

**Elad Sobol**  
EladSobol@pitt.edu

**Education:**

**PhD Jazz Studies** **2024-present**  
University of Pittsburgh

**Teaching Credential, Secondary Music Education** **2008-2010**  
San Jose State University

**BA Music** **2006**  
University of California, Santa Cruz

**Research Interests:**

Jazz, Ethnomusicology, Popular Music, BAM, global manifestations and history thereof  
China/East Asia - globalization of Western popular music, regional music practices  
Musicultural identity, bimusicality, multiculturalism, insider/outsider complexities  
Religious/spiritual/philosophical/cultural meanings of sound  
Public musicology, music education

**Research Experience/Publications:**

- State of jazz research since 2013 (dissertations and journal publications data and analysis), group project for jazz studies seminar SP 2025, Dr. AJ Johnson.
- [“Jet-Lagged Jazz History: Teaching on The Other Side of the World” Jazz Education in Research & Practice](#), Vol. 6, Indiana University Press, January 2025.
- Jazz Education in Research & Practice, peer review, January 2025.
- [Sam Rivers archives](#), processing materials and exhibit in Pitt Student Union, University of Pittsburgh Library Special Collections, supervisors Kathryn Miller-Haines and Dr. Kira Dralle, Fall 2024.
- Forthcoming collaborative research paper on the challenges of archival work and public exhibits
- [Jazz Education Network Research Interest Group \(JENRing\)](#), [mentorship](#) with Dr. Tish Oney, Aug ‘23
- Collaboration with Dr. Andrew Field, Duke University Kunshan, “In Search of The Chengdu Sound,” Conference: China’s Music Scenes (in progress)
- Independent research project: “Modern Jazz, Created in Modern China: Four Modes of Globalization in a New Post-COVID Era” (unpublished)
- MOOC 2021 “The Blues,” 2022 “The Swing Era” (see Other Published Works)

**Work Experience:**

**Assistant Professor of Music** **2015-2024**  
[Sichuan Conservatory, Popular Music Academy, Jazz Department](#)  
Pop Music Analysis, Jazz History, Jazz Theory, Improvisation, Jazz Ensembles, Jazz Appreciation, Basic Music Theory, Jazz Theory, Basic Harmony, Sight-Reading & Ear Training, A-Capella Ensemble, Basic Piano, Swing Dancing, Assistant Conductor – Jazz Big Band.

**TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) Teacher** **2013-2015**  
*Peace Corps China, Chongqing University of Science & Technology*  
Oral English, Business English, English Literature, Contemporary Education Methods, Secondary Projects: English Corner, Salsa Dancing  
Summer Project: Primary Teacher Training in Pengshui

**Private Instrumental Music Teacher** 2010-2013  
*Music School To-Go, self-employed*  
Saxophone, guitar, drums, piano, children and adults

**Public Music School Intern** 2008-2010  
*James Lick High School, Shoreline Middle School, Santa Cruz High School*  
[Wind ensemble](#), [jazz band](#), group piano, group guitar, choir

**Music Director** 2007  
*Boys & Girls Club*  
Instrumental Group & Individual Lessons, music appreciation, studio production

**Teacher Assistant** 2006  
*University of California, Santa Cruz*  
Music Theory I: ear training and piano labs, grading homework & exams  
Jazz Theory I: transcription warm-ups, grading homework & exams

### **Publications Service:**

- JENR Online Webinar team, February 2025 to present
- Society of Ethnomusicology, Rising Voices Graduate Student Journal, Associate Editor, March 2025 to present

### **Other Published Works:**

- JENR Online Webinar, August 2025, *Jet-Lagged Jazz History: Teaching on the Other Side of the World*, presentation on how to address diversity issues in the classroom

- [MOOC \(Massive Online Open Course\) 2022: The Swing Era](#), published on Zhihuishu (Knowledge Tree, an online educational platform) in collaboration with Sichuan Music Conservatory Jazz Department. All outline, post-production, presenting and consulting

- [MOOC \(Massive Online Open Course\) 2021: Blues](#)  
Published on Zhihuishu in collaboration with Sichuan Music Conservatory Jazz Department  
Presented two full episodes – [RnB](#); Rock – Relationships, Elements & History

-Riverside Jazz Club Jazz Lifestyle Articles Series:  
“Jazz & Popular Music” [Part 1 \(09/21\)](#), [Part 2 \(01/22\)](#), [Part 3 \(02/22\)](#) “[Women in Jazz](#)” 03/22  
Editor-in-chief: editing & consulting on numerous articles by other jazz educators.

### **Foreign language ability:**

Mandarin: fluent      Hebrew: fluent      Spanish: intermediate

### **Professional Presentations (In Chengdu unless otherwise noted):**

05/2025 “Sino-Futurist Gazes Toward Utopia: Interpellating Jazz Musicians and the Soft Power of Documentaries” Cultural Studies Association Conference, Los Angeles  
[12/2022 TEDx Chengdu “Expression & Dancing with the Rules of Music”](#)  
07/2023 “Introduction to Jazz Music” Momo Music Cultural Center  
05/2023 “History of Vinyl Records” Organized by Streaming Records, Sponsored by Jiuzhoujiangzhu Real Estate & BMW  
05/2023, 05/2021 “Salsa Music: History, Instrumentation, Form, Groove, Musicality – Everything Dancers Should Know” Tuoniao Salsa Studio, Beijing

05/2022 Chengdu Cultural Museum “Introduction to Jazz Music” & lecture and live performance demo with full band  
 06/2021 “Swing Music History & Musical Elements” 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Chengdu Swing Festival  
 05/2021, 10/2020 “Salsa Music: History, Instrumentation, Form, Groove, Musicality – Everything Dancers Should Know” Amigo Salsa Dance Studio  
 03/2021 “Chick Corea Tribute,” Streaming Records *Corner Live* Series, Sponsored by BMW  
 01/2021 “Introduction to Jazz Music” Dystopia Music  
 10/2020 “Jazz in China” CH8 Livehouse, Memory Park  
 09/2020 “Introduction to Jazz Music Demo” Gaoxin District Cultural Center  
 09/2020 “What Is Latin Jazz?” Star A Livehouse, Memory Park  
 04/2019 “Jazz in Cinema” TG House Jazz Club  
 11/2018 “All About Salsa Music” Workshop & demo, Tony’s Music Center, Chongqing  
 11/2018 “Introduction to Jazz Music” Back To The Jazz Age Festival, Chengdu Music Community  
*City Can Swing* Series Concert, M Live House  
 01/2017 “Swing Musicality” Mala Swing Dance Studio  
 05/2015 “The 4 Elements of Popular Music” Sichuan Conservatory Workshop

### **Professional Lecture Series (In Chengdu unless otherwise noted):**

10/2021 [“The State of Jazz Today”](#) 4-part series, Riverside Jazz Club  
 07/2021 “Pop Harmony & Arranging” 4-part series, C-Pop Music Training Center  
 04/2021 [“Everything About Swing for Dancers”](#) 4 week series, Mala Swing Dance Studio  
 11/2020 [“Jazz History & Appreciation”](#) Online Class Series (10-part weekly lecture series, accessible to all subscribers), Aiya Music, Shanghai  
 03/2021 – 10/2021 [“Jazz Appreciation” Weekly Lecture series](#) (sample of topics: Duke Ellington, Basic Improvisation Concepts, Women in Jazz), Tongzilin Cultural Center  
 10/2020 – 03/2021 [“All About Jazz” Afternoon Tea Weekly Lecture Series](#) (sample of topics: Jazz & Christmas, Jazz & Classical Music, Jazz in Mainstream Entertainment), Oak Nose Jazz Club

### **Original Music Recordings:**

05/2022 [“Vicissitudes” Full-length album](#) (59 minutes, 7 originals, 3 covers)  
 Alto sax, baritone sax, flute, EWI, percussion, all arranging & composing, co-production

### **Professional Recordings:**

07/2023 Music Video & Saxophone solo [“Sun’s Come Out/XiYangYang” 《太阳出来/喜洋洋》](#) for Chengdu 2023 University Games  
 11/2022 Masiwei 马思唯 Louis Vuitton commercial [《啥子范》 “What’s Your Style?”](#)  
 2021 Sichuan Conservatory 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary “Making Music Together”  
 07/2020 “20/20” Sichuan Conservatory Pop Music Academy Jazz Dept. Online Concert, 2 original 6 horns arrangements: [“How High The Moon/Ornithology”](#), “I Diddle”  
 08/2018 Gao Jin 高进 “We Are Different” [《我们不一样》](#) Live Music Video

### **Notable public performances:**

04/2025 David Adepegba, Godfrey Lubuulwa Master’s recitals, Bellefield Hall, Pittsburgh U.  
 03/2025 Jazz Composer’s Concert, original full big band piece “Fables of 47” (composing, arranging, conducting), Bellefield Hall, University of Pittsburgh  
 11/2024 [Juwon Adenuga Master’s Recital](#), Bellefield Hall, University of Pittsburgh  
 12/2023 [4<sup>th</sup> Annual Sichuan Conservatory Jazz Festival](#), Chengdu Concert Hall w/SCMJBB, original arrangements: “I Diddle,” “How High The Moon/Ornithology,” “Sing Sing Sing”  
 10/2023 [5<sup>th</sup> Annual Chengdu Jiezi Saxophone Conference](#)  
 06/2023 Sichuan Conservatory Doctorate Special Performance Series Concert

06/2023 [Riverside Jazz Club 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Concert with Sichuan Conservatory Jazz Big Band](#), original arrangement “Sing Sing Sing”, co-conductor

05/2023 [Beijing Contemporary Music Academy Taihu Annual Jazz Festival](#), w/ SCMJBB, original arrangement “Sing Sing Sing”, assistant conductor

08/2022 Beijing Contemporary Music Academy Taihu Annual Jazz Festival (canceled COVID)

10/2021 “The Power Of Love” Autism Charity Concert, w/ SCMJBB

10/2021 “Here, Chengdu” International Sister Cities Music Festival

06/2021 [6<sup>th</sup> Annual Chengdu Swing Festival](#), big band & combos, arrangements, music workshop

06/2021 [Concert for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Founding of the Communist Party of China](#) by Sichuan Overseas-Educated Scholars, w/ SCMJBB

06/2021 Sichuan Conservatory 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert

05/2021 [Beijing Contemporary Music Academy Taihu Annual Jazz Festival](#), w/ SCMJBB

01/01/2021 [Grand Opening of Chengdu Downtown Outdoor Theatre](#), w/ SCMJBB

12/2020 [Sichuan Conservatory Winter Concert Showcase](#), student bands and SCMJBB

07/2020 [“20/20” Sichuan Conservatory Pop Music Academy Jazz Dept. Online Concert](#), 2 mini big band arrangements: “How High The Moon/Ornithology”, “I Diddle”

04/2019 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Music Cities Convention, Chengdu Anren Ancient Town, 五乡 Salsa band, all arrangements, bandleading, saxophone, flute, percussion, backing vocals

12/2018 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Chengdu Whiskey Convention

06/2016 周桃桃 Master’s Graduate Recital, “Clown’s Eyes” co-composition & performance

05/2017 Chengdu Black Rock Vintage Festival, swing mini big band

10/2016, 2017, 2018 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sichuan Conservatory Jazz Festival

06/2016, 2017, 2018 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, [3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chengdu Swing Festivals](#), mini big band, all arrangements, bandleading, saxophone performance, organization, swing music workshops

### **Adjudication:**

09/2021 Singapore International Music Competition

07/2019, 07/2021 ACG Amateur Youth Music Festival

05/2017 Voice of China Chongqing, Bank of China Sponsored Competition

19th Annual Hangzhou Asian Games Music/Dancing Competition (canceled, COVID)

### **Institutional Service (All for Sichuan Conservatory Jazz Department):**

12/2023 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Sichuan Conservatory Jazz Festival, translator, assistant, coordinator

10/2023 [5<sup>th</sup> Annual Chengdu Jiezi Saxophone Conference](#), chaperoned and arranged saxophone studio students for participation and performance

10/2023 Perth Jazz Festival Sister Cities Collaboration/Exchange, Dr. Mace Francis

04/2021 Live translation: [“Step By Step” online workshops](#) Mark Turner, [Michael League](#)

11/2020 Live translation: Monash 2+2 Study Abroad, Paul Williamson online workshop

12/2019 Sichuan Conservatory Pop Music Academy Jazz Department Student Showcase Concert, student ensembles coach, organizer and host

09/2019 guest artist Oyvind Nypan, liaison: communication, translation, guide & chaperone

09/2019 Shanghai Conservatory Asia Saxophone Congress, staff representative

06/2019 University of Nebraska DMA cohort concert & workshop series, led by Dr. Paul Haar, liaison: communication, translation, guide & chaperone

09/2018 Shanghai Conservatory Jazz Festival, accompanied student band to compete

10/2017 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sichuan Conservatory Jazz Festival Presentation: “Basics of Arranging”

10/2016 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Sichuan Conservatory Jazz Festival Presentation: “How to Listen to Jazz”

06/2016 Live translation: Richard Sussman Piano Masterclass & Workshops for Ensembles

### **Translations: (All published on Riverside Jazz Club Jazz Lifestyle Articles Series)**

BBC “From Samba to Bossa Nova”, PBS “History Of Latin Music, The Salsa Revolution”, John Holland “A Night In Havana: Dizzy In Cuba”, VOX “How Smooth Jazz Took Over The 90s”, Off Beat “Intro To Jazz Fusion”, Judy Chaikin “The Girls In The Band” Trailer

### **Public Media (Invited to be Interviewed For):**

05/2022 [Spirit Connects: “Elad Sobol, Vicissitudes, COVID”](#) A mini-documentary focused around my life & music by a local media company in Chengdu  
04/30/21 Xinhua Global Link: [“US Jazz Musician Promotes Jazz”](#) International Jazz Day article & video: a short glimpse into my life as a jazz musician & educator in China  
01/2021 Chengdu Plus (Chengdu Radio & TV): [“An American Jazz Musician In Chengdu”](#)  
12/2018 [“Song & The Blues”](#): A mini-documentary focused around my life & music by Multimedia Students of Sichuan Conservatory for their final project  
12/2016 Chengdu Radio “Global Culture” Feature Interview  
Caiku Chengdu Film & Culture Company: “Fantastic China” Feature Story (postponed – COVID)

### **Professional Memberships:**

JEN Jazz Education Network, SEM Society For Ethnomusicology, AMS American Musicological Society, SAM Society of American Music

### **Grants/Fellowships/Awards:**

[2009 California Music Project Fellowship](#)

2024 University of Pittsburgh, Dietrich Arts & Sciences non-teaching Fellowship (5 years)

### **Instrumental/Jazz Education:**

Private lessons: Dale Wolford (2008-2010), Rick Rossi (2010-2022)

Masterclasses: David Sanborn, Bob Reynolds, Bob Franceschini, Jeff Coffin, Chris Cheek, Dayna Stephens, Otis Murphy, Victor Wooten, Kellye Graye, Mimi Fox, Michael Tilson Thomas, Gordon Goodwin, Ray Brown (Tpt): Improvisation, ensembles, arranging, theory

### **Endorsements/Corporate Representation:**

[Legere Reeds](#) (2019 – present) Omeibaige woodwind cases (2019 – present)

Oleg Products China Representative (2019 – 2022)

### **Additional Skills:**

Sibelius, jazz arranging, small combos and big band

[Transcribing – YouTube channel](#)

Adobe PR, basic video editing

Logic Pro: basic recording, editing, mixing

### **Social Media:**

[www.EladSobolMusic.com](http://www.EladSobolMusic.com)

[www.YouTube.com/MaestroSobol](http://www.YouTube.com/MaestroSobol)

[www.Facebook.com/EladSobolMusic](http://www.Facebook.com/EladSobolMusic)

<https://eladsobol.bandcamp.com/>

<https://open.spotify.com/artist/5qTQamZqDofZkv95OuSPvR>

Instagram [@eladsobol](#)