

Keshav Batish

music-maker

Education

Birth-present

Mentorship in *khandani* lineage of Hindustani and folk music of South Asia

- o Instruction in Vocal, Sitār, Tablā, Dholak, Veenā techniques, practice, and theory— Pandit Ashwin Batish, Pandit Shiv Dayal Batish, Pandita Vijay Laxmi Batish, Pandita Shanta Devi Batish

2022—present

Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition at the University of California, Santa Cruz

- o Advisor— Prof. Karlton Hester, James Gordon Williams, Amy Beal, Dard Neuman

2021

Master of Arts in Music Composition at the University of California, Santa Cruz

- o Program and *Hindustani* performance practice advisor — Dard Neuman
- o Composition — Michelle Lou, David Evan Jones

2019

Bachelor of Arts in Music – University of California, Santa Cruz

- o Advisor — Dard Neuman
- o Composition — Larry Polansky
- o Drum Set — George Marsh
- o Improvisation and Ensemble Performance — Stan Poplin
- o Western Art music training and performance practice — Anatole Leikin, Maria Ezerova
- o Piano — Faith Lanam
- o *Hindustani* music from Maihar Gharana — Aashish Khan

Mentorship with jazz and creative musicians Hafez Modirzadeh, Dave King, Charles Tolliver, Stan Poplin

Awards and Honors

2022

- o Yerba Buena/California Arts Council Relief Fund Grantee

2021

- o San Jose Jazz Aid Fund—Commissioned composition for trio, premiered virtually

2019

- o Regents Fellowship for first-year graduate study, University of California, Santa Cruz (M.A.)
- o Hortense Zuckerman Prize—for Outstanding Achievement in Music Scholarship and Performance, Department of Music, University of California, Santa Cruz (B.A.)

2016-2018

- o Dean's Honors, University of California, Santa Cruz

Teaching Experience

2022-present

UC Santa Cruz — Teaching Assistant

MUSC 30[A, B, C] — European Art Music Theory

MUSC11B — Intro to Jazz

2022

California Jazz Conservatory — Guest Instructor

Jazz and Cross-Cultural Practice, 2 sessions (March 31, April 7)

2019 – 2021

UC Santa Cruz – Teaching Assistant

Music 3, 74, 150: Teaching classes in Spontaneous Composition, assisting Charles Tolliver and Charles Hamilton in the production of a 60th Anniversary performance of Coltrane's Africa/Brass

Music 30: Theory, Literature, and Musicianship

Music 14: Preparatory Musicianship

2021

Kuumbwa Jazz — [Virtual Master Class](#)

2020

Cosunmes River College – [In The Studio](#)

Guest Lecture, virtual presentation for students: description quoted from CRS YouTube page: "In a conversation with Assistant Professor of Music Lisa Beebe, Keshav Batish will discuss his musical background and career, current academic research, and the role of non-profit arts organizations in social justice."

2019

UC Santa Cruz – Undergraduate Reader

Music 55: Rhythms of North India

Music 80X: Music of India

- o Accompanying Ustad Aashish Khan and demonstrating *tala* on *tabla*

Music 11D: Introduction to World Music

- o *Raga* and *Tala* Theory of North Indian classical music on *sitar* and *tabla*

2017

Pacific Collegiate School — Student Coach

Hired by instructor Heather Calame to assist students in jazz band with improvisation and interactive skills.

Professional Affiliations

2020 – present

Board Member of Kuumbwa Jazz Center, Education Committee Member

2019 – 2021

Vice President and Board Member of Santa Cruz Baroque Festival

2017 – present

Adjudicator for Kuumbwa Jazz Center Honor Band

Recordings

As leader

2021

[Binaries in Cycle](#), Woven Strands Productions

Released on Compact Disc, Bandcamp, and other major streaming services

Review in Downbeat: <https://downbeat.com/reviews/detail/binaries-in-cycle>

Article in JazzTimes: <https://jazztimes.com/features/profiles/keshav-batish-sees-meaning-in-confusion-on-debut-album/>

Article in Brooklyn Rail: <https://brooklynrail.org/2021/06/music/Listening-In-Keshav-Batish-BothAnd>

Article in Mercury News: <https://www.mercurynews.com/2021/07/06/with-new-release-keshav-batish-builds-on-famous-fathers-legacy/>

La Scena Musicale Best of the Year List, 2021: <https://myscena.org/marchenard/the-record-roundup-2021-in-review/>

As co-leader

2022

James Armstrong & Keshav Batish – [Fractured Elisions](#), Woven Strands Productions

Released on major streaming services, Compact Disk

Mention in [Whitecrate Substack](#)

2018

Triumvirate – [At Second Glance](#), Independent

Released on major streaming services

2017

Triumvirate – [Raised Standards](#), Independent

Released on Bandcamp

As side-person

2016

Sitar Power – [Jazz Is Where Is](#), Batish Records

Released on CD and Streaming Platforms

2012

[Sitar Maestro Ashwin Batish & Family In Concert](#), Batish Records

Released on CD and on Amazon and iTunes

Select Compositions and Performances

2023

- o Rita Sahai, Basant Panchami Celebration, Vedanta Society of Sacramento, CA (January 28)
- o [Electric Ūd Quintet](#) (with Farad Bahrami, Hafez Modirzadeh, John-Carlos Perea, Amir Abbas Etemadzadeh), Bird and Beckett) (March 9)
- o [Music for a New Years Liberation – Women, Life, Freedom](#) (with Hafez Modirzadeh), SF State University (March 16)
- o [April in Santa Cruz](#), Premiere of *Relationships* for Piano and Alto Saxophone (with Ben Leeds Carson and Shay Salhov), UC Santa Cruz (April 14)

2022

- o [George Brooks Quartet](#) (with Utsav Lal and Mat Muntz), Jazz In the Neighborhood (October 9)
- o [George Brooks with Utsav Lal and special guest Keshav Batish](#), SF Music Day (October 9)
- o [Indian Jazz Journey](#) (George Brooks, Mahesh Kale, Utsav Lal, Hindol Majumdar), Stanford Jazz Workshop (June 25)
- o California Jazz Conservatory concert with Ashwin Batish, Hafez Modirzadeh, and Rita Sahai (February 26)
- o [Third Annual Pacific Pythagorean Festival with Hafez Modirzadeh](#), *Ratio Justice* (March 12)
- o [West coast premiere of Facets](#) with Hafez Modirzadeh and Alex Peh, New Performance Traditions, Oakland, CA (March 20)
- o [Ode to B’Kongofon with Hafez Modirzadeh and Friends](#), Bird and Beckett Bookstore (May 11)
- o [Baanware Sameera](#) (with Rita Sahai), All Souls Episcopal Parish, Berkeley CA (June 11)
- o Rita Sahai, Meera Bhajans – Badarikashrama, San Leandro, CA (October 16)
- o [Binaries in Cycle](#) – master’s composition and thesis paper
- o Rita Sahai, Vocal Recital – KPFA Radio (December 17)

2021

- o *Facet Bhabha, Clandestine Services, Virabhadrasana* – forthcoming release

- o [Binaries in Cycle](#) – master’s composition and thesis paper
- o A Set of Duets – [Performance of duets](#): sitar/tabla, drums/saxophone presented by Indexical (August 14)

2020

- o [Bass Winds with B’Kongafonic Spirit](#) – Hafez Modirzadeh, SF State University and Red Poppy Art House (March 6)
- o Keshav Batish Quartet – [Monday’s with Kuumbwa series](#) (August 3)
- o *Viol Unfolding no. 1* – Written for Erik Anderson on bass viol premiered in Mill Valley, CA (February 5)
- o *Let Go* – for trio of piano, double bass, and drum set (January 2)

2019

- o *A Second Glance* – for EKTA ensemble
- o *Keshav ki Todi* – for shruti-intoned Fender Rhodes, bass viol, double bass, and drum set
 - o premiered in [opening-set](#) for *Amirtha Kidambi and Elder Ones* at Kuumbwa Jazz Center (July 27)
- o [Undergraduate Senior Recital at UC Santa Cruz Recital Hall](#) (June 5) with the following premieres of works:
 - o *Spinning* – for string quartet and EKTA ensemble
 - o [Gayatri](#) – for EKTA ensemble
 - o Expansion in Puriya – for piano and drum set
- o Keshav Batish and EKTA – [Monterey Jazz Festival](#) (September 29)
- o Sitar Power – Kuumbwa Jazz Center (March 2019)

2018

- o *Wingspan* – for trio of piano, double bass, and drum set
- o *Loss* – for trio of piano, double bass and drum set
- o *String Quartet no. 1 – Movement 1, Scherzo, Movement 3*
- o *Shadaj-Gram* – for shruti-intoned, computer-interpreted playback
- o *Prelude-Alap* – for Sitar and Valotti-Tempered Harpsichord
- o *Fantasy, Tanam, Ektal Gat, and Gigue in Rag Charukeshi* – for Valotti-Tempered Harpsichord
- o *For Mama (script score for varied instruments)*
- o [Ashwin Batish and Keshav Batish](#) – Winnipeg Folk Festival

2017

[Sitar Power](#)—Chico World Music Festival (September 9)

2016

Count Me In – for sitar and midi-playback, arranged and premiered with UCSC Small Jazz Ensemble (piano, bass, drum set, guitar, flute, tenor saxophone, flugelhorn)

2015

- o San Jose Chamber Orchestra – featuring music of Ashwin Batish, Le Petit Trianon Theatre, San Jose, CA
- o [Sitar Power – Ghanafest, Malta](#)

2014

- o [Sitar Power with the Violent Femmes](#), The Fillmore, San Francisco, CA
- o [MUD Music Festival](#), Lleida, Catalonia, Spain

2013

- o Sitar Power, Ford Amphitheater, Hollywood, CA

2012

- o Maharaja: The Splendor of Indian Royal Courts – Ashwin Batish and Family, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, CA

2011

- o Sitar Power – The Independent, San Francisco, CA

Up-to-date as of 6/24/2023