Morris, PhD, Ethnomusicology. Committee Member. University of Illinois.
Thomas Robin Zeller, MA, Anthropology. Committee Member, UH Mānoa.
Mukta Gupta, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Member, UH Mānoa.
Nicholas Murray Husted, PhD, Theatre. Committee Member, UH Mānoa.
Oriana Filiacci, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Chair, UH Mānoa.
Benjamin Wendland, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Chair, UH Mānoa.
Sadie Green, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Chair, UH Mānoa.
Alexander Kelly, undergraduate. Undergraduate Research Opportunity Mentor, UH Mānoa.
Emma Pascal, undergraduate, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Mentor, UH Mānoa.
Yining Lin, PhD, Theatre. Committee Member, UH Mānoa.
Bal Krishna Sharma, PhD, Second Language Studies. Committee Member. UH Mānoa.
Travis Cox, MA, Asian Studies. Committee Member. UH Mānoa.
Jonathan Roberts, MA, Music. Thesis Supervisor. Oxford University.
Susana Hancock, MA, Linguistics. Thesis Co-Supervisor with Deborah Cameron. Oxford University.
Rachel Chew, BA, Anthropology. Thesis Supervisor. Oxford University.

External Examination

Wendy Lee, PhD. Ethnomusicology. University of Otago, 2021.
Ambika Joshee, PhD. Education. Kathmandu University, 2017.

Administration

Conferences and Seminars

Executive Committee Member, UH Mānoa South Asia Symposia: “Sensing South Asia,” 2013, “South Asian Borderlands,” 2016; “Pedagogy and Community Building,” 2017; “Understanding Indigeneity in South Asia,” 2020; “Health and Community,” 2021; Climate Change and South Asia, 2022.
Convenor, Oxford Ethnomusicology Seminar, 2009-2011.
Co-organizer, “Oxford Sound Day: Music, Language, and Beyond”, March 4-5, 2011.
Programming Chair, British Forum for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference, April 7-10, 2010.

Editorial

Editorial Advisory Board Member, *Modern Asian Studies*, 2021-present
Editorial Board Member, *Himalaya*, 2013-present
Reviewer for Oxford University Press; Cambridge University Press; Sage Publications; *Asian Music*; *South Asian Society and Culture*; *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society*; *Ethnomusicology Forum*, 2019; *Religions*; *Yearbook of Traditional Music*; *Journal of Contemporary Asia*; *Asian Studies Review*; *Studies in Nepali History and Society*; *Peace and Change*.

Spanish-English translator and web support, International Nepal Solidarity Network (www.insn.org, now defunct), a pro-democracy news website developed to counteract media censorship in Nepal during the state of emergency, 2005-2006.

Editorial Board Member, *Current Musicology*, 2003-2006

Departmental Service

Chair, Department Personnel Committee, 2022-2023

Organizer, School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Mānoa Experience, 2015, 2020

Member, Curriculum Committee, UH Mānoa Asian Studies Program, 2014-present, Chair 2017-2018

Chair, Communications Committee, UH Mānoa Asian Studies Program, 2012-present

Member, Futures Committee, UH Mānoa Asian Studies Program, 2012-2015

School of Pacific and Asian Studies Representative, University of Hawai'i Professional Assembly, Spring 2012

Search Committee Member, Mellon CDF in Music Theory/Psychology, Oxford University Music Department, 2011.

Search Committee Student Member: Ethnomusicology faculty search, Columbia University Music Department, 2005.

Extra-Departmental and National/International Service

UH Mānoa Representative, American Institute for Indian Studies, American Institute for Bangladesh Studies, American Institute for Pakistan Studies 2021-2024

Member, Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies Executive Council, 2021-2022

Resource Person, Just Futures Initiative (Ford Foundation-sponsored 3-year professional development fellowship for Dalit women artists, Samata Foundation, Nepal), 2021-2024

Advisor, Echoes in the Valley Music Festival, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2021

School of Pacific and Asian Studies representative, UH Mānoa Faculty Senate, 2012-2014, 2020-2022

Member of MFS Committee on Academic Policy and Planning (2021-22), Committee on Research (2020-2021)

Member, Ruth Stone Book Prize Committee, Society for Ethnomusicology, 2021

Member (2020) and Chair (2021) Bernard S. Cohn Book Prize, Association for Asian Studies

Contributor, UHM Critical Thinking Assessment Project, 2018

Member, Society for Ethnomusicology Council, 2017-2020

Workshop Facilitator, Social Science Research Council IDRf Workshop, Minneapolis, MN, June 8-12, 2016

Reviewer, Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship proposals, 2015, 2016, 2017

Member, SEM South Asian Performing Arts Section Nazir Jairazhboy Prize committee, 2012-2018

Member, UH Mānoa Center for South Asian Studies Executive Council, 2012-present

Member, UH Mānoa Faculty Senate Committee on Student Affairs, 2013-2014

Vice Chair, UH Mānoa Faculty Senate Committee on Research and Graduate Education (2012-2013), Member (2020-2022)

Member, UH Mānoa Jagdish Sharma Scholarship Committee, 2012

Community Service

Advisory Board Member, *The Gorkha Times* (online journal for Nepali literature in English)

Advisory Board Member, Samas Foundation, 2020-present (Foundation supporting Nepali and Bhutanese Americans in the arts and education)

Nepali language tutoring for US Army, university students, and community members

Legal interpreter and translator, Nepali to English

Expert opinion for Nepali immigration cases in the US

Advisory Board Member, Society of Nepalese in Hawaii, 2013-2015

Volunteer consulting services for music program development at Himalayan Youth Foundation, Kathmandu, Nepal. May 2013.

Languages

Nepali (bilingual proficiency)
Spanish (limited working proficiency)
French (limited working proficiency)
Hindi/Urdu (limited working proficiency)
Tibetan (elementary proficiency)
Dutch (elementary proficiency)

Other Professional Qualifications/Certificates

Certified Translator, Nepali↔English, Global Translation Institute, 2019
Certificates in Videography & Social Media, The Poynter Institute, 2018
Diploma in Photography, The Photography Institute (UK), 2013

Professional Affiliations

American Anthropological Association
Association for Asian Studies
Society for Ethnomusicology
Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies
Britain-Nepal Academic Council
British Forum for Ethnomusicology
Society for Anthropology and Sociology of Nepal
International Association for Tibetan Studies
International Council for Traditional Music

Papers, Colloquia, Commentaries, Live Performances, and Poster Sessions

2022

Panelist. Rituals for Married Women. Tell Me Your Story Webinar Series, Kolkata, India, December 10, 2022 (Virtual).
Panelist. Research Abroad through CAORC Centers. CAORC Webinar Series, Washington, DC, September 17, 2022 (Virtual).
Conference Presentation. Embodied Theories of Melody in Nepali Music: A Case Study from Central Dhading. Annual Conference on Nepal and the Himalaya. Kathmandu, Nepal, July 29, 2022.
Invited Talk. Gokul Joshi and Revolutionary Asceticism in Nepali Progressive Song. Cornell University Center for South Asian Studies, May 2, 2022 (Virtual).
Guest Speaker. Singing Across Divides: Dohori Song in Nepal. Nepalese Student Association 13th Annual Conference, Las Cruces, NM, April 9, 2022 (Virtual).
Roundtable Discussion Participant. Research Abroad through CAORC Centers (Discussant). Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, March 2022.
Roundtable Discussion Participant. Human Infrastructure and Building Futures: Insights from Nepal (Organizer). "Opera and Political Organizing in 1980s Nepal." Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, March 2022.
Invited Talk. Singing Across Divides: Conflict, Peace, Justice, and Song in Nepal. Sunset Rotary Club, Honolulu, HI, February 3, 2022.

2021

Roundtable Discussion Participant. China-India Relations: A Source of Rising Concern? UHM Center for Chinese Studies/Center for South Asian Studies Webinar, November 17, 2021. (Virtual)
Conference Presentation. Making *Singing a Great Dream*: Politics of Revolutionary Song after Nepal's People's War. Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference, October 28, 2021 (Virtual).
Moderator. Understanding Afghanistan: Historical and Ethnographic Perspectives. CSAS Online Colloquium, October 13, 2021 (Virtual).

Keynote Address. *Singing A Great Dream*. UHM Center for South Asian Studies Spring Symposium: Understanding Indigeneity in South Asia. April 2021 (Virtual).

Conversation with Shyam Nepali in “Letters Home” series, Echoes in the Valley Music Festival, Kathmandu, Nepal. April 10, 2021 (Virtual, Nepali language).

2020

Conference Presentation. The Politics of Remembering Nepal’s Cultural Martyrs: The Anekot Commemorative Gathering as Political Critique. Swedish South Asian Studies Network, December 9, 2020 (Virtual)

Conference Presentation. Subi Shah’s Holistic Theory of Nepali Performing Arts: Implications for Research and Teaching. International Transdisciplinary Performing Arts Conference, Sultan Idris Education University, Malaysia, November 10, 2020 (Virtual).

Conference Presentation. One Album, Three Titles: Love, Politics, and Life Between Village and City in Nepali Lok Dohori. Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference, October 30, 2020 (Virtual).

Performance. International Indigenous People’s Day Nepali Artists Conference, August 9, 2020 (Virtual).

Invited Talk. Nepal’s Folk Music Industry Today. Bhutanese-Nepali Arts Professionals Association, June 17, 2020 (Virtual).

Performance. Help Nepal COVID-19 Fund Drive closing ceremony. June 15, 2020 (Virtual).

Performance. Nepal Progressive Writer’s Association May Day Conference, May 1, 2020 (Virtual).

Screening and Talk. *Singing A Great Dream*. Darbhanga International Film Festival, Darbhanga, India. February 10, 2020.

2019

Performance, Nepali folk song. CANFACS Nepal Day, Vancouver, BC, Canada. September 1, 2019.

Invited Talk. Politics and Nepali Folk Song. University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada. August 31, 2019.

Conference Presentation. Dancing for People’s Awakening in Nepali Communist Movements. Asia Pacific Dance Festival, Honolulu, HI, August 4, 2019.

Performance, Nepali progressive song. Republic Day, Radio Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal. May 28, 2019.

Invited Talk. Nepali Revolutionary Song and Dance. Aastha Cultural Group, Bhaktapur, Nepal, May 20, 2019.

Performance, Nepali folk song. Chamber of Commerce, Attariya, Nepal. March 13, 2019.

Performance, Nepali folk song. Doti Festival, Dipayal, Nepal. March 12, 2019.

Performance, Nepali folk song. Surkhet Festival, Surkhet, Nepal. March 8, 2019.

Performance, Nepali folk song. Province 5 Festival, Nepalganj, Nepal. March 11, 2019.

Performance, Nepali folk song. Folk and Dohori Song Academy Nepal National Competition, Butwal, Nepal. March 10, 2019.

Invited Talk. Aesthetics in Theory and Practice in Nepali Revolutionary Song. Martin Chautari, Kathmandu, Nepal, February 17, 2019.

Performance, Nepali folk song. Adhikhola Tamu Samaj, Lhosar Syokai, January 14, 2019.

2018

Invited Talk. The Cosmopolitan Revolutionary Body: Towards Understanding Revolutionary Dance in Nepal. Tribhuvan University, Central Department of Anthropology, Kirtipur, Nepal, December 14, 2018.

Invited Talk. Music in Bhutan: Himalayan Connections. East-West Center Gallery, April 15, 2018.

Invited Talk. Singing Across Divides. Columbia University. April 12, 2018.

Invited Talk. Singing Across Divides. University of California, Riverside. March 7, 2018.

Invited Talk. Singing Across Divides. University of California, Los Angeles. March 6, 2018.

Invited Talk. Singing Across Divides. University of California, Merced. March 2, 2018.

Invited Talk. Singing Across Divides. University of California, Santa Barbara. February 28, 2018.

Invited Talk. Singing Across Divides. University of California, Santa Cruz. February 26, 2018.

2017

Invited Talk. Singing Across Divides. University of Hawai‘i Mānoa. November 13, 2017.
Invited Talk. Impacts of Islam on South Asian Music and Performing Arts. East-West Center NEH Summer Institute, Islam in Asia: Traditions and Transformations. June 21, 2017.
Invited Talk. Singing Across Divides. University of Maryland, February 16, 2017.

2016

Conference Presentation, “Intimate Politics and Nepali Musical Publics,” American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, MN, November 18, 2016.
Conference Presentation, “Cultural Revolution through Dance: Embodied Politics of Nepal’s Maoist Cultural Groups.” International Council on Traditional Music-Music in East Asia, Academia Sinica, Taiwan. August 26, 2016.
Performance, Nepali folk instrumental music and folk song. With Ram Kumar Singh. Molokai Public Library, Kaunakakai, HI. May 25, 2016.
Performance, Nepali folk instrumental music and folk song. With Ram Kumar Singh. Society of Nepalese in Hawai‘i one-year anniversary of Nepal earthquake benefit. Honolulu, HI. May 15, 2016.
Conference Presentation, “Ruralizing the City: *Viraha* in Nepali Lok Dohori Songs.” Workshop on Urban Emotions: Responses to the City in South Asia, c. 1850-1960. Oxford University, Oxford, UK (virtual participant). February 27, 2016.
Performance, Nepali folk and dohori song. Ali Miya Jayanti and Ali Miya Folklore Prize Award Ceremony, Pokhara, Nepal. February 27, 2016.
Performance, Nepali folk and dohori song. Artists’ Awards Program, Hamro Dohori Sanjh, Pokhara, Nepal. February 26, 2016.
Performance, Nepali folk and dohori song. Lekhnath Festival, Lekhnath, Nepal. February 26, 2016.
Invited Talk, “The Intimate Politics of Storytelling in Nepali Dohori Song.” Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, February 15, 2016.
Performance, Nepali folk instrumental music. With Ram Kumar Singh. Hawai‘i State Library, Honolulu, HI, January 30, 2016.

2015

“Embodying Revolutionary Sensibilities: Cultural Revolution in Nepali Maoist Music and Dance.” Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Meeting, Austin, TX, December 4, 2015.
“Articulating Local and National Ideas of Intellectual Property in Nepal’s Music Industry.” Music, Property, and Law Preconference, Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Meeting, Austin, TX, December 2, 2015. With Dhrubesh Chandra Regmi, Tribhuvan University, Nepal.
“Loudness, Echo, Reverb, and the Ruralization of the Urban in Nepal.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 20, 2015.
“Music Circulation, Technology, and Performance in Nepal’s Rural Hills.” Asian Studies International Conference, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, October 22, 2015.
Performance, Akron Multicultural Festival, Akron, OH, August 22, 2015.
Conference Presentation, “Mediating the Migrant Experience: *Dukha*, *Viraha*, and Nostalgia in Nepali Lok Dohori Songs.” Annual Conference on Nepal and the Himalaya, Kathmandu, Nepal, July 22, 2015.
Performance, Kokua Nepal Benefit Concert, The Republik, Honolulu, HI, June 7, 2015
Performance, Kokua Nepal Benefit, Kailua, HI, May 31, 2015
Performance, Society for Nepalese in Hawai‘i Nepal Benefit Concert, Honolulu, HI, May 30, 2015
Performance, Nepal Earthquake Relief. Kapiolani Community College, Honolulu, HI, April 30, 2015.
Performances, “Music of the Himalayas.” East-West Center, Honolulu, HI, April 18, and 19, 2015.
Lecture-performance, “Music of the Himalayas.” Punahou School, Honolulu, HI, April 17, 2015.
Invited talk, “Love, Indigenous Culture, and the Village in Nepali Music.” East-West Center, Honolulu, HI, February 15, 2015.

2014

- Conference Presentation, "Labor Migration, Imperial Legacies, and Leftist Critique in Nepali Popular Song." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, December 6, 2014.
- Conference Presentation, "Making a Living through Music in Neoliberalizing Nepal." Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, November 14, 2014.
- Discussant, Panel on North Korean Refugees/Migration, 7th World Congress on Korean Studies, Honolulu, HI, November 7, 2014.
- Performance, Denver Bhutanese Community Dipawali Celebration, Aurora, CO, October 22, 2014.
- Conference Presentation, "You've Gone and Done It, Prachanda! Satirical Songs and Maoist Morals in Nepal's Democracy," Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, March 27-30, 2014.
- Conference Presentation, "Dialectics, Dialogics, and the Politics of Love in Dohori Song," Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies Annual Conference, "Expressive Practices and Material Culture in Transforming Nepali Communities" New Haven, CT, March 14-16, 2014.
- 2013**
- Poster Presentation, "Digital Ephemeralities and Convergence Culture in Rural Nepal," Music | Digitization | Mediation, Oxford University, July 11-13, 2013.
- Conference Presentation, "Revolutionary Performance, Revolutionary Lives," Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, March 21-24, 2013.
- 2012**
- Conference Presentation, "Gender, Indigeneity, and Regional Language Politics in Nepal's Music Industry," American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, November 14, 2012.
- Conference Presentation, "Concepts of Progressive Change among Artists in Nepal," SEM/AMS/SMT Joint Annual Meeting, New Orleans, November 1, 2012.
- Invited Speaker, "Song and Storytelling in Nepal," UH Mānoa Ethnomusicology Forum, September 24, 2012.
- Invited Speaker, "A Place Under The Eaves: Storytelling, Violence, and a Nepali Singer's Search for Belonging," UH Mānoa Women's Studies Colloquium/Center for South Asia Colloquium, September 14, 2012.
- Conference Presentation. "Performing "Nepaliness" in Bahrain: Dohori Restaurants in the Nepali Diaspora." Nepalis in Diaspora Conference, Oxford University, July 5, 2012.
- Invited speaker. "Dohoriko parambhik itihās ra bartaman pariwartan." (Dohori's history and current changes.) Nepal Sangit Natak Pragya Pratisthan (Nepal Music and Drama Academy), Kathmandu, Nepal, June 19, 2012.
- Conference presentation. "Mapping Nepal in Song." University of Hawai'i at Mānoa South Asia Conference, April 20, 2012.
- Invited speaker, "Emotion and Unity in a Nepali Maoist Opera," University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Anthropology Colloquium, February 16, 2012.
- 2011**
- Invited speaker. "Migration, Gender, and Nepali Song." Leiden University South Asia Seminar, December 12, 2011.
- Invited speaker/performer. "Nepali Folk Music." Lecture-performance with Ram Kumar Singh, G.P. Kharel, and Santosh Chiluwal, Friends of the Kern Institute, Leiden University, December 9, 2011.
- Invited speaker. "Migration, Aspiration, and Labour Among Nepali Performers." University of Edinburgh South Asia Seminar, December 1, 2011.
- Invited speaker. "Shaping Futures Through Nostalgia: Migration, Gender, and Nepali Song." Bryn Mawr College, November 21, 2011.

- Conference presentation. "Sensuality, Violence, and Exchange in Nepali Nightclubs." Society for Ethnomusicology and Conference on Research on Dance joint annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA, November 17, 2011.
- Conference presentation. "Migration, Aspiration, and Labor Among Nepali Performers." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Montreal, QC, November 16, 2011.
- Organizer and Discussant. "Asian Expressive Practices in the Context of Migration: Traditions and Modernities." Special session sponsored by Asian Modernities and Traditions. Global Interactions Conference: Cosmopolitan Routes/Roots: Intersections of Global Heritage and Migration. Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands, November 4, 2011.
- Conference presentation. "Migration to the Gulf Through the Lens of Popular Folk Song: A Transnational Intimate Public." Creation of Public Meaning Workshop sponsored by SOAS and Martin Chautari, Kathmandu, Nepal, September 4-5, 2011.
- Invited speaker. "Nepali Lok Dohorima Akamkshako Pradarshan" ("Performing Aspirations in Nepali Lok Dohori.") Nepal Academy, September 1, 2011 (version for senior Nepali academics). Martin Chautari, August 30, 2011 (version for art students)
- Conference presentation. "Music and Cultural Policy in Nepal." International Conference on Changing Dynamics in Nepali Society, organized by Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies, Social Science Baha, and Alliance for Social Dialog, Kathmandu, Nepal, August 17-19, 2011.
- Poster presentation, competition finalist. "Towards Post-Multiculturalism in Post-Conflict Nepal." University of Oxford Humanities Research Showcase, July 11, 2011.
- Invited speaker. "Folk Music and Foreign Employment: Nepalis in the Gulf States." University of Oxford Contemporary South Asia Programme, Contemporary South Asia Day, May 26, 2011.
- Invited speaker. "Gender and Song in Nepali Migrant Performance." University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, April 25, 2011.
- Conference presentation. "Radio Nepal and Musical Nationalism in the Panchayat Era." Britain-Nepal Academic Council Annual Conference, University of Cambridge, April 20, 2011.
- Conference presentation. "The Traffic in Artists (and VCDs): The Ethnography of Migrant Public Culture." British Forum for Ethnomusicology Annual Meeting, University College Falmouth, April 7, 2011.
- Conference presentation. "Class Love and the Unfinished Transformation of Social Hierarchy in Nepali Communist Songs". Red Strains: Music and Communism Outside the Communist Bloc. British Academy, London, January 14, 2011.
- Invited speaker. "Tending the Flower Garden: Forming Nepali National Unity and Diversity Through Music." Institute for Musical Research South Asia Music and Dance Forum, London, January 13, 2011.
- 2010**
- Invited speaker. "Migration, Nostalgia, and Nepali Dohori Song." Brown University, November 24, 2010.
- Conference presentation. "The Circulation of Musical Ideologies and Maoist Language in Nepal's Peace Process." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 17, 2010.
- Conference presentation. "Mainstream Maoism: Nationalist Music, Maoist Language, and the New Nepal." Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, November 14, 2010.
- Invited speaker. "Spirit Possession and the Ordinary in Nepali Music and Culture." Anthropology Research Group, Oxford, on Eastern Medicines and Religions, November 10, 2010.
- Participant in AHS Workshop: Transforming Your Dissertation into a Book, Madison South Asia Conference, October 2010.
- Invited speaker. "Mainstream Maoism: Nationalist Music, Maoist Language, and the New Nepal." and "Musical Nationalism and Maoist Opera." New Researchers' perspectives on the Nepalese people's War, a workshop organised by the ANR programme : "La Guerre du Peuple au Népal: une approche historique et anthropologique," coordinated by M. Lecomte-Tilouine. Berder, France, September 6-9, 2010.

Invited speaker. "Maoism and Melodrama: Emotion and Unity in a Maoist Opera." Oxford University Nepal Studies, June 8, 2010.

Invited speaker. "Music in European History." Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, April 23, 2010.

Conference presentation. "Musical Knowledge, Modernity and Masculinity in the Nepali Dohori Industry." British Forum for Ethnomusicology Annual Conference, Oxford University, April 9, 2010.

Invited speaker. "Singing of Love in the Remembered Village: Migration and Nepali Dohori Songs." Oxford University Music Colloquium, February 16, 2010.

Invited speaker. "Tears for the Revolution: Nepali Musical Nationalism and the Maoist People's War." School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, Public Lecture in Ethnomusicology, February 9, 2010.

2009

Conference presentation. Panel organizer, chair of session: "Music and Value." Paper title: "Fighting about 'Cats and Dogs': Regimes of Value and Artists' Responsibilities in the Nepali Dohori Scene." Society for Ethnomusicology 2009 Annual Meeting, Mexico City, November 22, 2009.

Invited speaker. "Performing Aspirations: Marginality and Dreams of Equality in Nepali Dohori Songs." Oxford University Nepal Studies Seminar, October 21, 2009.

2008

Conference presentation, panel co-organizer: "Decentering the South Asian Art Music Canon." Paper title: "Voices, Bodies and Musical Commodities in the Nepali Folk Music Industry." Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Meeting, Middletown, CT, October 27, 2008.

Conference presentation. "From Rodhi Ghar to Rodhi Bar: The Commercialization of Gurung Culture in the Nepali Music Industry." Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 19, 2008. Columbia South Asia Graduate Student Forum, New York, NY, October 6, 2008.

Invited speaker. "Marginalized Groups in Nepal." The New School for Social Research Graduate Program in International Affairs Nepal Study Program, Kathmandu, Nepal, June 28, 2008.

"Dohori's Development and the Role of Gurungs," TECANET, Kathmandu, Nepal, June 6 2008.

2007

Conference presentation. "*Poila Jaana Paam*: Lok Dohori and Women's Honor in a Changing Nepal." Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Meeting, Columbus, OH, October 26, 2007.

Invited speaker. "Dohori in the New Nepal," PEO Scholars Event, Madison, WI, October 13, 2007.

Invited speaker. "Music in Kathmandu," Tevel b'Tzedek, Kathmandu, Nepal, July 12 2007.

Invited speaker. "Ethnomusicology," Martin Chautari Multidisciplinary Academic Perspectives Program, Kathmandu, Nepal, May 2, 2007

2006

Conference presentation. Panel organizer and chair, "Music in Modern Nepal and the Diaspora. Paper title: "Dohori on Sajha.com: Music Videos and the Politics of Memory" SASON International Nepal Studies Conference, Kathmandu, December 11, 2006.

Conference presentation. "Cultural Heritage as a Resource in Tibetan TV Comedy." International Association for Tibetan Studies, Bonn, Germany, August 28, 2006.

Conference presentation. Panel organizer and chair, "Gender and Authenticity in Popular Music." "Gender and Cultural Heritage in Nepali Dohori Songs." International Association for the Study of Popular Music-USA annual meeting, Nashville, TN, February 19, 2006.

2005

Invited speaker. "Lahure's Daughters and Women Lahures: Migration and Gender in Nepali Dohori Git." Columbia University South Asia Dissertation Workshop, December 5, 2005.

Conference presentation. Panel organizer and chair, "Music and Video." Paper title: "Interpreting Blue Lake: Music Videos and Meaning in the Tibetan Diaspora." Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Meeting, November 21, 2005.

Columbia University Conference on Music and Conflict, January 29, 2005

Ethnographic Fieldwork

- 2018-2019 Ten months fieldwork on Nepali revolutionary performance.
- 2015, 2017 Six weeks fieldwork on Nepali revolutionary song, gender, love, and Chinese influence, Kathmandu, Chitwan, and Gorkha, Nepal.
- 2014-2015 Two weeks fieldwork on Nepali revolutionary song, gender, love, and Chinese influence, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- 2012 Six weeks fieldwork on Nepali revolutionary song and love, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- 2009-2011 Fieldwork on music, gender, and migration in Nepali nightclubs, stage programs, and community organizations in the UK. Short trips (1 week-1 month) to Nepal for continued follow-up fieldwork on dohori music, and Manama, Bahrain for fieldwork on music among Nepali migrants in the Gulf.
- 2006-2008 19 months fieldwork on dohori song in Kathmandu, Pokhara, villages of Gandaki and Lumbini zones. Comparative fieldwork in Nepal's far western and eastern regions.
- 2005 Spiny Babbler Museum, Kathmandu, Nepal. Research intern for 3 months. Conducted fieldwork on traditional music of the Damai caste group in Kathmandu, Lalitpur, and Dhading districts, created audiovisual and text content for online museum; taught workshops on qualitative research.
- 2004 Ahiri Institute for Indian Classical Music and Dance, New York City. Worked as documentary film intern and conducted fieldwork on multiculturalism and representation in performance.
- 2001 Fieldwork in Nepal among Hindu yoga teachers and practitioners for B.A. thesis on the role of sound in yoga practice and philosophy.
- 2000 School for International Training "Nepal: Natural and Human Environment" semester abroad. Conducted research on the relationship between musical practice and religious practice in urban Kathmandu. Began study of bansuri flute.