

Curriculum Vitae

Russell Christopher Rodríguez
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EDUCATION

- 2006 Ph.D. Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz. Wrote my dissertation, “Cultural Production, Legitimation, and the Politics of Aesthetics: Mariachi Transmission, Practice, and Performance in the United States,” under the mentorship of Dr. Olga Nájera-Ramírez
- 1996 M.A. Latin American Studies Program, Stanford University
- 1994 B.S. Anthropology, Santa Clara University

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2008 & 2007 The University of California President Postdoctoral Fellowship – Mentor George Lipsitz at University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2005 AAA Minority Dissertation Fellowship
- 2005 University of California, Santa Cruz President Dissertation Fellowship
- 2005 University of California, Santa Cruz Anthropology Travel Award (Fall).
- 2002 The University of California Consortium on Mexico and the United States, UC-MEXUS Dissertation Research Grant
- 1999 University of California, Santa Cruz Graduate Research Mentorship Program
- 1999 University of California, Santa Cruz Chicano Latino Research Center Summer Grant Award
- 1999 University of California, Santa Cruz Anthropology Travel Award (Summer)
- 1998 University of California, Santa Cruz Cota-Robles Fellowship
- 1979 National Endowment for the Arts - Folk Arts Apprenticeship Grant

PUBLICATIONS

- Manuscript forthcoming. *Mariachi: Performing the Soundscape of Greater Mexico*. Jackson: University of Mississippi Press. Part of the Folklore Studies in a Multicultural World Series.
- Forthcoming with George Lipsitz “He Shot the Sheriff, But He Did Not Shoot the Deputy: Why Gregorio Cortez Matters Today.” *Journal of American Folklore*. Special edition on Américo Paredes, ed. John McDowell.
- Forthcoming “Chicano Music,” in *The Continuum Encyclopedia of Popular Music of the World: Part 3- Genres: North America*. Eds. John Shepherd, David Horn, Dave Laing. London: Continuum.
- 2010 “Review” of *Sounds of the Nation: Music, Culture, and Ideas in Post-Revolutionary Mexico* by Alejandro L. Madrid, *Journal of Popular Music Studies*, Volume 22, Issue 1, Pages 119–122.

- 2010 “Politics of Aesthetics: Mariachi Music in the United States.” *Inside the Latin@ Experience: A Latino Studies Anthology*. Ed. Norma Cantú and Maria Fránquiz. New York: Palgrave.
- 2009 “Folklórico in the United States: Cultural Preservation and Disillusion,” in *Dancing Across Borders: Danzas y Bailes Mexicanos*. Ed. Olga Nájera-Ramírez, Norma Cantu, and Brenda Romero, Chicago: University of Illinois Press.
- 2005 “Mariachi Music,” in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Latinos and Latinas in the United States*. Ed. by Deena Gonzáles and Suzanne Oboler, New York: Oxford Press.
- 2004 “Viva Mi Tierra Caliente—Video Review,” in *Ethnomusicology*, Vol. 48, No. 1, Winter.

SELECTED RECORDING PRODUCTIONS

- 2010 *La Danza Escenica: El Sello de Rafael Zamarripa*. Associate producer, musical director, and sound design for this film documentary on *folklórico* dance in Mexico and the United States produced by Olga Nájera-Ramírez.
- 2005 *Rolas de Aztlán: Songs of the Chicano Movement*. Compiled, annotated, and produced this recording with Estevan César Azcona. Washington DC: Smithsonian Folkways Recordings.
- 2005 *They Shoot Mexicans, Don't They?* Composer, arranger, musician, and co-producer as a member of the Ghetto Fivetet. Los Angeles: About Productions.
- 2002 *Raíces Latinas: Smithsonian Folkways Latino Roots Collection*. Associate Producer. Washington DC: Smithsonian Folkways Recordings.
- 1999 *Radio Chón*. Premier release for Chicano ensemble Los Otros. Composer, arranger, and musician. San Francisco: Son del Barrio Music.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Chicana/o and Latina/o studies, cultural anthropology, Mexican and Chicana/o cultural expression and production, popular culture, performance and aesthetics, anthropology of music, transnational networks, Greater Mexico

LANGUAGES

English and Spanish

TEACHING AND WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2010 Lecturer, “Chicana/o Culture,” Ethnic Studies, San José City College (Spring Semester).
- 2009-10 Lecturer, “Mexican Folk Dance,” Dance Department, San José City College (Fall and Spring Semester).
- 2007-09 The University of California President Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara.
- 2007 Instructor, “Culture and Society,” Latin American and Latino Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz (Spring Quarter).

- 2007 Instructor, “Chicanos and Social Change,” Community Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz (Winter Quarter).
- 2006 Instructor, “Mexican American History,” Evergreen Community College, San José, California (Fall Semester).
- 2004 Teaching Assistant, “Chicanos and Social Change,” for Dr. Larry Trujillo in Community Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz (Winter Quarter).
- 2004 Co-Curator, Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage American Festival, Nuestra Musica: Music in Latino Culture Program. April 5 – July 11.
- 2003 Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz (Fall Quarter).
- 2001 Instructor, “Mexican Music in Mexico and in the United States,” Latin American and Latino Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz (Fall Quarter).
- 2001 Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz (Spring Quarter).
- 2001 Teaching Assistant “Introduction to Cultural Anthropology” for Dr. Anna Tsing, Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz (Winter Quarter).
- 1998 Instructor, “Chicana/Chicano Community,” Ethnic Studies, Santa Clara University (Winter Quarter).
- 1997 Instructor, “Introduction to Chicana/Chicano Studies,” Ethnic Studies, Santa Clara University (Fall Quarter).
- 1997 Instructor, “Mexican American Culture,” Social Science, San José City College (Spring Semester).
- 1996-01 Founder and Instructor, “Mariachi Ensemble,” Music, Stanford University.
- 1996-97 Coordinator and Instructor, the Mariachi Youth Program for the Mexican Heritage Corporation of San José.
- 1992-95 “Mariachi Ensemble” contracted by Jonathon Clark for the department of Improvisational Music, San José State University.

SELECTED PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- 2010 “Folklórico in the United States: Cultural Preservation and Disillusion,” presented chapter from book *Dancing Across Borders*, and video documentary *La Danza Escenica: El Sello de Rafael Zamarripa*, at the Latino Book and Family Festival, Los Angeles, October 9.
- 2009 “Is That Mariachi Singing in English?: Significant Contributions by Chicana/os to Mariachi Music,” delivered at the Society of Ethnomusicology (SEM) annual meeting, Mexico City, D.F., Mexico (November).
- 2009 “El Son Jarocho en California □ *Taller : Encuentro : Fandango*,” developed for the Galería de la Raza, San Francisco, June 13.
- 2008 “Fandanguando con Jarocho/os y Chicana/os: Transnational Cultural Production,” chaired and delivered for an invited session Performance, Memory, and Production in Transnational Expressive Culture, sponsored by the Association for Latina and

- Latino Anthropologists, at the American Anthropological Association (AAA), annual meeting, San Francisco, California (November).
- 2008 “Mariachi Sound and Sentimiento: Discourse from Below,” invited presentation for the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, (May 21).
- 2008 “Ballet Folklorico in the United States: Tradition and Disillusion,” delivered at the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS), Austin, Texas (April).
- 2007 “Musical Tagging: Cultural Indexing in Hybrid Musical Forms,” delivered at the American Anthropological Association (AAA), San José, California (November).
- 2007 “Multicultural Sounding or Sonoric Stereotyping?,” delivered at the annual National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS), San José, California (April).
- 2007 “Transnational Dialogues: Intercambios Jarocho/os y Chicana/os,” a position paper for a roundtable discussion (Tradition and Innovation of the Son in California: A View from the Stage), delivered at The Mexican Son: Ethnic Roots and Transborder Communities conference, University of California, Riverside (February).
- 2006 “For the Love or the Money: Ideological Approaches to Mariachi Music,” delivered at the American Anthropological Association (AAA), San José, California (November).
- 2006 “Sound y sentimiento: reclamando autoridad en la practica del mariachi,” delivered in Spanish at the annual National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS) as part of the Transnational Mexicanidades: Performance, Dialogue, and Representation panel, Guadalajara, Jalisco Mexico (June).
- 2006 “Transnational Dialogues: Intercambios Jarocho/os y Chicana/os,” delivered at the annual meeting for the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), as part of the Transnational Popular Cultures in the Americas panel, San Juan, Puerto Rico, (March).
- 2005 Panelist for the second seminar in the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage series Cultural Heritage: Theory in Policy and Practice “Performing Cultural Heritage” (June).
- 2004 “Sound and Sentimiento: Claiming Authority Within the Practice of Mariachi Music,” delivered at the annual meeting for the Society of Ethnomusicology (SEM), Tucson, Arizona, (November).
- 2004 “Transnational Dialogues: Son Jarocho, A Veracruz-California Connection,” delivered at the Chicano Music Symposium, University of California, Los Angeles, April.
- 2003 “Ballet Folklórico: A United States Tradition,” delivered at the American Folklore Society (AFS) annual meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico, (October).
- 2001 “The Son Mexicano,” lecture presentation with Dr. Daniel Sheehy, at the Casa Mexicano (Mexican Embassy), Washington, DC, (August).
- 2000 “The East LA Groove: A Dialogue Towards a Multiethnic Identity?” delivered at the American Anthropological Association (AAA), San Francisco, CA,

- (November).
- 1999 “Mariachi Music: A Historical Perspective of Sound and Ensemble,” lecture for the Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, professor Dr. Donald Brenneis, at University of California, Santa Cruz, (February).
- 1997 “Echando La Polilla: Politics and Authority of Contemporary Mariachi Musicians,” delivered at The Making and Remaking of Mexico conference at Stanford University, Stanford, CA, (November).
- 1997 “The Poetics and Politics of the Contemporary Mariachi,” delivered at the Rhythms of Culture: Dancing To Las Americas conference on Latin American music, at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, (March).
- 1996 “Mariachi: Music of the Marginalized,” delivered for Ethnic Studies Program and Anthropology/Sociology Department conjunction lecture series, at Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA, (March).
- 1995 “A Historical View of Chicano Movement Music,” delivered at the annual meeting of the National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS), Spokane, Washington, (March).

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- 2010, 2009, 2005. June, “Presenter” for the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage annual American Festival, for the *Mexico* program (2010). *Las Américas: Un mundo musical-Music in Latino Culture* program (2009 and 2005).
- 2008 Fall, “Grant Review Panel” for the Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA). As part of a panel of five art scholars, practitioners, and curators we reviewed and proposed a ranking for ninety grant proposals from traditional art organizations, ensembles, and individual artists residing and working within California.
- 2001 Summer, “Research Fellow” for the Smithsonian Institute Folkways Recordings under the direction of Dr. Daniel Sheehy. I was contracted to listen and evaluate the existing Latino recordings of the Folkways archives and propose possible directions for production and distribution. I also assisted in grant development.
- 1997 Winter and Spring, “Researcher” for the Cultural Citizenship Project at Stanford University led by Dr. Renato I. Rosaldo. This was an in-depth research project studying various cultural, political, and social developments in the Latino communities of the San José, California area. My contribution to the project was mapping out the different performance and social venues in where Mexican and Mexican American musicians performed.

CURRENT AFFILIATIONS

- American Anthropological Association (AAA)
Society of Ethnomusicology (SEM)
Transnational Popular Culture Research Cluster (at UCSC)

School of Unlimited Learning (SOUL)—Seminar Group (at UCSB)

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

I am an accomplished musician and dancer specializing in performance of huasteca, jarocho, mariachi, and other traditional music styles of Mexico. I have performed at various folk festivals throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico, instructed at Mariachi Festivals throughout the US Southwest, and worked in San José and Los Angeles, CA, Austin, TX, Washington, DC, Mexico City and Guadalajara, Mexico, and San Juan, Puerto Rico as a professional musician performing in most all venues. In addition to performing I have done an extensive amount of studio recordings as well as working as a musician and musical director for theater groups like the San José Repertory Theater and El Teatro Campesino. I have also worked on projects with East LA musicians from the groups Ozomatli and Quetzal, and was a founding member of the Chicano ensemble Los Otros. Cesar Rosas of Los Lobos produced our first CD recording “Radio Chon” that came out in the summer of 1999. My original composition from this CD “Son del Barrio” is featured in the movie “Price of Glory.”