

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the
Eastern District of Texas



Timothy Jackson

Plaintiff

v.

Laura Wright, et al.

Defendant

Civil Action No. 4:21-CV-33-ALM

SUBPOENA TO TESTIFY AT A DEPOSITION IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: Levi Walls, 915 Collier St., Denton, TX 76201

(Name of person to whom this subpoena is directed)

☒ Testimony: YOU ARE COMMANDED to appear at the time, date, and place set forth below to testify at a deposition to be taken in this civil action. If you are an organization, you must promptly confer in good faith with the party serving this subpoena about the following matters, or those set forth in an attachment, and you must designate one or more officers, directors, or managing agents, or designate other persons who consent to testify on your behalf about these matters:

Place: Cutler-Smith
12750 Merit Drive
Suite 1450
Dallas, TX 75251

Date and Time:
May 18, 2021; 1:00 pm

The deposition will be recorded by this method: stenographically.

☒ Production: You, or your representatives, must also bring with you to the deposition the following documents, electronically stored information, or objects, and must permit inspection, copying, testing, or sampling of the material:

See attached Exhibit A

The following provisions of Fed. R. Civ. P. 45 are attached – Rule 45(c), relating to the place of compliance; Rule 45(d), relating to your protection as a person subject to a subpoena; and Rule 45(e) and (g), relating to your duty to respond to this subpoena and the potential consequences of not doing so.

Date: 04/28/2021

CLERK OF COURT

OR

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

Attorney's signature

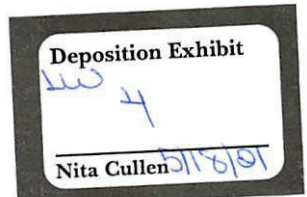
The name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the attorney representing (name of party)
Timothy Jackson, who issues or requests this subpoena, are:
Jonathan F. Mitchell, 111 Congress Avenue Suite 400, Austin, Texas, 78701; (512) 686-3940
Michael Thad Allen, PO Box 404, Quaker Hill, CT 06375; (860) 772-4738

Notice to the person who issues or requests this subpoena

If this subpoena commands the production of documents, electronically stored information, or tangible things before trial, a notice and a copy of the subpoena must be served on each party in this case before it is served on the person to whom it is directed. Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(a)(4).

B35 AM

f-29-21



Civil Action No. 4:21-CV-33-ALM

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 45.)

I received this subpoena for (name of individual and title, if any) Levi walls
on (date) 4-29-21.

☒ I served the subpoena by delivering a copy to the named individual as follows: Levi walls

on (date) 4-29-21 ; or 835 AM

☐ I returned the subpoena unexecuted because:

Unless the subpoena was issued on behalf of the United States, or one of its officers or agents, I have also
tendered to the witness the fees for one day's attendance, and the mileage allowed by law, in the amount of
\$ _____.

My fees are \$ _____ for travel and \$ _____ for services, for a total of \$ 75.00
~~0.00~~.

I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.

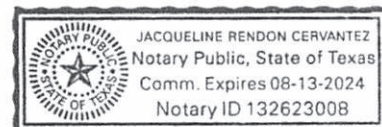
Date: _____
Patrice J. Halstead 11023 8-22
Server's signature

PATRICE HALSTEAD PROCESS SERVER
Printed name and title

5950 LBJ FWY DALLAS TX
Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc.:

Patrice Halstead
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME
ON THIS 30 DAY OF April 20 21
Jacqueline Rendon
X



Print

Save As...

Add Attachment

Reset

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 45 (c), (d), (e), and (g) (Effective 12/1/13)

(c) Place of Compliance.

(1) *For a Trial, Hearing, or Deposition.* A subpoena may command a person to attend a trial, hearing, or deposition only as follows:

- (A) within 100 miles of where the person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person; or
- (B) within the state where the person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person, if the person
 - (i) is a party or a party's officer; or
 - (ii) is commanded to attend a trial and would not incur substantial expense.

(2) *For Other Discovery.* A subpoena may command:

- (A) production of documents, electronically stored information, or tangible things at a place within 100 miles of where the person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person; and
- (B) inspection of premises at the premises to be inspected.

(d) Protecting a Person Subject to a Subpoena; Enforcement.

(1) *Avoiding Undue Burden or Expense; Sanctions.* A party or attorney responsible for issuing and serving a subpoena must take reasonable steps to avoid imposing undue burden or expense on a person subject to the subpoena. The court for the district where compliance is required must enforce this duty and impose an appropriate sanction—which may include lost earnings and reasonable attorney's fees—on a party or attorney who fails to comply.

(2) *Command to Produce Materials or Permit Inspection.*

(A) *Appearance Not Required.* A person commanded to produce documents, electronically stored information, or tangible things, or to permit the inspection of premises, need not appear in person at the place of production or inspection unless also commanded to appear for a deposition, hearing, or trial.

(B) *Objections.* A person commanded to produce documents or tangible things or to permit inspection may serve on the party or attorney designated in the subpoena a written objection to inspecting, copying, testing, or sampling any or all of the materials or to inspecting the premises—or to producing electronically stored information in the form or forms requested. The objection must be served before the earlier of the time specified for compliance or 14 days after the subpoena is served. If an objection is made, the following rules apply:

- (i) At any time, on notice to the commanded person, the serving party may move the court for the district where compliance is required for an order compelling production or inspection.
- (ii) These acts may be required only as directed in the order, and the order must protect a person who is neither a party nor a party's officer from significant expense resulting from compliance.

(3) Quashing or Modifying a Subpoena.

(A) *When Required.* On timely motion, the court for the district where compliance is required must quash or modify a subpoena that:

- (i) fails to allow a reasonable time to comply;
 - (ii) requires a person to comply beyond the geographical limits specified in Rule 45(c);
 - (iii) requires disclosure of privileged or other protected matter, if no exception or waiver applies; or
 - (iv) subjects a person to undue burden.
- (B) *When Permitted.* To protect a person subject to or affected by a subpoena, the court for the district where compliance is required may, on motion, quash or modify the subpoena if it requires:

(i) disclosing a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information; or

(ii) disclosing an unretained expert's opinion or information that does not describe specific occurrences in dispute and results from the expert's study that was not requested by a party.

(C) *Specifying Conditions as an Alternative.* In the circumstances described in Rule 45(d)(3)(B), the court may, instead of quashing or modifying a subpoena, order appearance or production under specified conditions if the serving party:

- (i) shows a substantial need for the testimony or material that cannot be otherwise met without undue hardship; and
- (ii) ensures that the subpoenaed person will be reasonably compensated.

(e) Duties in Responding to a Subpoena.

(1) *Producing Documents or Electronically Stored Information.* These procedures apply to producing documents or electronically stored information:

(A) *Documents.* A person responding to a subpoena to produce documents must produce them as they are kept in the ordinary course of business or must organize and label them to correspond to the categories in the demand.

(B) *Form for Producing Electronically Stored Information Not Specified.* If a subpoena does not specify a form for producing electronically stored information, the person responding must produce it in a form or forms in which it is ordinarily maintained or in a reasonably usable form or forms.

(C) *Electronically Stored Information Produced in Only One Form.* The person responding need not produce the same electronically stored information in more than one form.

(D) *Inaccessible Electronically Stored Information.* The person responding need not provide discovery of electronically stored information from sources that the person identifies as not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost. On motion to compel discovery or for a protective order, the person responding must show that the information is not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost. If that showing is made, the court may nonetheless order discovery from such sources if the requesting party shows good cause, considering the limitations of Rule 26(b)(2)(C). The court may specify conditions for the discovery.

(2) Claiming Privilege or Protection.

(A) *Information Withheld.* A person withholding subpoenaed information under a claim that it is privileged or subject to protection as trial-preparation material must:

- (i) expressly make the claim; and
- (ii) describe the nature of the withheld documents, communications, or tangible things in a manner that, without revealing information itself privileged or protected, will enable the parties to assess the claim.

(B) *Information Produced.* If information produced in response to a subpoena is subject to a claim of privilege or of protection as trial-preparation material, the person making the claim may notify any party that received the information of the claim and the basis for it. After being notified, a party must promptly return, sequester, or destroy the specified information and any copies it has; must not use or disclose the information until the claim is resolved; must take reasonable steps to retrieve the information if the party disclosed it before being notified; and may promptly present the information under seal to the court for the district where compliance is required for a determination of the claim. The person who produced the information must preserve the information until the claim is resolved.

(g) Contempt.

The court for the district where compliance is required—and also, after a motion is transferred, the issuing court—may hold in contempt a person who, having been served, fails without adequate excuse to obey the subpoena or an order related to it.

EXHIBIT A

Documents to Be Produced

I. Definitions and Instructions

1. Each request shall operate and be responded to independently and, unless otherwise indicated, no request limits the scope of any other request.

2. Unless otherwise indicated, the relevant time period for these requests is from November 1, 2019, to the present.

3. Unless otherwise defined, the terms used should be read and construed in accordance with the English language and the ordinary meanings and definitions attached. You should, therefore: (i) construe the words “and” as well as “or” in the disjunctive or conjunctive, as necessary to make the request more inclusive; (ii) construe the term “including” to mean “including, but not limited to”; and (iii) construe the words “all” and “each” to mean all and each.

The following definitions apply to each of these requests:

- The terms “**you**” and “**your**” refer to the individual named as the deponent in the attached Subpoena, including any agent or person authorized to act for or on your behalf.
- The terms “**communication**” and “**communicate**” refer to any method used to transmit or exchange information, concepts, or ideas (whether verbal or nonverbal) including oral, written, typed, or electronic transmittal of any type of information or data, by the use of words, silence, numbers, symbols, images, or depictions, from one person or entity to another person or entity.
- The term “**document**” refers to the act of noting, recording, or preserving any type of information, data, or communication, without regard to the method used to note, record, or preserve such information, data, or communication. The term includes any e-mail or text message.
- The term “**entity**” means any legal entity inquired about (other than a natural person) including a partnership, professional association, joint venture, corporation, governmental agency, or other form of legal entity.

- The terms “**identify**” and “**identity**,” when used in connection with a natural person, require disclosure of that person’s full name, present or last known address, and present or last known telephone number. When used in connection with a legal entity, the terms require disclosure of its legal name, its address, and telephone number.
- The terms “**implement**” and “**implementation**” refer to any method, process, or action used to put a decision or plan into effect or achieve a goal or obligation.
- The term “**information**” refers to and includes documents, records, communications, facts, ideas, data, observations, opinions, photographs, slides, video recordings, audio recordings, and tangible and intangible items and evidence of any kind or sort.
- The terms “**person**” and “**persons**” mean any legal entity inquired about, whether a natural person, partnership, sole proprietorship, professional association, joint venture, corporation, governmental agency, or other form of legal entity.
- The term “**record**” means letters, words, sounds, or numbers, or the equivalent of letters, words, sounds, or numbers, that have been written, recorded, documented, or received by Defendant by:
 - (A) handwriting;
 - (B) typewriting;
 - (C) printing;
 - (D) photostat;
 - (E) photograph;
 - (F) magnetic impulse;
 - (G) mechanical or electronic recording;
 - (H) digitized optical image; or
 - (I) another form of data compilation.
- The term “**record**” also includes any communication, including an e-mail or text-message communication.
- The term “**reproduction**” means an accurate and complete counterpart of an original document or record produced by:
 - (A) production from the same impression or the same matrix as the original;
 - (B) photograph, including an enlargement or miniature;
 - (C) mechanical or electronic re-recording;

- (D) chemical reproduction;
- (E) digitized optical image; or
- (F) another technique that accurately reproduces the original.

- The term “**third party**” means any person, persons, or entity other than the defendants or the attorneys of record for the defendants.
- The terms “**and**” and “**or**,” when used in these definitions and in the discovery requests, include the conjunction “and/or.”

II. Documents Requested

Request No. 1: A reproduction of each record constituting a communication (including all attachments or exhibits) that implements, mentions, discusses, or contains any information concerning Timothy Jackson, the Center of Schenkerian Studies, or the Journal of Schenkerian Studies, including but not limited to communications with the “ad hoc panel” convened to investigate Timothy Jackson and the Journal for Schenkerian Studies.

Request No. 2: All drafts or versions of petitions or open letters that implement, mention, discuss, or contain any information concerning Timothy Jackson or the Journal of Schenkerian Studies, regardless of whether those drafts or versions of petitions or open letters were submitted to any administrative official or faculty member of the University of North Texas or otherwise published, including a list of all signatories to any such document.

Request No. 3: All correspondence between you and Benjamin Brand concerning Timothy Jackson, including but not limited to any alleged efforts at “whistleblowing” related to Timothy Jackson’s role on the Journal of Schenkerian Studies, the Center of Schenkerian Studies, or any allegedly racist actions or behaviors of Timothy Jackson.

Request No. 4: All correspondence and communications between you and any individual connected to or associated with the Society for Music Theory, including but not limited to Professor Philip Ewell and any officers of the Society for Music Theory.



Levi, Chris
Active Now



You created this group

7/25/20, 10:45 PM

Levi, Chris and I wanted to start a thread so that we can discuss some of the matters with JSS

Levi



Hi Chris and Ben. I'm glad we can talk!

So he understands that this was not our idea and that it came from the advisory board.

Chris, we are open to discussion because we really were not at the forefront of this initiative

I have to go to sleep now, I'm in another time zone.

But I'm glad we can talk

Levi



Oh, I thought we were going to talk now

Chris



Great, thanks for setting up this chat! We can just talk tomorrow if you like.

Levi



Oh, alright. No problem

Chris



Or Levi, just you and me.

Levi



Do you mind, Ben?

UNT_000442

Deposition Exhibit

310

5

Nita Cullen

5/18/21



Levi, Chris
Active Now



I don't mind!

Levi

Alright. Hi Chris. So, I want to let you know that I'm really on twitter's side for most of this. I don't have twitter, but I've been seeing a lot of the criticism, which is very justified. If it were up to me, people on the advisory board would not be allowed to publish in the journal, because that kind of destroys all accountability. I must admit, that I'm new to all of this. I assumed what would happen would be that we would have a second round of responses (responses to responses) at which point Phil would be able to respond (which is something that Ben and I really wanted).



Chris

Hey Levi, I really enjoyed working with you on my essay. It seems clear that you're in a precarious position as a graduate student editor. Any red flags that come up, you probably aren't in a position to do anything about.



Yes exactly Levi

Chris



I can definitely say that I assumed that Phil was involved in some sort of way.

I agree and I'm in a similar position. I was editor when Tim Jackson and Stephen Slottow were my dissertation advisors. Now, they are my colleagues and on promotions committees, etc. that have a significant stake in my employment. Volume 12 was largely ready before the SMT and I was passing the baton to Levi when these ideas came up.

Chris

Definitely. Totally clear as well.

So what do you guys know about the invitations for rebuttals to Phil's talk?

UNT_000443



Levi, Chris

Active Now



Someone I know was directly invited to submit something, but he declined.

Levi and I were the ones that sought out to make a call, and we actually tried to solicit more women and PoC!

I know Tim solicited some on his own. But for us, we can't go in and intercept his emails to people

Some*

Levi



I did not know about rebuttals. What venue were those in? I assume they are forthcoming.

Chris do you mean responses to Ewell?

Chris



By rebuttals I mean all the negative essays in Volume 12.

Or responses to JSS?



My guess is that Tim Jackson solicited a lot on his own. But, it's hard to trace because if he wrote people via his own email and encouraged them to submit then Levi won't know

Levi



Oh, I see. No, I hadn't heard. Obviously, any debate is great. I know Ben and I were hoping for as many positive responses as possible in the JSS volume. But a significant portion of people that submitted were in the other camp.

Chris



Got it! It's crazy that you guys as editors didn't even know that some responses were solicited behind the scenes.

UNT_000444



Levi, Chris
Active Now



were solicited behind the scenes.

I totally agree; we wanted to see more

It's blowing up and honestly we never even wanted to do it

But it's my dissertation advisor and higher ranking colleague, plus we wanted to publish supporting essays

I would nominate a name change for the center and the JSS— by the way



I think with the current advisors it would possibly not pass

Levi



I would as well. Jackson and Slottow would not allow it though.

So that's the battle we are fighting

Chris

You guys are definitely in a really difficult position here. I can tell you that when I first saw the CFP—with its very fast deadline at a very busy time of year—I assumed it was constructed to discourage submissions. The Journal of Schenkerian Studies is already a very conservative journal. Prior to its founding in 2006, and especially in the 1980s and '90s, there was no need for a Journal of Schenkerian Studies because Music Theory Spectrum was already effectively a journal of Schenkerian studies. So given the venue and the CFP, I was assuming negative responses. That's part of why I was motivated to contribute. I wanted there to be something in support of Phil.



Levi

I can see that. Definitely not something I or Ben considered. We were about to finish the journal, which was supposed to be published in November or early December, when the advisory board got really gungho about a response to Ewell.



UNT_000445



Levi, Chris
Active Now



Levi

I can see that. Definitely not something I or Ben considered. We were about to finish the journal, which was supposed to be published in November or early December, when the advisory board got really gungho about a response to Ewell. And so, we made the deadline very short.



I definitely see your point!! We are so so happy you wrote. Part of the reason we had a shorter call is because we had vol 12 ready and we needed to get it to our publishers. We should have usher the whole thing to volume 13!! I think you should write the letter, but address the advisory board, and state how the editors were in a compromised position.

Levi



Yes, putting it in volume 13 would have been preferable.

Pushed* the whole thing

Chris I have to go, but thank you for hearing us out. There needs to be action here and I am glad we talked. I want to continue but it is really late here

Levi



No worries, Ben.

Chris

Totally fine, Ben. Thanks for reaching out.

Levi, are you in any position at all to distance yourself from the journal issue?

And it's okay if that's impossible. Ben's suggestion to state that you were in a compromised position will work.



Levi

I tried to do that with the opening to the symposium. I tried to do it in such a way

UNT_000446



Levi, Chris
Active Now



Levi

I tried to do that with the opening to the symposium. I tried to do it in such a way that I wasn't explicitly stating that I was opposed to the responses from most of the Schenkerians. Over the course of all this, I feel like I'm between a rock and a hard place. I like the job in general, because I love editing and being involved in research, but I'm not in a position to go against the people who control the journal. As the editor of the journal going forward, I really want to take it in a better direction. But I'm worried that I can't.

Levi

And I also don't want to lose my job because I have a baby to support. So I don't know what to do.

Chris

Then I think the best thing we can do is to really clarify in the letter that the editors are a graduate student and recent graduate, and that it's the advisory board who makes all the decisions. Any condemnation must be directed at the advisory board.

Levi

I know that Dr. Jackson stated in an email chain that he wanted any emails to be directed toward him. I mean, I'm sure he will get them anyway (as his contribution was pretty horrendous). I'm being quite candid with you; lately I've been trying to figure out how to distance myself from him (because he's my advisor) without causing any fallout. This is all just so much.

Chris

It may be best for the advisory board to resign. The open letter may well call for that, I don't know.

7/27/20, 1:51 AM

Chris

Hey Ben, hey Levi. Would you feel comfortable confirming some information I

UNT_000447



Levi, Chris

Active Now



7/27/20, 1:51 AM

Chris

Hey Ben, hey Levi. Would you feel comfortable confirming some information I received? Apparently some contributors, those that Tim Jackson reached out to directly, were allowed to submit their essays as late as mid-March. Is that true? Again, it's okay if you don't feel comfortable responding.



Chris

Also, one suggestion that's come up is for SMT to create a policy for supervising grad student journal editors.



7/27/20, 5:30 AM

Levi

Hey, sorry for the late response. I'm not sure what the latest submission was that he asked us to take. I know that the journal was already submitted to the publisher by mid March, so maybe late February or early March at the latest. But yes, we were told to take late submissions without questions. He had a general disregard for deadlines. I can't say that it was 100 percent tailored towards authors of his choosing because he had us take Clark's submission late, but certainly the positive articles were more observant of the deadline. And also, I don't think Clark was more than a few days late, if I remember correctly. Does that help? I think that, had there been guidelines like that in order, the experience at the journal would have been much better for me. So I hope that they continue to pursue that.

30 AM



7/27/20, 7:02 AM

Yes

7/27/20, 8:53 AM

Chris

Thank you both. I have this information from a couple of sources now, so if I mention the late deadline, I won't have to implicate any single source. Much appreciated.



UNT_000448

2:55

CONFIDENTIAL



Nate, Brian, Jessica, E...

Active now



Levi

Sorry, I was spending time with Ophelia and wasn't checking my phone. I'll sign onto Bryan's denouncement of Dr. Jackson. I would be lying if I said he wasn't a help to my theoretical/literary development, but his political views need to be condemned and UNT shouldn't have a place for them/him.



Rachel

Are we doing a GAMuT and a SSENT response, or a unified MHTE grad student response?



I'd hope a unified MHTE thing eventually?

Salvador

Personally, I agree. However, SSENT would have to meet and agree on that as a unit. We're working on those details now and will give an update when available.

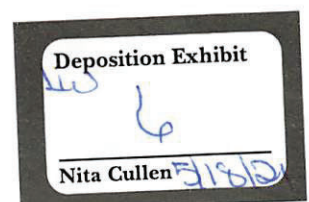


Rachel

But are we not doing this all together? I'm confused as to why SSENT has to m. ↓ and have their own unitv first. This is a MHTE



Aa



[EXT] Re: JSS

Timothy Jackson [REDACTED]

Sun 7/26/2020 11:11 AM

To: Brand, Benjamin <Benjamin.Brand@unt.edu>

Cc: Cubero, Diego <Diego.Cubero@unt.edu>; Graf, Benjamin <Benjamin.Graf@unt.edu>; Chung, Andrew <Andrew.Chung@unt.edu>; Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>; Bakulina, Ellen <Ellen.Bakulina@unt.edu>; Slottow, Stephen <Stephen.Slottow@unt.edu>; Heidlberger, Frank <Frank.Heidlberger@unt.edu>

Dear Colleagues,

Before we meet, it would be helpful for you to have the Symposium in response to Ewell's SMT presentation? Reading, or at least skimming it, would be an important prerequisite to any discussion of the issues. But I must ask you not to share the issue on line yet since we need to consult the press about when it will be posted on line.

The JSS initiative was for the purpose of giving Schenkerians an opportunity to respond to Ewell's comments, more specifically, to his critique of Schenker, Schenkerians, and Schenkerian analysis, since they had no opportunity to do so at SMT. The Symposium responses were to his SMT comments; at that point Ewell's fuller critique in *MTO* had not been published. Ewell was not individually invited to respond to the JSS articles--but he is on the SMT list (I presume), and the invitation was included. He *could* have responded if he had wanted, but there was nothing for him to respond to. That he did not is quite normal. The usual procedure is: (1) an article would be published, (2) someone writes a critique, published in the next issue, and (3) the original author would write a response to the critique, published in the same or still later issue. We treated Ewell's SMT plenary presentation, which was posted on the SMT website, as a publication. JSS issued a public call for responses, without specifying any stand of its own, and received a wide cross-section of replies, some pro- and some contra.

We now are planning a second call for the next issue. It would be appropriate for Levi to send Ewell a complete copy of the symposium as published along with the next call for responses to the symposium and ask him if he would like to respond to the Symposium in the next issue. Personally, I believe that a full airing of the issues will be productive. I would like to suggest that in the call, other scholars can respond to Ewell's article as published in *MTO* as well, since it is an expanded version of his *SMT* talk, especially since this possibility was suggested by the editor of *MTO* to JSS.

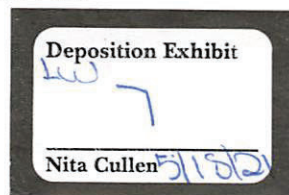
I propose also that the second call be closely modeled on the first, with the same parameters. However, before we issue the call, we need to make sure that the symposium is accessible! How can people respond if they cannot read the Symposium! So, we do need to hear back to Levi's inquiry to the press.

By the way, the one anonymous response in the symposium was *not* from a student but from someone who already has earned their doctorate in music theory, not from a graduate student. But, rightly, in today's highly polarized climate, they were concerned about using their name.

I asked Stephen Hahn if he could collect the Twitter discussion in an email to send to us. That way we can have a full account. I will send everybody what he sent to me.

Best, Tim

On Sun, Jul 26, 2020 at 10:17 AM Brand, Benjamin <Benjamin.Brand@unt.edu> wrote:



UNT_000458

CONFIDENTIAL

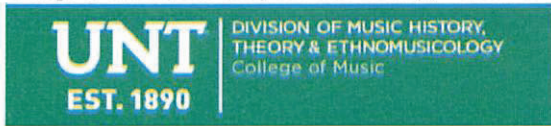
From: Walls, Levi
Sent: Thursday, January 9, 2020 11:11 AM
To: Brand, Benjamin
Subject: Re: JSS upcoming issue

Oh woops. Sorry, I misread. Let's do 1!

From: Brand, Benjamin <Benjamin.Brand@unt.edu>
Sent: Thursday, January 9, 2020 9:07:23 AM
To: Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>
Subject: Re: JSS upcoming issue

Do you prefer noon or 1pm?

Benjamin Brand, Ph.D.
Pronouns: he, him, his | Professor of Music History
Chair, Division of Music History, Theory, and Ethnomusicology
College of Music | University of North Texas | (940) 536-3561



On 1/9/20, 10:30 AM, "Walls, Levi" <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu> wrote:

Dear Dr. Brand,

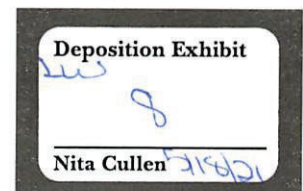
Yes, that works. I will see you then. Yes, that is the paper. I'm hoping that dr. Graf and I will be able to keep things under control ourselves, but I feel that you should be kept in the loop. Even though we put out a CFP that I specifically framed in a way that emphasizes that responses should be thoughtful and neutral in tone, dr. Jackson has been privately soliciting responses from people (Burkhart, Eric Wen, Damschroder) who I know to have particularly vitriolic opinions about Ewell and his paper. Dr. Graf and I have not yet seen these responses, so it's possible that they will be filtered, and not as poorly framed as I worry. And if they are, we will be quite insistent that they be workshopped. The journal cannot afford to publish something that suggests that "PC culture" is ruining academia, or that study of hiphop and rap should be kept out of universities. We can discuss further on Monday.

Regards,

Levi Walls

From: Brand, Benjamin <Benjamin.Brand@unt.edu>
Sent: Thursday, January 9, 2020 7:53:48 AM
To: Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>
Subject: Re: JSS upcoming issue

Dear Levi,



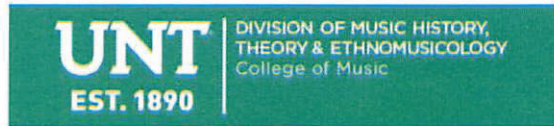
CONFIDENTIAL

Thanks for getting in touch and of course I will keep this matter confidential to the extent that I am able. Is the paper you mention Phillip Ewell's "Music Theory's White Racial Frame"?

Could we meet early next week? I have some time at noon or at 1:00pm on Monday.

All the best,
Dr. Brand

Benjamin Brand, Ph.D.
Pronouns: he, him, his | Professor of Music History
Chair, Division of Music History, Theory, and Ethnomusicology
College of Music | University of North Texas | (940) 536-3561



On 1/8/20, 11:15 PM, "Walls, Levi" <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu> wrote:

Dear Dr. Brand,

I have a JSS matter I would like to discuss with you at your earliest convenience. I'm not sure if you are back on campus this week, but if not it can wait. The journal will be publishing responses to a controversial SMT paper soon, and it poses a possible issue for the atmosphere of diversity and inclusion that I know you have been conscious about fostering lately, which is a great thing. Considering that, I think it only fitting that you be informed. I also trust you to handle these matters with delicacy, whereas I'm concerned about the way others may be going about it. I'd feel better if you kept our discussion confidential. Dr. Graf knows I'm contacting you and agreed that it was a good idea, but others do not and I am quite afraid of retaliation. I just want you to be in the loop and I'm concerned about any possible embarrassment for the journal/department.

Regards,

Levi Walls

I agree with Levi that a well-considered and timely response seems important. From what I have been seeing, people on social media are not happy that there is not a published response-to-the-responses written by Ewell at the invitation of JSS, and have concerns that the journal published an anonymous article whatever the merits and complexities for doing so. I think it would be wise to address this carefully and promptly because I wouldn't want to see a negative consequence from this for Levi based on hasty assumptions from the social media-verse.

Best,

Andrew

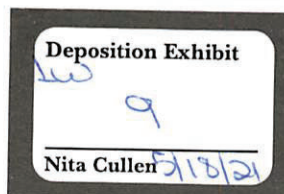
From: Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 8:56 PM
To: Bakulina, Ellen <Ellen.Bakulina@unt.edu>; Timothy Jackson [REDACTED]; Slottow, Stephen <Stephen.Slottow@unt.edu>
Cc: Chung, Andrew <Andrew.Chung@unt.edu>; Graf, Benjamin <Benjamin.Graf@unt.edu>; Cubero, Diego <Diego.Cubero@unt.edu>
Subject: Re: JSS

Hi all,

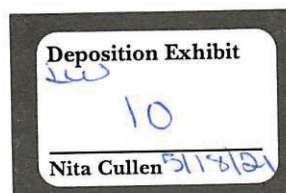
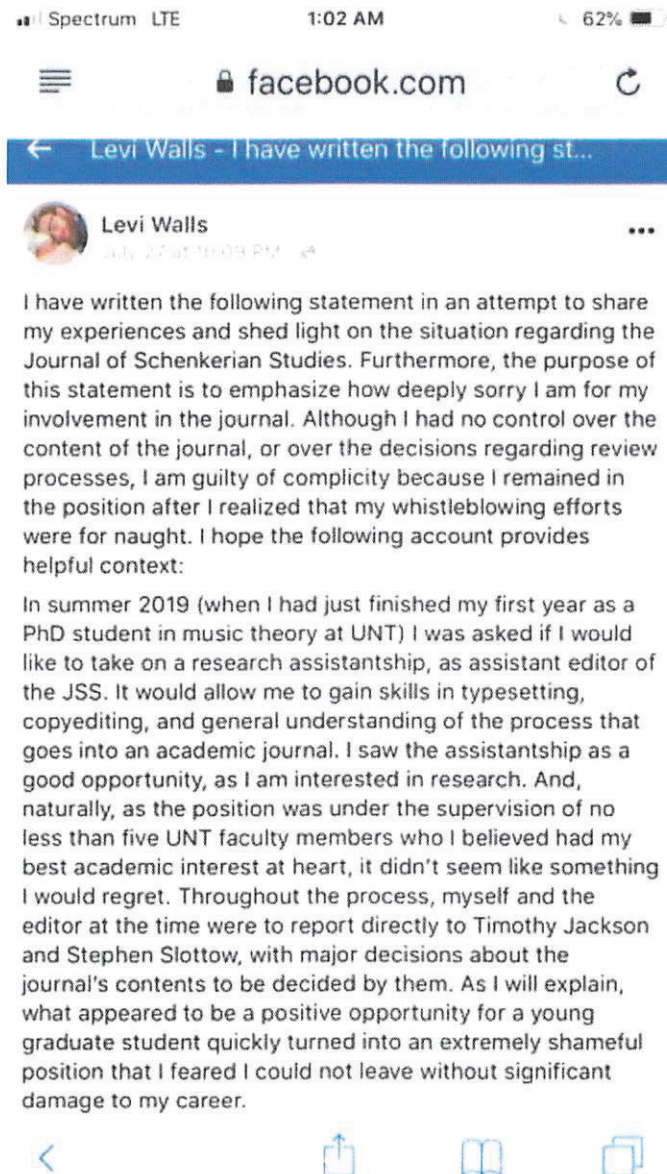
I just heard about this. It's very worrying, especially as I don't want my career to be ruined before it properly began. I have a family to take care of now. I'm also confused about what exactly people want. The responses were to Ewell's paper. Did Ewell want to respond to his own paper? If he wants to respond to the responses to his paper, then that is perfectly reasonable, and I don't think anyone would have a problem with that. We could publish something in the upcoming volume, if that is what people want. But he couldn't have responded to responses that hadn't yet come out. Since the journal printed every response that we got, it should go without saying that we weren't interested in presenting a one-sided picture. Quite the opposite. We emphasized in the CFP that we wanted a wide range of views.

At the moment, people seem to be speculating about the journal without actually reading it. Maybe we should consider releasing it online early, so that misinformation does not spread.

I really hope all this can be resolved somehow.



UNT_000461



JACKSON000234

Spectrum LTE

1:02 AM

62%

facebook.com

For the first few months, the job seemed fine, as I got to work with three articles on various topics, typesetting and offering clarity-related edits. However, after Philip Ewell's SMT presentation, Timothy Jackson decided that it was the responsibility of the journal to "protect Schenkerian analysis." Although—after serious thought—I essentially agreed with Ewell's talk, it was not up to me what did or did not go into the journal. After seeing some of the responses, I started to become incredibly worried. I gave comments to one author, including that they seemed to devalue other fields of study, that they cherry-picked information to make Schenker appear in a better light, and that they confused cultural appropriation with egalitarianism. Shortly after, I was told by Timothy Jackson (my superior in at least three senses: a tenured faculty member who ran the journal and also served as my academic advisor) that it was not my job to censor people. After this, things continued to go in a direction that I found to be disgusting.

I set up a secret meeting with my department chair, specifically acknowledging that I was coming to him as a whistleblower because I was worried about the potential dangers that the journal posed for the College of Music and for rational discourse in music theory. My warning was not heeded and—although I feel that he had the best of intentions—he expressed reluctance to step in and control the actions of the journal. Furthermore, after my warning that Dr. Jackson was woefully ignorant about politically correct discourse and race relations, he rebutted that "Dr. Jackson did very well in the recent diversity and inclusion workshops."

After this, I feared that I would remain powerless and voiceless in regard to the running of the journal (despite my misleading title of "assistant editor," and the fact that I was meant to become "editor" for volume 13). In hindsight, I should have quit the journal in protest. However, I feared retaliation from Timothy Jackson: he is an incredibly well-connected and influential figure in Schenkerian circles, and

•• Spectrum LTE

1:02 AM

62% 

facebook.com

Jackson did very well in the recent diversity and inclusion workshops."

After this, I feared that I would remain powerless and voiceless in regard to the running of the journal (despite my misleading title of "assistant editor," and the fact that I was meant to become "editor" for volume 13). In hindsight, I should have quit the journal in protest. However, I feared retaliation from Timothy Jackson: he is an incredibly well-connected and influential figure in Schenkerian circles, and I've lost count of the number of people who have told me over the years that I would regret it if I ever got on his bad side. Despite this—as well as my worry about losing the financial means to support my family—I am ashamed to say that I stayed in the position. I continued to do the administrative tasks assigned to me, to typeset the articles, provide basic copyediting, and to correspond with authors about their edits via email. Eventually, I read Timothy Jackson's response, which left me dumbfounded by it's disgusting and harmful rhetoric. Even after that, I feared to do anything other than grin and bear a job that I knew was harmful to UNT, the field of music theory, people of color, and basic human decency. For that cowardice, I am truly sorry.

Sincerely,

Levi Walls



28 Shares

[View previous comments...](#)



David Falterman

Levi, thank you for this courageous and vulnerable statement. Rest assured, you have

to me

Dear Dr. Jackson,

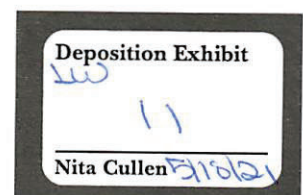
I attached the requested files. Ah, yes, I remember from my first semester at UNT that you were working on the late quartets (op. 131, to be specific). That was back when I barely knew what Schenkerian analysis was. Hard to believe it was only 4 years ago! Let's hope I come just as far in another 4 years.

I'd be interested in seeing your Beethoven work, as with anything. Studying Beethoven will always be important, even if I don't ever plan on presenting/publishing work on him. I always feel a little apprehension at doing Beethoven research. He's been done so much over the years (for good reason, to be sure, as he is without a doubt one of the greatest composers that ever lived). But still, I inwardly groan a little when I see paper after paper on Beethoven at conferences. I think you know what I mean, since you were sitting right next to me when I heard you say something to a similar effect in response to a Beethoven paper at TSMT 2018. But, I'm glad to see what you have to say since, as I said, it's very important to continue studying Beethoven. Something new and valuable might come out of it, and it would be an awful shame if Beethoven research stopped *entirely*.

For my own part, I have a few projects going for the next conference season. I once wrote a paper about finding a musical analogue to Transatlantic Modernism (the Imagist poets, plus the likes of T.S. Eliot and Gertrude Stein). I had noticed that documentaries on these figures used a mixture of classical-romantic era music and Coplandesque Americana, but I argued that it was the music of the second Viennese school that really mirrors the Transatlantic Modernist aesthetic/philosophical views. And it should be the job of a documentary to choose music that represents their subject's aesthetic/philosophical views, when that documentary is on an artist. So I'm reworking that paper for a few American literature conferences. Then, I've recently

67

JACKSON000067



started thinking about writing a proposal for upcoming theory/musicology conferences that compares formalism in music vs. formalism in literary theory. Confusingly, the two ideologies are complete opposites when it comes to matters of interpretation. One of our main formalist representatives is Peter Kivy, whose perspective is almost semiotically barren. On the other hand, the main representatives of formalism in literary theory are the New Critics and the Russian Formalists, who are extremely flexible in regards to semiotics. In part, the New Critics pushed Barthes' idea of the "death of the author," which I find indispensable to interpretation (and Kivy found distasteful). I think that the underlying reasons for this disparity between formalism in music and in literary theory will say something important about the ideological differences between the two fields. But that project is in its infancy, so we'll see what happens with it.

Ophelia is okay. She's getting so much smarter and her hand-eye coordination is improving a lot. If I put her on my lap at the piano, she hits the keys with interest, which is very good for a four-month-old! A surprising lack of change in the sleep department, though. But, at least I don't have to take care of her alone at night anymore (at least, for the foreseeable future) because my wife's work schedule changed to daytime shifts.

Regards,

Levi Walls

From: Timothy Jackson <shermanzelechin@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 9:53 AM
To: Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>
Subject: [EXT] Re: Updates on articles, websites, and printing.

...

[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)

3 Attachments

Timothy Jackson <shermanzelechin@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 23,
6:49 PM

to Levi

Dear Levi,

Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>

May 19,
2020, 10:01
AM

to me

Dear Dr. Jackson,

Thanks for your email, and the detailed graphs. Since musical setting is, itself, a translation of sorts, these pieces would seem to offer an especially interesting challenge (a Wellesz translation of Rilke's translation of E.B. Browning, like a game of "telephone"). Technically, there are four levels (or at least three and a half) to the process because Rilke didn't know English and was assisted by his hostess in Capri. If you haven't already, there are a few articles that you might find useful, especially in regards to the relationship between Rilke's and Browning's texts.

"Rilke's Translations of English, French, and Italian Sonnets" by Furst: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/4172561.pdf?refreqid=excelsior%3Ad54da7f70c99859abb26629bcb5c137>
and "Translating Desire: Elizabeth Barrett-Browning and Rilke's women in love" by Catling (although I couldn't manage to find this article, which appears in a German-language book called *Rilke und die Moderne*). <https://ueaeprints.uea.ac.uk/id/eprint/26337/> It seems like it would be useful if it can be tracked down. I'm unsure of the state of ILL during this shutdown.

Part of the Furst article mentions that, because Rilke changes the structure of the sonnets he translates, the resultant rhyme scheme "gains a musical and symbolical element" that wasn't necessarily there before (132). According to the author, this change is due in part to Rilke's alternating use of masculine and feminine rhymes, whereas Browning's rhymes are consistently masculine. I wonder if the translations set by Wellesz feature similar changes.

Ophelia is well for the most part. My wife works 6pm-6am three days a week, so I am on my own with her those nights. It can be pretty rough (because she cries more when Rebecca is gone) so I often go without sleep. But it's a labor of love. I think, all in all, I'm doing well in fatherhood.

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JACKSON000063

My biggest challenge, as I always thought it would be, is not to be too neglectful because of work. It's a delicate balance.

I'm currently studying for my related field quals, so I'm buried in English literature texts. I think more music theorists would do well to be more familiar with some of these literary theory texts. A few that I've committed to reading are unrepentantly intentionalist though, especially Hirsch's *Validity in Interpretation* (an ironic title, to be sure, because when our analyses are absolutely beholden to the supposed intentions of authors, we might as well throw out the possibility of interpretation). One of the novels I'm currently reading is *Romola*. Knowing your interest in George Eliot and Vasari's *Lives of the Artists*, it seems like a book you would appreciate.

This talk of English literature reminds me. Would you mind signing my degree plan? Just the "major professor" line near the bottom of the front page. You'll have to do it electronically, which should be straightforward using the "annotate" tool of whatever PDF program it opens in. I attached it. Let me know if it gives you trouble. Thanks!

Regards,

Levi Walls



Center for Schenkerian Studies — Research Assistant Position Description
(12.12.2019)

The position of RA for the Center for Schenkerian Studies is divided into two areas of responsibility: the RA (1) will serve as editor of the Journal of Schenkerian Studies (UNT Press) and (2) will facilitate research activity for the Center for Schenkerian Studies.

I. Editor, Journal of Schenkerian Studies

- Solicit articles, reviews, and other special contributions for each issue of the journal. Distribute submissions to the appropriate reviewers, ideally members of the editorial board, and correspond to authors regarding the status of their respective submissions. For manuscripts that are accepted for publications, work with authors during the revising process and create the layout of each issue using the software InDesign. This includes the typesetting of both complex illustrations and graphical voice-leading analyses. Ultimately, all articles for publication must adhere to the Journal of Schenkerian Studies style sheet.

- After creating the final proof, the editor will work with the staff at UNT Press to complete the last revisions, cosmetic changes, placement of advertisements, acknowledgements, etc. so that the PDF document can be sent out for publication. The editor should remain in communication with the advisory board throughout this process.

- Following the release of print copies, the editor distributes copies to both the authors, editorial board members, and advisory board, while maintain a current record of mailing addresses and other pertinent contact information. The recipients are often international, which requires more consultation with the UNT Mailing services and the College of Music budget office.

- As an ongoing routine, the editor checks the Schenkerian Studies email account, responds to inquiries, and distributes promotional materials at conferences, events, etc.

II. Other duties to the Center

- The RA helps maintain and edit the Center's websites, including uploading and editing material on webpages.

- Other tasks encompass type-setting examples for Journal articles, both music and Schenkerian graphs.

Brand, Benjamin

Thu 12/19/2019 3:31 PM

To: Slotlow, Stephen; Jackson, Timothy

Cc: Graf, Benjamin

Schenkerian Studies- RA job description.docx
17 KB

Thanks again for putting this together. I've made some very light editorial changes (e.g. changing references to TA to RA). Ben, could you please forward this on to Levy if you haven't done so already?

Best,

Benjamin

51

JACKSON000121



52

JACKSON000122

On Mar 14, 2020, at 10:00 PM, schenker <schenker@unt.edu> wrote:

Dear JSS authors and advisory board,

As we put the finishing touches on volume 12 of our journal, I ask all contributors to reply (not reply all) with the following items within the next few business days:

- 1) Signed and dated contributor agreement form (see attached)
- 2) Current mailing address (for the distribution of your print copy)
- 3) Short bio for the "contributors" section (only 2-4 sentences please)

Levi Walls has done excellent work on this volume and the journal will be in good

49

JACKSON000119

hands as he takes over sole editorship of the JSS. In my view, the additional content that we collected this winter following Ewell's SMT plenary makes a great addition to an already remarkable publication. Later this week, Levi will take on some additional responsibilities, so I will be keeping track of these forms and publisher information. All three items should be fairly simple to return, so thank you in advance for your prompt attention to these items.
Cheers to getting this to press!

Sincerely,

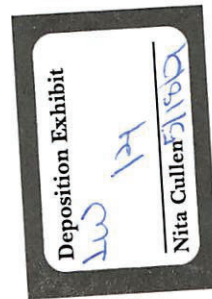
Ben Graf

On 20 March, Ben Graf wrote to Wiener:

Thank you Barry! I should note that I enjoyed reading your response to Ewell. I am so glad you could contribute to this volume.

Best,

Ben



Levi Walls
Assistant Editor, JSS

Mar 10, 2020, 2:07 AM
Jack Boss <jfboss@uoregon.edu>
to schenker, me
Hi Levi (and Tim). The response looks good. The only issue I have is that
Songwriters Guild of America (the copyright administrator for the Ann Ronell song)
has not yet responded to me with permission to reproduce the Tatum score
excerpt (it's been about a week). So we could get into trouble for reprinting 11
measures without getting permission. Do we want to risk that? I suppose it might
be possible to get around it by resetting the score (redoing it in Finale or Sibelius),
since there are a couple of transcriptions out there. Or we could leave out the
score and just print my graph.

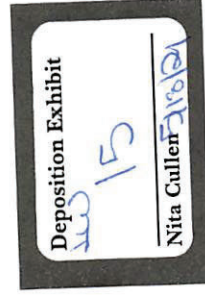
Jack Boss
Professor of Music Theory and Composition
Chair, SMT Publications Committee
School of Music and Dance
1225 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1225
email:

phone: 541-556-6139
fax: 541-346-0723

Tue, Mar 10, 2:19 AM
schenker <schenker@unt.edu>
to Jack, me
Hi again,
Sure. If you think resetting the score would be acceptable (I imagine it will), I
could do that and replace the image with our own. I'll send a new version in a bit.
Regards,
Levi Walls

Tue, Mar 10, 4:12 AM
schenker <schenker@unt.edu>
to Jack, me
Dear Jack,
Here is the updated version, with a custom transcription of the Tatum score.
Let me know if this looks alright. Thanks!
Regards,
Levi Walls

Mar 10, 2020, 9:20 AM
Timothy Jackson <shermanzelechin@gmail.com>
to Levi, Benjamin, Stephen, Jack



it to him and he confirmed that it looked good. But I will attach it for you if you'd like to see.

- Levi Walls

Timothy Jackson Mar 13, 2020, 6:04 PM

Yes, I should eyeball it once to see if there are any small issues.

Walls, Levi Mar 13, 2020, 6:05 PM

Sure thing. Thanks for the extra set of eyes!

From: Timothy Jackson <shermanzelechin@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday,

March 13, 2020 4:04 PM

Timothy Jackson Mar 13, 2020, 6:06 PM

Just between us, I like Pelligrin's response, which I find thoughtful and intelligent. I understand Clark's point, but she completely misconstrues and misunderstands Schenkerian analysis.

Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>

Mar 13, 2020, 6:26 PM

to me

I quite liked his as well. Rich and I discussed his response when I sent notes. I had suggested some minor rhetorical additions that better connects the defense of hierarchy to Ewell's ideas (in the middle, some time goes by without mentioning Ewell). But he expressed a discomfort toward pushing back too much against Ewell *specifically* because he didn't want his response to be misconstrued as racist. Of course, I said that I understood and it was entirely up to him. It would have been nice if he had included a refutation of Agawu's Schubert argument (as mentioned in Clark); but I couldn't have suggested that to him, because I would have been stacking the deck against Clark. And I'm meant to be impartial.

Yes, the idea that Schenkerian analysis inherently ignores parts of an analysis that don't fit into the fundamental structure is a severe misunderstanding. The focal point of many good graphs is how works *don't* adhere to that structure; if the goal was always simply "let's show how this piece expresses the *Ursatz*" (as many non-Schenkerian believe), such an analysis would most likely be unnuanced and boring.

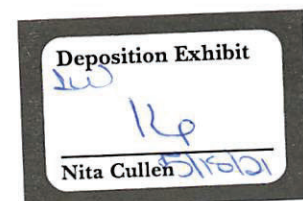
From: Timothy Jackson <shermanzelechin@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 4:06 PM

To: Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>

Subject: Re: [EXT] Pellegrin

Could you make one last addition to mine



Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>

Thu, Feb 13,
10:54 AM

to me, benjamingraf@unt.edu

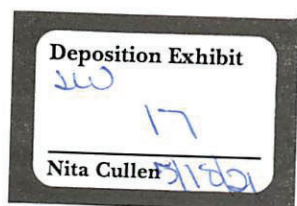
Dear Dr. Jackson (with Dr. Graf in copy; Dr. Slottow not copied because he asked to be recused),

Dr. Graf and I were wondering what your thoughts were concerning the submissions from Clark, Beaudoin, and Lett. As you may have seen, these responses are (at least) implicitly anti-Schenkerian. Despite disagreeing with much of what they have to say, Dr. Graf and I think it is important to publish these responses along with the others that we have received (Wiener, Pomeroy, Wen, Cadwallader, etc.). We wouldn't want the JSS's account of the debate to appear one-sided, and having a mixture of opinions will lend more credibility to those responses that we do agree with. Just want to check in with you before we proceed!

And thank you for all your time and effort in getting responses from prominent names in the field!

Regards,

Levi Walls



[CALL FOR PAPERS originally sent to the whole SMT list network on Dec. 17, 2019]

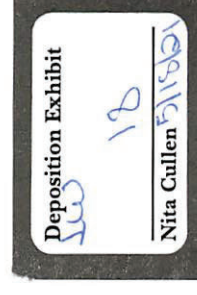
From: schenker
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2019 11:03:17 PM
To: smt-announce@lists.societymusictheory.org <smtannounce@lists.societymusictheory.org>
Subject: Journal of Schenkerian Studies CFP
Greetings,
Please find attached a CFP from the *Journal of Schenkerian Studies*, to be distributed as soon as possible. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks so much!
Regards,
Levi Walls
Assistant Editor, JSS

[Initial Efforts to send CFP through to the SMT list on Dec. 19, 2020]

schenker
Thu 12/19/2019 4:42 PM
To: Jackson, Timothy; Slottow, Stephen
Cc: Graf, Benjamin
JSS CFP _ Philip Ewell responses (1) (2).docx
17 KB
Hi all,
Dr. Graf and I are both having trouble getting this call through to the SMT list. Neither of our emails seem to be accepted. Could one of you please try with your email? Thanks!
Regards,
Levi Walls

[Journal of Schenkerian Studies vol. 12 (2019) Call for Papers]

The SMT plenary presentation given by Philip Ewell, "Music Theory's White Racial Frame," has inspired a good deal of debate within the theory community, especially regarding the possible relationship between Schenkerian methodology and the white racial frame (as suggested in the following quote from Ewell):
"The best example through which to examine our white frame is through Heinrich



Schenker, a fervent racist, whose racism undoubtedly influenced his music theory, yet it gets whitewashed for general consumption..... In his voluminous writings, Schenker often mentions white and black as modifiers for human races.... As with the inequality of races, Schenker believed in the inequality of tones. Here we begin to see how Schenker's racism pervaded his music theories. In short, neither racial classes, nor pitch classes, were equal in Schenker's theories. He uses the same language to express these beliefs...his sentiment is clear: blacks must be controlled by whites. Similarly, Schenker believed notes from the fundamental structure must control other notes."

As a journal dedicated to Schenkerian studies, we find it important to foster discussion on these issues. As part of volume 12, we invite interested parties to submit essay responses to Ewell's paper. The Journal of Schenkerian Studies takes no official stance on the issues addressed by Ewell, and we hope to publish a variety of thoughts and perspectives. Submissions must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Essays should be 1,000 to 3,000 words in length.
2. In order to leave sufficient time for editorial work, submissions must observe a strict deadline of January 13, 2020.

Any questions or concerns regarding submissions may be directed at the editors (Schenker@unt.edu)

Please refer to Ewell's abstract, as well as links to the presentation slides and video recording (listed below):

Music Theory's White Racial Frame

Philip Ewell (Hunter College and The Graduate Center, CUNY)

For over twenty years music theory has tried to diversify with respect to race, yet the field today remains remarkably white. SMT's most recent report on

demographics shows that 90.4 percent of full-time employees in music theory are white, while 93.9 percent of associate/full professors are. Aside from this literal whiteness, there exists a figurative and even more deep-seated whiteness in music theory. This is the whiteness—which manifests itself in the composers we

choose to represent our field inside and outside of the classroom, and in the theorists that we elevate to the top of our discipline—that one must practice, regardless of one's own personal racial identity, in order to call oneself a music theorist. Thus, for example, I am a black person, but I am also a practitioner of "white music theory." In this presentation, a critical-race examination of the field of music theory. I try to come to terms with music theory's whiteness, both literal and figurative. By drawing on the writings of sociologists Joe Feagin and Eduardo

Bonilla-Silva, among others, I posit that there exists a "white racial frame" (Feagin) in music theory that is structural and institutionalized. Further, I highlight certain racialized structures which "exist because they benefit members of the dominant white race" (Bonilla-Silva). Ultimately, I argue that only through a deframing and reframing of this white racial frame will we begin to see positive racial changes in music theory.

PowerPoint slides: <http://philipewell.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/SMTPlenary-Slides.pdf>

Video recording: <https://vimeo.com/372726003>

abstract if you want, but it is what he actually said about Schenker, Schenkerians, and Schenkerian methodology that matters and is the *raison d'être* for the call.

Therefore, we need to make the call draw attention to Ewell's conclusions in the paper he actually delivered, and not his abstract. Here is some language derived from Ewell's talk which might be used in the call: Schenker's concepts of scale degrees and dissonance resolution, and tonal hierarchy are inherently racist. (2:30) Study of Schenker's musical ideas has helped to legitimize harmful stereotypes about blacks and other people of color. (2:32) "Diversity" is a cynical strategy to reinforce inequality. (2:32) Reduce the study of Western music theory to two semesters (this would certainly solve a lot of problems, because then no one would even be able to attempt to study Schenker's ideas, which is apparently the point). (2:34) Schenker's followers (Forte, Oster, Rothgeb, Rothstein, and others) have suppressed the racist statements in translations of Schenker's publications in order to conceal his racist ideology.

THESE are the conclusions that Ewell explicitly draws about Schenker, Schenkerians, and Schenkerian methodology that are at the core of his argument, and the reason why the *Journal* is eliciting responses. If we do not make this point explicit, then we run the risk of appearing reactionary and racist ourselves!

This issue needs to be addressed BEFORE we are ready to go forward.
Best, Tim

From: Walls, Levi
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 1:00 PM
To: Bakulina, Ellen < >; Chung, Andrew < >; Cubero, Diego < >; Slottow, Stephen < >; Graf, Benjamin < >
Cc: Timothy Jackson < >
Subject: Framing for call for responses to Ewell paper

Dear Drs. Bakulina, Chung, and Cubero,
The SMT is preparing to send out a call for responses to the Ewell paper at SMT. We all thought it would be prudent to get input from other faculty members regarding the specific framing of the call. Please let us know if you have any thoughts on improving the language of the call, especially in regards to inclusiveness and impartiality.

The SMT paper given by Philip Ewell, "Music Theory's White Racial Frame," has inspired a good deal of debate within the Schenkerian community. As a journal dedicated to Schenkerian studies, we find it important to foster these discussions. As part of volume 12, we invite interested parties to submit essay responses to Ewell's paper. The *Journal of Schenkerian Studies* takes no official stance on the issues addressed by Ewell, and we hope to publish a variety of thoughts and

[Members of the Editorial Board Correspondence re. Call for Papers, Nov. 25- Dec. 1, 2019]

Members of the editorial board correspondence re. the wording of the call for responses. Also, see Jackson message acknowledging the need for hiring more black/brown/Latino/Asian male and female music theorists.

From: Timothy Jackson < >
Date: Fri, Nov 29, 2019 at 2:03 PM
Subject: Re: Framing for call for responses to Ewell paper
To: Walls, Levi < >
Cc: Slottow, Stephen < >; Cubero, Diego < >; Chung, Andrew < >; Bakulina, Ellen < >
Dear Colleagues,

I hate to be the fly in the ointment, but the call does not seem ready to me just yet. And here is why. Interestingly - and very significantly - in his abstract, Ewell says nothing at all about the talk's attack on 1) Schenker, 2) Schenkerians, and 3) Schenkerian methodology.

Indeed, given his abstract, most people would find nothing objectionable in it, and wonder why a call for responses would even be necessary. Most of us would agree that there are too few blacks and women in the field of music theory, and that it is desirable to try to recruit more.

But that is not the reason why the JSS is issuing this call for responses! The call still needs to make explicit *in some way* why JSS, which is focused on "Schenkerian Studies" as implied by its title, would need to "respond" to Ewell's remarks at the SMT at all, especially since the reason is not discernible in his abstract. We can include his

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perspectives. Submissions must adhere to the following guidelines:
Essays should be 1,000 to 3,000 words in length.
In order to leave sufficient time for editorial work, submissions must observe a strict deadline of January 13, 2019.
Any questions or concerns regarding submissions may be directed at the editors ().
Regards,
Levi Walls (with Drs. Jackson, Slottow, and Graf in copy)

From: "Chung, Andrew" < >
Date: Monday, November 25, 2019 at 1:07 PM
To: "Walls, Levi" < >; "Bakulina, Ellen" < >
< >; "Cubero, Diego" < >
Cc: Timothy Jackson < >; "Graf, Benjamin" < >
Subject: RE: Framing for call for responses to Ewell paper

Dear Levi + others,

I think it's great that JSS is looking to engage Ewell's SMT talk. What do you think about mentioning very briefly some of the content and context of Ewell's remarks vis-à-vis Schenker? As the CFP stands, it seems to presume that everyone knows what Ewell said, and what tendencies of Schenker's Ewell chose to talk about (most readers probably do understand both of these things). The thing to be careful about, of course, is not to implicitly encourage responses of one kind and discourage responses of another kind.

Cheers,

Dr. Chung

From: Slottow, Stephen < >
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 1:15 PM
To: Chung, Andrew < >; Walls, Levi < >; Bakulina, Ellen < >; Cubero, Diego < >
Cc: Timothy Jackson < >; Graf, Benjamin < >

Subject: Re: Framing for call for responses to Ewell paper
Good idea. One way this could be done is to reproduce Ewell's SMT abstract and link to the SMT reproduction of his slides and video of his talk, which is on both the SMT and his Hunter website. I'm not sure how long it'll stay on the SMT website.
-sps
Stephen Slottow

Associate Professor of Music Theory
University of North Texas

From: Bakulina, Ellen < >
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 11:32:30 AM
To: Slottow, Stephen < >; Walls, Levi < >; Chung, Andrew < >; Cubero, Diego < >
Cc: Timothy Jackson < >; Graf, Benjamin < >

Subject: Re: Framing for call for responses to Ewell paper
Oh, and change January 13, 2019 to 2020.
-EB

From: Bakulina, Ellen < >
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 1:22 PM
To: Slottow, Stephen < >; Walls, Levi < >; Chung, Andrew < >; Cubero, Diego < >
Cc: Timothy Jackson < >; Graf, Benjamin < >

Subject: Re: Framing for call for responses to Ewell paper

Yes, good idea to provide link to the recording of Ewell's talk. As far as I know, it will be available on the SMT website until January 15, which is after your January 13 deadline, so there is no problem here.

Could you specify that the paper was part of the plenary session? Right now, it looks like it was a regular SMT paper (which would probably produce less reverberation than a plenary one).

As for encouraging different kinds of responses, the CFP already says "variety of thoughts and perspectives." I think this is quite clear.

All best,

-EB

From: Walls, Levi < >
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 6:21 AM
To: Bakulina, Ellen < >; Slottow, Stephen < >; Chung, Andrew < >; Cubero, Diego < >
Cc: Timothy Jackson < >; Graf, Benjamin < >

Subject: Re: Framing for call for responses to Ewell paper

Hi all,
Thank you all very much for the input. Drs. Jackson, Slottow, and Graf, I'll draft a final version of the call and get it back to you around midday, then we can discuss how to proceed. We should be able to send it out today.
Regards,
Levi Walls

From: Walls, Levi < >
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 12:24 PM
To: Bakulina, Ellen < >; Slottow, Stephen >; Cubero, Diego < >
Cc: Timothy Jackson < >; Chung, Andrew < >; Graf, Benjamin < >
Subject: Re: Framing for call for responses to Ewell paper
Dear Drs. Jackson, Slottow, Graf, et al.,
I've attached a new version of the call. Let me know if it looks okay, or if there are any other issues that come to mind.
Dr. Bakulina, I believe that was the plan. Dr. Jackson also mentioned sending it to the Sibelius and Estonian academies. We'll have to confirm exactly how/where to send it out.
Regards,
Levi Walls

On Fri, Nov 29, 2019 at 12:55 PM Walls, Levi < > wrote:
Hi all,
Here is a new copy of the call with "Schenkerian community" changed to "theory community" and the January 13 deadline. How/where should we send it out? We previously discussed using the SMT list and possible other places (Estonian and Sibelius academies).
Regards,
Levi Walls

Journal of Schenkerian Studies vol. 12 (2019) Call for Papers
The SMT plenary presentation given by Philip Ewell, "Music Theory's White Racial Frame," has inspired a good deal of debate within the Schenkerian community. As a journal dedicated to Schenkerian studies, we find it important to foster these discussions. As part of volume 12, we invite interested parties to submit essay responses to Ewell's paper. The *Journal of Schenkerian Studies* takes no official stance on the issues addressed by Ewell, and we hope to publish a variety of thoughts and perspectives. Submissions must adhere to the following guidelines: Essays should be 1,000 to 3,000 words in length.
In order to leave sufficient time for editorial work, submissions must observe a strict deadline of January 13, 2020.

Any questions or concerns regarding submissions may be directed at the editors (>).

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Please refer to Ewell's abstract, as well as links to the presentation slides and video recording (listed below):

On Nov 26, 2019, at 12:39 PM, Bakulina, Ellen < > wrote:
Looks good to me. Thanks for asking for our opinions!
-EB

From: Cubero, Diego < >
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 2:00 PM
To: Bakulina, Ellen < >
Cc: Walls, Levi < >; Slottow, Stephen >; Chung, Andrew < >; Graf, Benjamin < >; Timothy Jackson < >
Subject: Re: Framing for call for responses to Ewell paper
Dear Levi and all,
The call looks good. I would make the two following suggestions:
1. There is a passage that reads: "We invite interested parties to submit essay responses to Ewell's paper." I would change it to: "We invite responses to Ewell's paper."
2. I do not like the phrase "Schenkerian community." It is quite exclusive. Think of a way to reword this sentence. I will, too.
2. Extend the deadline at least to February 1st. A month and a half is a pretty short turn around, especially considering that it is the holidays.
Best,
Diego

From: "Graf, Benjamin" < >
Date: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 at 9:44 AM
To: "Cubero, Diego" < >; "Bakulina, Ellen" < >
Cc: "Walls, Levi" < >; "Slottow, Stephen" >; "Chung, Andrew" < >
Timothy Jackson < >
Subject: Re: Framing for call for responses to Ewell paper
Dear Diego and all,
I completely agree with point #2, which is now changed to "theory community" (thank you Levi).

As to the deadline-- from an editor's perspective, we really cannot delay the submissions further. There is quite a bit of work that must be done after the submissions come in. For example, the following timeline would be a fair estimate:

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Feb 1: collect submissions
Feb 15: editing submissions
Feb 27: revisions complete
March 8: add front/back matter, ads, sign and collect contributor agreement forms
March 15: Karen at UNT Press reads final PDF
March 25: document sent to printers
April/May: we get print copies

Again, from an editor's perspective, it would be best to not delay further. The responses should not be very long, so I hope that we can stick to January 13th.

Best,

Ben

Benjamin Graf, Ph.D.

University of North Texas

Music History, Theory and Ethnomusicology

Office: MU215

From: Slotow, Stephen < >
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 10:56 AM
To: Graf, Benjamin < >; Cubero, Diego
< >; Bakulina, Ellen < >
Cc: Walls, Levi < >; Chung, Andrew
< >; Timothy Jackson < >
Subject: Re: Framing for call for responses to Ewell paper
In that case, it may be well to backdate submissions to—say, November 1st, 2019. That way we'll have them before the call is sent out, which would be convenient for all concerned, I should think. This would create an alternative time line, which we could utilize as needed.

-sps

Stephen Slotow

Associate Professor of Music Theory

University of North Texas

Response to Ewell

Inbo
x

Timothy Jackson <shermanzelechin@gmail.com>

Tue, Nov 19,
2019, 1:33 PM

to Levi

Dear Levi,

It occurred to me that it might be appropriate for the *Journal* to solicit responses to Ewell from a number prominent Schenkerians - if they would be willing to reply - and publish a small collection. What do you think of this idea?

In my view, some of Ewell's comments about Schenker are an example of intellectual dishonesty. I believe that this contention should be - politely - proven, and a "Response" to be justified and appropriate.

The racist passages from Schenker's letters and diary Ewell cited from "Schenker documents on line" were unknown to those scholars he critiques for sanitizing Schenker's published writings. To the point, these comments from SDO were not known by Forte, Rothstein, Rothgeb, and others because they were *inaccessible*, buried in the letters and diary. So, Ewell's critique of these scholars is unfair. But Ewell goes further and pretends that *racist* comments were excised by them from Schenker's publications, while the passages moved into appendices were not racist in content like these items cited from SDO. It is a cheap shot.

In fact, Schenker's strongest vituperation was *never* toward Blacks, but the French, who are and were, especially at that time, mostly White!, and primarily during and after WW I. There are sustained passages in Schenker's diary against the "White" French that prefigure Nazi anti-Semitic propaganda in their virulence.

Schenker's Eurocentrism - perhaps better, German-centrism - was by no means exceptional; it was also common at that time in European culture. It was based on many factors, Kant and German philosophy being one of them.

I read most of Schenker's 5600-page diary in the original before it was on SDO, and the comments Ewell cites about Blacks in particular are extremely rare and marginal at best. That does not excuse them; however, these views were so universal in the early 20th century, and by no means exceptional, that I would have been surprised if Schenker did *not* think in that way. What WAS noteworthy in Schenker was his extreme

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"Völkisch" German Nationalism, and especially his sustained demonization of the French. So, if Schenker was the virulent anti-people-of-color that Ewell makes him out to be, why then did he pick so much on the (White) French, reserving for them his most hateful spleen? His comment about Black French soldiers is taken out context; it is part-and-parcel of his tirade against everything French, and mostly *White* French.

Part - but not all - of the "dark" side of Schenker's personality was well known to his students and colleagues. Again, the diary and letters on SDO were still sleeping in the archives. However, I think that Schachter told me, for example, that Jonas studied for one year with Schenker when he was 19, but then left him for Weisse because he just could not stand Schenker's extremism.

A topic that comes up in different contexts in Schenker's diary is racism in the context of his and his wife's Jewishness - something that Ewell ignores - and the problem of anti-Semitism. As a Jew himself and as the target of racism, Schenker was keenly aware of both anti-Semitism and racism, and he became increasingly so as the Nazis assumed power in neighboring Germany; yet as the outside commentators on Ewell pointed out, he failed to mention even once Schenker's Jewishness, and that of most of his students, and what this meant, and this lacuna is self-serving. As Schachter pointed out years ago in a talk about Schenker that he gave in Tallinn, Schenker was not a fan of Hitler. This fact reveals that Schenker's views changed and evolved over time, and, especially in response to the rise of Nazism and anti-Semitism in Germany - and also Austria - in the late 1920s and early 1930s Schenker began to sober up.

Ewell's thesis that the practice of Schenkerian analysis cannot be divorced from Schenker's political theory means that the approach must be inherently anti-French, although Ewell fails to point this out, and none of the Schenkerians seem to have noticed it. Or, perhaps, following upon Ewell's conspiracy theory, they do know but are hiding it. Does this undercut our work on Berlioz, Mehul, and other French composers?

At some point I will send more the annotated score of the Saint John Passion.

With best wishes, Tim

Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>

Tue, Nov 19,
2019, 3:16 PM

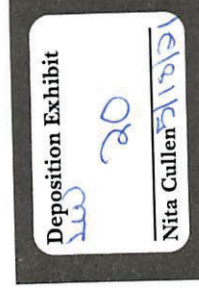
to me

Dear Dr. Jackson,

I agree that a response in the JSS would be very appropriate. It would be nice to have it for the upcoming issue, although it is very forthcoming (around mid-December).

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A response in issue 13 would of course be quite late. Did you have any particular schenkerians in mind? Dr. Graf and I can discuss some candidates tomorrow at our weekly meeting and get requests out as early as tomorrow evening. Perhaps we should also set a page limit for each respondent, though we have room in the upcoming issue, so I don't think there's any need to be particularly restrictive.

Regards,

Levi Walls

Meeting

Inbox

Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>

Fri, Nov 15, 2019, 10:18 AM

to me

Dear Dr. Jackson,

Hope you are well! When would you like to get together to talk about Bach? Unfortunately, I haven't had any time to devote to Berlioz lately, as I've been swamped with classes and private teaching. But I would be happy to discuss the Passion in more detail. Of course, you've dedicated considerably more time to it than I have but I can surely follow you and share any thoughts/questions! At the moment, I can't leave Denton Thursday-Sunday because my wife takes the car to work all day. But I can travel Monday-Wednesday, or meet on campus any day.

Regards,

Levi

Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>

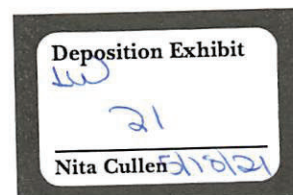
Fri, Nov 15, 2019, 10:40 AM

to me

I would also be very interested in discussing a particular Schenker paper from SMT. You've likely heard about it, as it caused quite a stir. I was very ambivalent about it because it suggested that analysis that utilizes levels of hierarchy is inherently racist, which strikes me as naive. Reinhold Brinkmann made a very similar claim about Lorenz, saying that his desire to have every part of a piece serve some structural whole was totalitarian (and obviously linking that idea to his political beliefs).

- Levi Walls

From: Walls, Levi
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 8:18 AM
To: Timothy Jackson <schermanzelechin@gmail.com>



Walls, Levi <LeviWalls@my.unt.edu>

Mon, Nov 18,
2019, 9:41 AM

to me

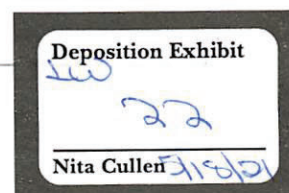
Dear Dr. Jackson,

Thank you, we're very excited about the baby. The due date is March 17, so still a little ways to go.

Yes, the paper's willful ignorance of Schenker's Jewish identity is indeed troubling. That seems to mark it as implicitly antisemitic, at the very least. I think that, had he limited his criticisms to Schenker the man, it would have been slightly less problematic. But his claim that the entire theoretical world view—and by extension those who helped spread it—is racist becomes very problematic when we consider the intimate connection between schenkerian analysis and the Jewish identity. I think that it is possible to address biases in Schenker studies (and academia in general) and advocate for increased transparency without demonizing an entire methodology (especially one with strong Jewish roots). Ewell's talk certainly failed in that regard.

Regards,

Levi



Graf, Benjamin <Benjamin.Graf@unt.edu>

Mon, Apr 22,
2019, 9:50 AM

to me, Stephen, Benjamin

Tim, Stephen, and Benjamin,

I wrote to Levi and he already responded; he has accepted the position. I am sure he will thrive in the in his new role and I look forward to mentoring him starting in August/September!

Best,
Ben

Benjamin Graf, Ph.D.

University of North Texas

Music History, Theory and Ethnomusicology

