Symposium

For over 40 years, international academics, independent scholars, and performer researchers have gathered in Mystic and Essex to share their passion for and original research into the music of the sea. Presenters will join us via Zoom as well as in person; all presentations will be streamed and archived online. Sea Music was the first true world music: the Symposium links university scholars and practitioners with enthusiastic audiences, providing scholarship that is entertaining and enlightening. Q&A will follow each presentation. This year, we are honored to present two original documentaries with commentary by the films' creators.

9 A.M. VIA ZOOM VIDEO ONLY

"THE TIKTOK SHANTY TREND OF 2021: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF SOCIAL MEDIA, MUSIC, AND MARITIME CULTURE"

Adrian R. Salgado

Adrian R. Salgado is a Ph.D. student at Ohio State University specializing in 19th century American literature. Salgado's research investigates how oceanic spaces can be intimate, desirous, and violent, emphasizing shipboard homosociality as a rich site for queer intimacies fueled by embodied actions within a men's deep-sea society. Salgado's research interests encompass Melville, Dana, and other Maritime Literature, Transoceanic Studies, Sound Studies, Performance Studies, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Archival Studies, Material Culture, and the Blue Humanities.

II A.M.

"What Shall We Do? With a Drunken Sailor': Attending to Archival Chantey Texts"

Dr. Jessica Marie Floyd

Dr. Jessica Floyd is an Associate Professor of English at Community College of Baltimore County. Her book, Cabin Boys, Milkmaids, and Rough Seas: The Kaleidoscope of Identity in the Unexpurgated Repertoire of Stan Hugill, is forthcoming from University of Mississippi Press. As a scholar of erotic cultural objects, Dr. Floyd investigated Hugill's unexpurgated repertoire for what it communicates about gender and sexuality. Other work on chanteys can be found in Porn Studies, Restoration: Studies in English Literary Culture, 1660-1700, The Nautilus, and other journals.

2 P.M.

"Songs of the Windlass: Singing Chanties on GAZELA"

Premiere: Documentary by Dr. Gibb Schreffler Videography by Jesse Edwards

Q& A will follow with Gibb via Zoom Gibb Schreffler is Associate Professor of Music at Pomona College (California). As an ethnomusicologist, his primary research is on musicians of South Asia's Punjab region, on which his writings include Dhol: Drummers, Identities, and Modern Punjab (University of Illinois, 2021). As a music historian, Gibb works on the historical development of chanties, focusing on the genre's African American beginnings and the subsequent journey these songs have taken across shifts in place, culture, technology, and public perception. His representative publication is Boxing the Compass: A Century and a Half of Discourse About Sailors' Chanties (Loomis House, 2018).

4. P.M.

"Bear Away, Yankee, Bear Away"

Premiere: Documentary by Pressgang Mutiny

(Please see the Pressgang Mutiny bio in the Performer list)

IO A.M.

"It's My Own Damn Fault! - Or Is It? The Complexity and Futility of Blame in 'Off to Sea Once More'"

STEPHEN SANFILIPPO

Stephen Sanfilippo, a fifth generation Long Islander and United States Navy veteran, received his Ph.D. in History from Stony Brook University. His dissertation was entitled, "Whalemen's Song: Lyrics and Masculinity in the Sag Harbor Whalefishery, 1840-1850." He taught American and European history on the high school and college level, including at Maine Maritime Academy. A frequent performer and presenter at previous Symposiums, Stephen's unique song repertoire arises from years of research into the music of Long Island seafarers and coastal workers. He performs solo with banjo, guitar, and concertina.

I2 P.M. LUNCH BREAK

I P.M.

"A Song Without Words: Rachel, Her Measureless Sorrow, and The Shekinah of 'The Symphony' (Moby-Dick, chapter 132)"

DAVID PELOQUIN

David Peloquin is a musician, performer, author, editor, and lecturer with wide-ranging expertise from Melville to mysticism and meditation. A former Mystic Seaport chanteyman, he has performed at previous Sea Music Festivals, solo or with his bands Wickford Express and Compass Rose. He has been a frequent presenter at the Melville Society and at the Sea Music Symposium, including last year's in Essex.

3 P.M.

"A Long Time, a Hell of a Time': Contrasting Perspectives on the Barrouallie Whalers' Musical Heritage"

Dan Lanier and Vincent Reid

Dan Lanier, an independent researcher and musician, has studied American maritime music and culture for over 40 years. While employed in the Education Department of Mystic Seaport Museum, Dan directed the Sea Chantey Program and Sea Music Festival. In 2001, his career as an environmental consultant brought him to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, where he met Vincent Reid. Lanier and Reid, after seeking out whalers in Barrouallie, proposed a revival of shanties among these singers. Lanier and Reid founded The Barrouallie Whalers Project to promote awareness and appreciation of Barrouallie's maritime heritage. Vincent Reid, an independent researcher, has worked for over 37 years in public research and infrastructure projects in his homeland of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. He is a supervisor in the Solid Waste Management Unit. The Island Coordinator of The Barrouallie Whalers and a founder/director of The Barrouallie Whalers Project, Mr. Reid serves as an advisor in the St. Vincent's Intangible Cultural Heritage Program. In 2022, he facilitated Pressgang Mutiny's visit to St. Vincent, during which they produced a studio recording (on which Mr. Reid performed) with shantyman George "Tall 12" Frederick and the documentary film premiering today.