

## EDUCATION

### Pianist • Vocalist • Ethnomusicologist • Tutor

#### ***Bachelor of Music Studies (Performance) Hons I***

2014-2019

*Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney*

- Honours thesis topic: “Shamiram Sings: Negotiating perceptions of young Assyrian-Australian womanhood through wedding music”  
Supervisor: Dr. Christopher Coady

In this feminist ethnomusicological study, I undertook Participatory Action Research with young second generation Assyrian-Australian women to investigate the complex, multi-layered experience that Assyrian-Australian women face living in diaspora. Through an intersectional feminist analysis of the music performed in Assyrian Wedding rituals, we investigated whether values shape their notions of an Assyrian-Australian diasporic identity. The research finds that while diasporic identity is indeed composed of many intersectional aspects existing at once, these aspects and their points of intersection are also not fixed, and can shift and move across time, space and scenarios.

- Honours Repertoire (Piano)  
Concerto Recital: Heroic Ballad (A. Babadjanian)  
Solo Recital: Prelude and Vagharshapat Dance (A. Babadjanian), Six Pictures (A. Babadjanian), Capriccio (A. Babadjanian), Elegy (A. Babadjanian), Sonata (A. Khachaturian).  
Piano lecturer: Dr. Natalia Andreeva

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## PRESENTATIONS/CONFERENCES

- Podcast guest for DECLASSIFY episode 6 entitled “Thinking Critically: The Performance of Storytelling with Lolita Emmanuel”. DECLASSIFY is a series of conversations about the classical music industry – its challenges and its future. Available on [Spotify](#) and [Apple](#) Podcasts, 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.
  - Conference speaker at panel entitled “This is What a Feminist Looks Like” at 4ESYDNEY Hip Hop Festival, Bryan Brown Theatre, 4 April 2019.
  - Paper entitled “Shamiram Sings: Negotiating perceptions of young Assyrian-Australian womanhood through wedding music” at SCM Undergraduate Research Symposium at Conservatorium of Music, Sydney University, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2018.
  - Paper entitled “Fearing Erykah: The Silence on the Complexity of Black Womanhood in African American Music Inquiry” at SCM Undergraduate Research Symposium at Conservatorium of Music, Sydney University, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.
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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney

Feb 2019 – Present

#### **Casual Academic Tutor (Sessional) – This is Music (MCGY1030)**

Casual tutor in musicology for This is Music (typically a first year musicology course). In Semester 1, 2019 I tutored three classes per week (approximately 60 students) and returned in 2020 to tutor four classes per week (approximately 74 students).

### Private Studio, Croydon Park NSW

July 2013 – Present

#### **Private Piano and Musicianship Tutor**

Teaching students of all ages and levels of experience in Classical and Contemporary styles. I have prepared and guided students to achieve high results in AMEB Piano Practical and musicianship examinations, music eisteddfods and end of year recitals. I also guide students in basic improvisation and composition skills.

## COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

### Social Justice in Musicology Study Group

July 2020 – Present

#### **Co-coordinator and co-facilitator**

The aims of the Social Justice in Musicology Study Group is to grapple with musicology's white racial frame and to skill up in the thinking and manoeuvres deployed by a range of scholars who have sought to decentre whiteness from the discipline's core. The study group is facilitated by Dr. Christopher Coady and Sydney Conservatorium alum Jeremy Tatar, and is conducted with members of the Sydney Conservatorium community.

### Youth Engagement Committee

2016

#### **Fine Music FM**

## PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

### DOBBY BAND (AUS)

August 2020 – Present

#### **Pianist**

WARRANGU; *River Story* by DOBBY. Presented in partnership with Create NSW and Biennale of Sydney.

DOBBY's WARRANGU; *River Story* forms a collection of cultural knowledge of the three rivers that form the surrounding tribal boundaries in Brewarrina, New South Wales, constituting a journey back home and connection to culture by returning to the country where his grandmother and her father were born.

Rhyan Clapham aka DOBBY is a rap musician, hip hop artist, drummer and composer. In 2017, he was awarded the 2017 Peter Sculthorpe Fellowship, through which WARRANGU; *River Story* was developed. The first showing of the work was presented at Campbelltown Arts Centre, NSW at the 4ESYDNEY Hip Hop festival.

### “Assyrian Women” Ensemble – Assyrian Arts Institute (USA)

December 2019 – Present

#### **Piano soloist, Choral Accompanist and Vocalist**

*The Joy of Christmas Tour*, conducted by Dr. Charlene Archibeque

December 6<sup>th</sup> 2019 – Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph, San Jose, California

December 7<sup>th</sup> 2019 – Snider Recital Hall, CSU Stanislaus, Turlock, California.

December 8<sup>th</sup> 2019 – The Morgan Estate, Los Altos Hills, California.

*AAI@HOME Virtual Performance series*

Episode 1 – Assyrian Women perform “Itlan Hewi” (Assyrian hymn, Arr. R. Thomas)

Episode 5 – Lolita Emmanuel performs “Impromptu” (A. Babadjanian)

**Music Education Resource Recording – Sydney Conservatorium of Music** **September 2019**

**Piano Soloist**

*Performed and recorded in Recital Hall West, Sydney Conservatorium of Music*

Second Fantasia for Piano (J. Humberstone)

**Mesopotamian Night – Assyrian Aid Society (AUS)** **January 2019 – Present**

**Piano Soloist and Accompanist (2019–2020)**

**Lolita Emmanuel Piano Recital (AUS)** **January 2019**

**Piano Soloist**

*Performed at Theme and Variations Piano Services, Willoughby NSW.*

Prelude and Vagharshapat Dance (A. Babadjanian)

Six Pictures (A. Babadjanian)

Capriccio (A. Babadjanian)

Elegy (A. Babadjanian)

Sonata (A. Khachaturian)

**Luka Lesson Band (AUS)** **October 2016-2017**

**Backing Vocalist**

*Performed in various cities and venues across Australia (NSW, VIC, SA, QLD).*

The Artifact Australian Tour (2016)

10 Years of Akala Australian Tour (2016)

Nahko and The Medicine for the People Australian Tour (2017)

4ESYDNEY Hip Hop Festival (2017)

Splendour in the Grass Festival (2017)

**ENCORE HSC 2013 – BOSTES NSW** **March 2014**

**Piano Soloist**

*Performed and recorded at the Sydney Opera House. ENCORE is a program of outstanding performances and compositions by students from the Higher School Certificate Music examinations.*

Concert Etude No. 1 (N. Rakov)

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## ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

**SBS Radio – Assyrian Program** **2014 – Present**

**Support/Administration Volunteer**

**Fine Music FM****2016 – 2017****Intern**

*Completed radio presenter training.*

**SURGFM****2014 – 2016****Producer and Radio Presenter**

Produced and co-presented “Bach, Beethoven and Banter”, a classical music comedy show aimed at young audiences from musical and non-musical backgrounds. Bach, Beethoven and Banter was the winner of the “Best Music Show” award in 2014, presented by SURGFM.

**RELEVANT SKILLS**

## Languages

- Assyrian (native)
- Armenian (native)
- French (beginners)