

**James A. Owen**

Institute of Native American Studies - 290 S Hull St – University of Georgia  
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**EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. US and Caribbean History/Native American Studies, University of Georgia. Dissertation title: “‘To Kindle a Flame of Sacred Love’: German Hymnody Among Arawaks, Cherokees, and Jamaican Slaves, 1738-1838.” Advisor: Claudio Saunt. 2019.  
[https://getd.libs.uga.edu/pdfs/owen\\_james\\_a\\_201908\\_phd.pdf](https://getd.libs.uga.edu/pdfs/owen_james_a_201908_phd.pdf)
- M.A. US History/Cherokee Studies, Western Carolina University. Thesis title: The Peachtree Valley and Valley Town Mission: A Baptist Recategorization of a Cherokee Landscape. Advisor: Andrew Denson. 2012.  
<https://libres.uncg.edu/ir/wcu/f/OwenJ2012.pdf>
- B.A. Interdisciplinary Studies: Art, Music, & Culture, Appalachian State University. Thesis title: “Art, Music and Social Resistance.” Advisor: Kay Smith. 1996.
- A.A. Music Theory & Composition, Brevard College, NC, clarinet, voice, piano. Final Juried Composition Premier Performance: “Lasers in the Forest Somewhere: A Solo Duet.” Audio-controlled synthesis, Clarinet and Roland Juno 60 synthesizer, 1992.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE & ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

UGA, Academic Professional Associate, Assistant Director, INAS, beginning Fall 2024

- History of Native Appalachia
- Native Americans & the Founding Documents
- Indigenous Peoples & Globalization
- NAGPRA & the US

UGA, Academic Professional, Assistant Director, Institute of Native American Studies, 2021-present.

- US History Survey to 1865
- Native American History to 1840
- Tribal Sovereignty & US Indian Policy, 1776-2010
- Indigenous Peoples & Globalization (split level)
- NAGPRA & the US (split level)
- Introduction to Native American Studies
- Directed Study in Native American Studies (1 graduate and 2 undergraduate)
- Student Internship Advisor, Atlanta History Center & Hawk Effigy.

UGA, Visiting Assistant Professor of US History, 2021-2022

- US History Survey to 1865
- Native American History to 1840
- Native American History Since 1840
- History of Religion in America, 1400-1990

Otterbein University, Westerville, OH, Visiting Assistant Professor of Early American History, 2019-2021

- US History Survey to 1865
- US History Survey Since 1865
- Native American History to 1840
- Native American History Since 1840
- Colonizing America, 1000 -1783
- Era of the American Revolution, 1680-1820
- Tribal Sovereignty and US Indian Policy, 1776-2010
- Indigenous Peoples and Globalization

UGA Graduate Instructor of Record, 2016 -2018

- US History Survey to 1865
- Introduction to Native American Studies
- Native American History to 1840

Western Carolina University Writing Tutor, Writing and Learning Center (WaLC). Leah Hampton, 2011-2012

- Individual tutoring
- Writing composition workshops Assistant

Western Carolina University Graduate Teaching Assistant 2010-2012

- US History Survey to 1865
- US History Survey Since 1865

Music & Art Instructor K- 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Flat Rock Country Day Montessori School, Flat Rock, NC, 2000-2002

- Linoleum block printing
- Paper-making
- Rhythm Training
- Basic Scales and Chords for Piano and Choir

## PUBLICATIONS

- Singing the Holy Spirit: Native Americans & Evangelical Hymnody, 1640-1840, book proposal submission to UGA Press, Spring 2024.
- “Continental Army Deserters and Their Cherokee Children: A Generation of Indigenous Leadership in Early America.” In progress, for *Journal of Early American History*, 2024.
- Review of Tara Browner, *Music of the First Nations: Tradition and Innovation in Native North America* (2008) for South Dakota State Historical Society, Summer 2023.
- *Community & Place: Ethnicity, Indigeneity, and Globalization*, e-textbook. Kendall Hunt, August, 2020.
- Review of Tom Gordon, *Ahâk! Ahâk!: Moravian Music of the Labrador Inuit*, in *Journal of Moravian History*, Spring 2020.
- Review of Kimberly Jenkins Marshall, *Upward, Not Sunwise: Resonant Rupture in Navajo Neo-Pentecostalism*, Marginalia Review of Books, 2016.
- “The Cotton Revolution: Honor in the Slave South,” contributor, *americanyawp.com*, 2014, 2019.
- “Come Holy Spirit: The Holy Ghost in the Cherokee Mountains,” Chapter 10 in *Seeking Home: Marginalization and Representation in Appalachian Letters and Song*, University of Tennessee Press, 2017.
- “Ancient North America: Early Mississippian Civilization,” editor, *Gale Researcher Articles*, 2017.

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Indigenous Democracy Conference Funding Grant group member, Victor Thompson PI, UGA Archaeology, in-progress, submission Spring 2024.
- INAS Programs Funding Grant (\$500,000), W.T. Grant Foundation, James A Owen PI, in-progress with Collleen Cherry and Melissa Roberts, UGA Development Office, submission Fall 2024.
- Bringing Veterinary Medicine Information to Historically Underrepresented Communities in High School (\$350,000), Veterinary Services Grant Program USDA-NIFA-VSGP -010340, Co-PI with Susan Michelle Williams et. al, under review, Spring 2024.
- *Reflections on Race* Faculty DEI Project Grant (\$1000), 2022.
- *UGA Wilson Center for the Humanities/Mellon Foundation Global South Research Grant* (\$1000), 2018-2019.
- *Dissertation Completion Fellowship*, UGA Graduate School (\$15,000), 2018-2019.
- *Newberry Library American Musicological Society Fellowship* (\$5000), 2018.
- *Institute of Native American Studies Research Grant* (\$1500), UGA, 2017.
- *Moravian Music Foundation Research Grant* (\$2000), 2017.
- *UGA Wilson Center Graduate Research Grant* (\$1500), 2016 -2017.
- *WCU/EBCI Cherokee Language Revitalization Program Research Grant*, (\$1000) 2012-2013.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

- *Otterbein University Integrative Studies Core Curriculum Teaching Award*, 2020.
- *Dissertation Research Award*, UGA History Department, 2017.
- *Thomas Pleasant Vincent Sr. Award for Georgia History*, UGA History Department, 2016.
- *Innovative and Interdisciplinary Research Award*, Wilson Center for the Humanities, UGA, 2014.

## RESEARCH

- Rebecca Nagle, Cherokee Nation, forthcoming book *The Fire We Carry* (Fall 2024), lead historical researcher.
- Indigenizing Athens research seminars project, James F. Brooks, 2022.
- Cherokee Removal Valuations Project, Research Assistant, Claudio Saunt, Brett Riggs et. al, 2021.
- Research Assistant for Claudio Saunt, *West of the Revolution, Unworthy Republic*, 2013-2019.
- Research Assistant for Sarah Eyerly, measuring decibels with varied singing positions inside and outside the Moravian Gemein zaal built in Behlehem, PA in 1742, 2018.
- UGA Graduate School Research Assistantship, 2016-2017.
- *Invasion of America* Interactive map project, Claudio Saunt, 2013-2014.
- Memminger Mansion Restoration, masonry methods and materials researcher and restorer, Flat Rock, NC, 2000-2003.
- Research & Development Specialist: Historical materials, techniques, and restoration. Think Green Builders & Kossler Architectural Ceramics, Asheville, NC, 2000-2010.

For a complete list of historic restoration and research projects contact James A. Owen at [jaowen@uga.edu](mailto:jaowen@uga.edu)

## Graduate Student Committees

- Reader for Reed Stephenson, PhD Student, UGA Religion, Women Leaving the Church in Appalachia
- Reader for Ariana Persico, PhD Student, UGA History, Ethnohistory
- Reader for Christopher Saunders, MA Student, UGA Anthropology/Archaeology, NAGPRA & Culturally Sensitive Image Publication Policy

## SELECTED TALKS & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- ~ Keynote Lecture 167<sup>th</sup> Annual Moravian History, “John Comenius and Indian Education at Harvard,” Moravian Historical Society, Nazareth, PA, September 2024.
- ~ “A Theology of Resistance to Removal: Cherokee Language Preaching in Southern Appalachia,” Western Carolina University Guest Lecture, Fall 2024.
- ~ “The Invasion of Cherokee Appalachia: Creating Community with Post-Removal Land Grants,” Society of Appalachian Historians, May 2024.
- ~ “Mountain Baptists and Cherokees Who Remained,” Appalachian Studies Association, March 2024.
- ~ “Southeast Natives: Plants and People,” UGA Historic Preservation and Landscape Architecture guest lecture, January 2024.
- ~ “Heresy, Discovery, and Mission: The Protestant Missionary Mindset in the Early Colonial Era,” European History Section of the Southern Historical Association, November, 2023.
- ~ “The Native American History of Georgia, 5000BCE to 1840,” Presbyterian Village, Athens, GA, October 2023.
- ~ “The Lovingood Family, Baptist Mission Stations, and the Treaty of New Echota,” Lovingood Family Reunion Keynote, Hanging Dog Baptist Church, Hanging Dog, NC, October 2023.
- ~ “Being a Good Native Ally,” UGA Native American Student Association Speaker Series, September 2023.
- ~ “From Missionary Visions to Mission Sites: Hymn-Singing and the Foundation of American Evangelism,” 8<sup>th</sup> *Bethlehem Conference on Moravian Music and History*, August 2023.
- ~ “Why Georgia Universities Should Adopt a Land Acknowledgement Statement.” University of North Georgia, Dahlonega, April 2023.

- ~ “Native Americans and American Religion” Interfaith Atlanta, February 2023.
- ~ “Native Songs of Southern Appalachia: Social Change and Cherokee Music Traditions,” Mountain History & Culture Society, Vance Birthplace, April 2022.
- ~ “Native States of America: Tribal Sovereignty and Civil Rights in the United States,” Ohio History Center, Otterbein University Office of Social Justice, Westerville, OH, 2019.
- ~ “‘Few Eyes Remained Dry’: Hymnody and Language Translation, 1740-1840.” 7<sup>th</sup> *Bethlehem Conference on Moravian Music and History*, Moravian College, Bethlehem, PA, 2018.
- ~ “What was the Best Brewery in Savannah, GA in 1735? The Moravian Mission,” *Lunchtime Time Machine* lecture series, 2017.
- ~ “‘Just a Snake Stretched Out Across the Path’: Travel and Trade in Georgia from before Columbus to the Civil War.” *Roads, Rails, and Rivers: The History of Transportation in Georgia*, Georgia Archives, Atlanta, GA, 2016.
- ~ “‘On Three White Seats Above’: Changes in Cherokee Council House Spaces, 1819-1824.” *American Society for Ethnohistory*. Nashville, TN, 2016.
- ~ “*Gwalga’hi*: An Aural Eco-History.” Original music composition premier performance. *International Ecomusicologies: Dialogues*, University of North Carolina, Asheville, 2014.
- ~ “Cherokee Place Names in Sothern Appalachian English,” *EBCI Cherokee Language Revitalization Symposium*, Western Carolina University, 2011.

#### DEPARTMENTAL/EXTRACURRICULAR SERVICE

- Whitworth Women’s Correctional Facility, US History 8-week course, Coordinator: Caroline Young, UGA English & Greater Good Atlanta, Fall 2024.
- Board Member, Historic Piedmont Scenic by-ways Corporation, Historic Site Management non-profit, 2023-present.
- UGA Hugh Hodgson School of Music, Assistant Professor of Saxophone Search Committee, 2023- 2024.
- UGA Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, Dean’s Inclusive Excellence Faculty Committee, 2022-present.
- UGA Native American Student Association Faculty Advisor, 2022-present.
- UGA Institute of Native American Studies (INAS) Director Search Committee, 2022-2023
- Whitworth Women’s Correctional Facility, Native American History section of US History Class, Coordinator: Caroline Young, UGA English & Greater Good Atlanta, Fall 2022 & 2023.
- UGA INAS Land Acknowledgement Committee, 2021-2022.
- UGA INAS Singer-Moye Mound Site Management Plan Committee, 2021-present
- UGA INAS Curriculum Development Committee, 2021-present
- Otterbein University History & Political Science Community Engagement Group, 2019-2021
- UGA Indigenous Transnationalism Conference Committee, 2019.
- UGA INAS Web Committee, 2016-2017.
- Society of Appalachian Historians Conference Planning Committee, UGA, 2015.

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Allen Morris Forum on the Native South* Scholars Group, Florida State University, 2023.
- Reflections on Race*, Select Faculty Workshop, UGA Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, May 2022.
- Faculty Learning Community*, Otterbein University, Westerville, OH, 2019-2020.
- Lokono (Arawak) Vocabulary & Grammar*, Independent Study. Instructor: Konrad Rybka, University of Amsterdam, 2017-2019.
- American Westward Expansion and the Constitution*, NEH University Teaching Institute, Institute of American Constitutional Heritage, University of Oklahoma, Norman, 2014.
- Your Grandmother’s Cherokee*, Cherokee Language Beta Software Development Program, Museum of the Cherokee Indian. Instructors: Barbara Duncan and Bullet Standing Deer, 2013.

*ArcGIS*, digital mapping graduate student work group. Instructors: Sergio Bernardes, Claudio Saunt, 2014-2017.  
*Appalachia: Power of Place*, NEH Teaching Institute, University of North Carolina, Asheville, 2011.  
*Cherokee Ethnobotany: Invasive Species in Southern Appalachia Volunteer Training Program*, EBCI Cooperative Extension volunteer assistant, David Cozzo, Cherokee NC, 2010-2012.

## **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING and ARTISANSHIP**

### **Print-making & Publishing**

Apprenticeship Acquisitions editorial assistant, University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA. Beth Snead, Lisa Bayer, 2019.

Assistant Screen-printing and print-making techniques, Cheney Graphics, Asheville, NC. Phill Cheney, Phil Cheney Jr., 2008-2009.

Apprentice Printmaking, Press Technician, Commissioned Artist, 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century techniques and materials. Hand-Cranked Letter Press, a division of Lark Books, Asheville, NC. Rob Pulleyn, Lance Willie, 2000-2006.

Indep. Study Plane Pattern analysis, sacred geometry, & architectural design. Dorothy Washburn & David Crowe, Seattle, Washington, 1998.

### **Masonry & Historic Restoration**

Indep. Study Stone carving and restoration, Carolina Sculpture Studio six-week summer course, Weaverville, NC. A.C. Button II, 2004.

Journeyman Architectural Ceramics, tile, brick, stone, design, installation, and restoration, Kossler Architectural Ceramics, Asheville, NC. Heinz Kossler. 1998-2003. Independent Contractor, 2003 – present.

### **Music & Sound Engineering**

Assistant Assistant audio engineer, Live and Studio sound & recording, Traveling Box Studio. Geoff Valleaux, Darren Stroup, Asheville, NC, 2002-2010.

Studio Music. Echo Mountain Recording, Asheville, NC. Steve Williams and Jessica Tomasin, 2003-2009.

Indep. Study Private lessons, Tar, Riq, Doumbek, Arabic and Azerbaijani rhythm, Brevard, NC. Gwendolyn Coleman, 2002-2004.

Gaffer Stage & lighting gaffer, Thomas Wolf Auditorium, Asheville, NC, 2003-2005.

Indep. Study Fundamentals of Acoustic Space, Studio and Stage design. Geoff Valleaux, Asheville, NC, 2003

Indep. Study Medieval and Early Modern music theory and music notation interpretation. David Ellis, 1996-1998.

### **Invasive & Endangered Species Training**

Volunteer Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Sandy Creek Nature Center, Athens, GA, snake & salamander survey. Erin Cork, 2018.

Volunteer Woolly Adelgid and Emerald Ash Borer, Training Session Assistant, damage identification, trapping, Great Smoky Mountain National Park survey, NC Cooperative Extension EBCI Tribal Services, Revitalization of Traditional Cherokee Artisan Resources (RTCAR). David Cozzo, 2010.

Volunteer Cherokee Plants and Their Uses, plant identification and indigenous plant knowledge, NC Cooperative Extension EBCI Tribal Services, RTCAR. David Cozzo, 2009.

## LANGUAGES

- German - Competent reading with dictionary.
- Latin - Competent reading with dictionary.
- Cherokee - Can gloss syllabary and Latin phonetics with dictionary/software.
- Lokono (Arawak Language Family) - Can gloss with dictionary and grammar.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Appalachian Studies Association 2009 - present
- Society of Appalachian Historians – 2010 - present
- American Musicological Society 2014 – present
- AMS Ecomusicology Special Interest Group 2014-present
- Moravian Historical Society 2018 - present
- American Society for Ethnohistory 2015 - present
- Southern Historical Association 2023 - present
- Native American and Indigenous Studies Association 2021 – present

## Selected Music Releases

- Doom Ribbons (solo & collaborations), multi-instrumentalist, voice
  - *The James Ossuary*, LP, Epoch Elliptic Music (digital), Family Night Records (vinyl) Asheville, NC, in progress, 2024.
    - Singles (bandcamp): “Gambling with Hyenas,” “Bleeding Heart Shadow (in memory of Brian Flik).” 2023.
  - *Live at Static Age*, (w/ Eric Hubner, guitar), LP, Family Night Records (vinyl), forthcoming, Asheville, NC, 2024.
  - *Bringing Honey & Salt to the Bog Witch (in memory of Glo Babcock)*, bandcamp, soundscape field recordings, synth, guitar, clarinet, percussion, Epoch Elliptic Music, 2020.
  - *Witnessing the Cull*, limited edition cassette. Epoch Elliptic Music, 2020.
  - *The Violence, The Violence*, (w/ Shane Parish, guitar), LP, Family Night records (vinyl), Open Letter records (CD), Asheville, NC, 2010.
    - Singles (digital release, limited edition cassette): “Die Alone,” “Prayer for Collapsing Economies.”
  - *Schick Sal*, solo (w/ Matt Gentling, bass), LP, Epoch Elliptic Music (CD), Asheville, NC, 2003.
- A Burning Bus (w/ Don Howland, guitar, voice), drums
  - *A Burning Bus*, self-titled LP, In the Red Records (vinyl, special edition orange vinyl), Memphis TN, 2020.
    - Singles (vinyl, limited edition grey vinyl): “Burnt Bridges/Faith Healer,” live recording release, In the Red Records, 2019.
    - “Irrational Front/Anti-,” Harvest Recordings, Asheville, NC, 2012.
  - *As I went Out One Morning*, limited edition seven-inch (vinyl), A Fistful of Records, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2006.
- Don Howland (solo guitar), percussion, samples
  - *Life is a Nightmare*, LP, 12XU Records (vinyl), Columbus, OH, 2015.
- Eric Hubner (solo guitar), drums
  - *The Surf Report*, EP, Marshall Arts, (vinyl & digital), Marshall, NC, 2009.
- Wooden Tit (w/ Don Howland, guitar, voice), drums, clarinet, samples
  - *Sechs Lieder*, EP, Red Lounge Records (vinyl, special edition red vinyl), Karlsruhe, Germany, 2008.
  - *Return to Cinder*, LP, Hate Records (vinyl), Rome, Italy, 2007.
  - *Sex Beat/Strange Notes*, non-album single, Hate Records (vinyl), 2006.

- Deep Black Elite (w/Brian Flik, guitar), drums
  - *Abandoned Temple*, live performance recording, opening act for Japanese psychedelic rock group Acid Mothers Temple, at The Grey Eagle, Asheville, NC, limited edition cassette, Flian Brik Sounds, 2006.
- Lube Royale, (14-member percussion and performance art group), multi-instrumentalist
  - *Tall Pink*, short film DVD and limited edition cassette soundtrack, A.A.G. Media, Asheville, NC, 2005.
  - *Live in Asheville*, live performance at Asheville Music Zone, DVD, A.A.G. Media, 2004.
- Boba Fetish (w. Gwendolyn Coleman, frame drum & John Vorus, didgeridoo, audio processing), drums, percussion, voice
  - *Golden Blade III: Return of the Monkey's Uncle*, select tracks and incidental music, Magnetic Media DVD and cassette soundtrack, Asheville, NC, 2007.
  - *Space Time*, Dragons' Den live performance recording, limited edition DVD and CD, Vorus Productions, New Orleans, LA, 2004.
  - *Percussion Meditations*, Vorus Productions (CD), Brevard, NC, 2003.
- w/ John Brinker (synthesizer) and Meg Mulhearn (violin), clarinet, Hammond 123J3 organ
  - *The Visual Scores of John Cage*, limited edition CD, Black Mountain College Museum festival, Black Box Studios Imprint, Asheville, NC, 2002.
- Ether Bunnies, multi-instrumentalist
  - *Nectar*, Digital Crosstitch Music, Hot Springs, NC, 2002.
  - *Ether Bunnies*, EP, self-released, Asheville, NC, 2000.
- Trackrabbits (w/ Matt Gentling, bass), drums, organ, tape loops
  - *Glazed & Contused*, self-released, Asheville, NC, 2001.
- Braidstream Early Music Ensemble, percussion, voice, monochord, dulcimer
  - *Medieval Time*, Early Light Music, Charlotte, NC, 1998
  - *Braidstream*, Early Light Music, Charlotte, NC, 1992.

For a complete list of live performances & European and American tours 1996-present, contact James A. Owen at doomossuary@gmail.com.

### **Selected Art Exhibitions**

- “Take Your Antibiotics While Kayaking,” w/Heinz Kossler, partially glazed and carved river rocks from the French Broad River, textured glazes in green, yellow, brown, and gloss black modeled after bacteria and ameobas. Phil Mechanic Building Gallery, Asheville, NC, 2011.
- “Seeds of Our Own Destruction,” w/Claire Hubbard (Warren Wilson University), block prints, paint stamps, and burnt paper representing bad dreams and apocalyptic visions. Harvest Records, Asheville, NC, 2008.
- “The Art of Doom Ribbons Series 1-3,” Linoleum and wood block prints, rotational single-block 4-color prints, print blocks were rotated 90 degrees for printing each of four colors, creating densely layered, detailed print images based on drawings and photographs of flowers, plants, elephants, snakes, and birds. Harvest Records, 2004.
- “James Owen Collage Show Posters,” Six-year retrospective exhibit of original collage art used as music performance posters. PUSH Skate Shop and Gallery, Asheville, NC, 2003.
- “Hearing Shadows of Plato,” resonant platonic solids in hollow glued wood, solid glass, mirrors, and cast metal tuned to perfect and dissonant intervals (root, fourth, fifth, octave, minor 2<sup>nd</sup>, diminished 5<sup>th</sup>) suspended on swinging pendulums that lightly dipped into large metal tubs of water. Laser pointers and stage lights with

fog machine to create an immersive environment of light and sound. Vincent' Ear courtyard, Asheville, NC. 1997.

- “Opium of the Bio-Masses,” Studio Jury Exhibition, glass etching, silica sand, and layered tempered glass, imprints of ant, lady bug, rhinoceros beetle, and praying mantis movements across various textured surfaces. Appalachian State University, 1995.
- “Archi-Turtle,” Studio Jury Exhibition, wood carvings and architectural models based on the bio-architecture of turtle shells and lizard skeletons. Appalachian State University, 1994.

For a complete list of art exhibitions and a selected portfolio contact James A. Owen at [doomossuary@gmail.com](mailto:doomossuary@gmail.com).