

2026 SCSMT Program

Friday, 20 March		
8:00 a.m.	Registration & breakfast	
8:45 a.m.	Opening remarks Clare Eng	
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	20th Century Composers	Theories of Consonance, Transformation, and Motivation
9:00 – 9:30 a.m.	William Alwyn's (Semi)tonal Semitones: Qualia Emergence in the Symphony No. 1 (1949) Ryan Krell, University of Cincinnati	A Quantum-Informed Theory of Musical Consonance Robert Sivy, University of Tennessee
9:30 – 10:00 a.m.	From Beyond the Grave of Tonality: A Music Cognition Oriented Analysis of Alfred Schnittke's "Requiem" (1975) Lilly Korkontzelos, Michigan State University	Keyboard Distance: An Analytical Tool for Bridging Transformational Theory and Embodied Performance in Piano Music Zekai Liu, Eastman School of Music
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Fusion and Articulation as Timbral Tools: Insights from Boulez's Notations Reed Mullican, Indiana University	Self Determination and Student Motivation in Music Theory and Aural Skills Angela Ripley, Texas A&M University
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	Break	

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Periods, Waltzes, and the Andalusian Cadence	Noise, Anti-Muzak, and the Beat
10:45 – 11:15 a.m.	Bach's 8-Measure Parallel Periods and Their Structural Consequences Christopher Brody, University of Louisville	Well-Worn Grooves: Selective Attention, Boredom, and the Musical Rewards of Excessive Familiarity Ryan Galik, Eastman School of Music
11:15 – 11:45 a.m.	Beyond the Classical Period: Thematic Organization in Nineteenth-Century Waltzes Tanja Knezevic, University of North Texas	The Virtual Plaza Welcomes You: Mallsoft as Post-Fordist Anti-Muzak Tyler Osborne, University of Louisville
11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Rosalía's Strategic and Expressive Use of the Andalusian Cadence Schema David Heinsen, Miami University	A Corpus-Assisted Study on the Harmonic Transitions and Formal Functions of Beat-Switches in Rap, 1994-2025 Aaron D. Zorilla, Independent Scholar
12:15 – 2 p.m.	Lunch break	
2: 00 – 3:00 p.m.	Ludomusicology: Rhythms and Hauntings	Forming Haydn
2:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Listening to Rhythm Game Charts Marcos Acevedo-Arús, University of Texas	Form as Topic? Reframing Formal Deformation in Haydn's Piano Trio in Eb Major, Hob. XV:30 Joseph Grunkenmeyer, Indiana University
2:30-3:00pm	"Hey, Listen!" Is That A Ghost?: Musical Spectres and Haunting in <i>The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild</i> (2017) and <i>Tears of the Kingdom</i> (2023) Luis Matos-Tovar, Florida State University	Micro-Syntactic Uniformity in Haydn's Keyboard Minuets: Form, Schemata, and Cadential Design Armin Akhavian, Florida State University
3 – 3:15 p.m.	Break	

3:15 – 4 p.m.	Transformations and Pedagogic Alternatives	Auralia workshop/presentation Julia Alford
3:15 – 3:30 p.m.	Piano Keyboard (Mod-14) Voice-Leading Spaces Alexander Shannon, Indiana University	
3:30 – 3:45 p.m.	Geometric Representation of Rhythmic Transformations in <i>A Dance of Fire and Ice</i> Drake Eshleman, Indiana University	
3:45 – 4 p.m.	The Case Against Universal Graduate Theory Review: Alternatives to Remediation and Theory Placement Exams Jeremy Orosz, University of Memphis	
4 – 6 p.m.	Workshop: How We Get Into Intercultural Analysis and How to Get Out From Under Nancy Yunhwa Rao	

Saturday, 21 March		
8:00 a.m.	Rising Software breakfast	
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Compositional Concerns	Bluegrass, Dollywood, and a Crooked Country Chorus
9:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Hearing Compositional Effort in Jean Mouton's <i>Nesciens Mater</i> Robert Hamilton, Eastman School of Music	"If it don't hurt, it ain't bluegrass": Efficiency versus Strain in Bluegrass Culture and Technique Elizabeth Ross, University of Cincinnati
9:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Examining Visual Art as an Aid to the Compositional Process: An Intermodal Approach Keaton Marek, University of Georgia	Dollywood Harmony: Tonal Thrill Rides in Dolly Parton's Heartsong Film Ryan Lindveit, University of Tennessee
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	"From Pentatonic Heptachords to Church Modes: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of Sun Huo's <i>Raised Pearl Curtain</i> Yi Dong, University of Cincinnati	Tight-Verse/Loose-Chorus: Country's Crooked Chorus Samantha Carlock, Indiana University
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	Break	
10:45 – 11:15 a.m.	Business meeting Clare Eng	
11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Keynote Lecture Nancy Yunhwa Rao	