

## ROSS LI. BURNS – CURRICULUM VITAE

### PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

- Experienced and versatile musician (guitar, percussion, vocals, composer)
- Confident, charismatic performer/presenter that is comfortable in front of any crowd
- Experienced teacher (of academics, dance and music) capable of designing and executing class plans for students of all levels and groups of any size
- Organized and capable administrator/manager
- Demonstrates ability to write successful funding applications for different levels of government
- Focused leader in organizing and directing ensembles in performance and in rehearsal
- Excellent communicator, spokesperson, representative and salesperson

### MUSICAL EXPERIENCE

2004 – present. **Gypsophilia** - guitar/percussion/composer/emcee

- Three critically acclaimed full-length albums released (*Constellation*, *Sa-ba-da-OW!*, *Minor Hope*)
- Four-time East Coast Music Award winner (2010,'11,'12,'13); two-time Music Nova Scotia Award winners (2009,'12)
- *Sa-ba-da-OW!* was the #1 album on the end-of-year National Campus Radio Jazz/Blues Chart in 2009
- Extensive and successful Canadian and US touring (2008-present)

2007 – present. **Dendê do Recife Capoeira Group** – leader/choreographer/principle teacher

- Scotia Festival of Music collaboration (2011) with Dinuk Wijeratne and Suzi Leblanc
- Guest teacher at Ottawa Capoeira Events (2010,'12,'13) hosted by Mestre Fabinho Cuencas
- Feature performances at Halifax's Annual Brazilian Carnaval – 2008, 2009, 2010
- More than 400 separate appearances, presentations and workshops from 2008 to the present

2003 – present. **Dendê do Recife Capoeira Group** – dancer/percussion/ vocals

- Regular performances, presentations and workshops
- Study trips to Recife, Brazil 2011 and 2008
- Visiting participant in various capoeira classes and events in: Recife, PE, Brazil; Ottawa, Ontario; Montreal, Quebec; Toronto, Ontario; Quebec City, Quebec; Vienna, Austria.

2003 – present. **Verbal Warnin'** – guitar/back-up vocals

- Halifax's favourite roots-reggae band; regular gigs in Halifax and throughout Nova Scotia
- Eight piece ensemble featuring vocalist King Sekou Nkrumah

2007 – present. **The New Bridge** – guitar/composer

- Adventurous acoustic chamber-jazz quintet

2008 – present. **Sazerac** – guitar

- 2009 and 2010 performances at the Halifax Jazz Festival
- Regular collaborators with spoken word collective Word Iz Bond creating spontaneous accompaniment for performing poets

### Has also worked as a side man and collaborator with:

Cyndi Cain, Duane Andrews, Shauntay Grant, Dinuk Wijeratne, Suzi Leblanc, Symphony Nova Scotia, David Myles, Erin Costelo, Old Man Ludecke, Ryan MacGrath, Zumbi/Zumbini Circus, Rømmel Ribeiro, Jeff Torbert, Matt Myer, Balako do Samba, Der Heisser, Rich Aucoin, McGill Percussion Ensemble, Ben Caplan, Becky Siamon.

### PAST HIGHLIGHTS

- 2008 *Composed and recorded original music and sounds for the short film The Lullaby of Mike Bossy directed by Jeff Wheaton.*
- 2010 *Original composition Hietzing featured in short film directed by Scott Simpson.*
- 2010 *Original composition Agricola & Sarah featured in short film directed by Sydney Smith and Jason Levangie.*
- 2010 *Hietzing licensed for placement in Canadian feature film Textuality*
- 2010 *Agricola & Sarah licensed for placement in Canadian independent short film Balcony Affair*
- 2011 *Gypsophilia released its third full-length album Constellation which was recorded over a week in Montreal's legendary Hotel2Tango studio in Dec '10 with Howard Bilerman (Arcade Fire, Stars).*

- 2011 Scotia Festival of Music collaboration (as consultant, dancer and percussionist) with Dinuk Wirjiatne, Mark Dugga, McGill percussion ensemble and Suzie Leblanc – an original suite for piano, soprano, Brazilian percussion and capoeira group.
- 2012 Gypsophilia - performance in concert with Symphony Nova Scotia.

### UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS

- June 2013 Gypsophilia - 5 week tour of the US and Canada (including stops in New York, Vancouver, Iqaluit and nearly everywhere between).

### RECORDING HISTORY

- 2013 **GYPSOPHILIA** – Horska 7" EP (Forward Music)
- 2011 **GYPSOPHILIA** – Constellation (Forward Music)
- 2011 **TWO BY TWO** – Live At The Echo Chamber
- 2010 **GYPSOPHILIA** – CBC Canada Live from the Halifax Jazz Fest
- 2010 **DARREN FUNG** – Whirlygig Suite
- 2010 **RYAN MACGRATH** – Cooper Hatch Paris
- 2010 **SHAUNTAY GRANT** – Wordrhythm
- 2010 **RICH AUCOIN** – Public Publication
- 2009 **GYPSOPHILIA** – Sa-ba-da-OW!
- 2007 **GYPSOPHILIA** – CBC Canada Live from the Atlantic Jazz Festival
- 2007 **CONTRA MESTRE AZEITONA** – Musica de Capoeira
- 2007 **GYPSOPHILIA** – Minor Hope
- 2006 **VERBAL WARNIN'** – Live at Stage Nine

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2013 – present. **Nova Scotia Community College** – teacher
- Teaching 10 weekly classroom hours through the winter 2013 term
  - Responsible for all curriculum, lesson plans, and marking for two classes in both the Music Arts and the Music Business programs
  - Teaching Living Cultures (music history) and Launching Your Music Career (music business)
- 2007 – present. **Dendê do Recife Capoeira Group** – full-time teacher/general manager/
- Teaching a minimum of 5 classes weekly
  - Responsible for group's accounting, advertising, booking engagements
  - Liaising with Mestre Azeitona and executing all plans and directions
- 2008 – present. **Gypsophilia Music** – Co-Manager
- Booking gigs, negotiating fees, advancing shows and coordinating tours.
  - Writing funding proposals to all levels of government
  - Managing web presence, advertising, poster, publicity
  - Representing the band at industry events and conferences, meeting with delegates, pitching the band to potential buyers
- 2007 – present. **Pernambulando Dance Studio** – General manager/Proprietor
- Managing bookings, keeping accounts, advertising, schedule keeping, cleaning and maintaining the studio space
- 1999 – 2008. **Halifax Folklore Centre** – Retail Sales/Customer Service
- Communicating with the public, retail sales
  - All store maintenance, cleaning, janitorial responsibilities
- 2004 – present. **Recover Journals** – Manufacturing handmade paper products
- Responsible for preparing raw materials, manufacturing products and quality control

### EDUCATION

- Ongoing Senior Student of Capoeira Group Dendê do Recife under Mestre Azeitona, Halifax, NS
- 2014 Creative Music Workshop Summer Intensive, Halifax Jazz Festival, Halifax, NS
- 2013 Private Study with Argentinian percussionist Marcelo Wolowski, New York, NY
- 2011 Private Study with capoeira/percussion teachers Mestre Azeitona, Mestre Chocolate and Contra-Mestre Josimar, Recife, Brazil
- 2010 Jerry Granelli's Advanced Student Ensemble, Halifax, NS
- 2008 Creative Music Workshop Summer Intensive, Halifax Jazz Festival, Halifax, NS

2008 Visiting Student with Grupo de Capoeira Perna Pesada (Mestre Perna Pesada), *Recife Brazil*  
2008 Private Study with Brazilian percussionist Tony Boy, *Recife, Brazil*  
2008 Music Nova Scotia Export Training Pitching Workshop, *Halifax, NS*  
2004 BA in Philosophy, *University of King's College, Halifax* – graduated with Dean's list Honours  
2003 CSSG German Immersion Certificate, *Kassel, Germany*  
2002 Eight Years of private study with guitarist Ross Anderson, *Halifax, NS*

**INTERESTS**

**Languages** – Fluent in German, Portuguese and English; conversationally fluent in French.

**Travel** – Extensive travel in Canada, USA, Europe and South America including a year abroad in Germany in 2003 and study trips to Brazil in 2008 and 2011, and New York in 2013.