

Weatherford College International Piano Competition **Stefan Sunandan Honisch: Biographical Summary**

Stefan Sunandan Honisch is currently Sessional Lecturer in the Department of Theatre and Film, and Scholar-In-Residence at St. John's College, at the University of British Columbia. From 2019 to 2021, he held a Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship in the department from 2019 to 2021. He is also Co-Director of a Race, Gender, and Diversity Initiative, "Facilitating Anti-Ableist Remote Music-Making," and Co-Applicant for a Partnership Development Grant, "Canadian Accessible Musical Instruments Network." Both projects, led by Adam Patrick Bell, Western University, are funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

His research interests are at the intersection of Critical Disability Studies, Critical Music Studies, Performance Studies, and Critical Pedagogy. His first monograph project ***Vulnerable Virtuositities: Disability in Concert and Competition*** (in progress) uses a Disability Justice framework to explore how blind virtuoso pianists radically challenge stubborn dualisms of musical strength and weakness, demonstrating that vulnerable manifestations of disabled embodiment intensify the aesthetic and expressive power of musical virtuosity. Honisch presented work from this project as a keynote speaker for Holyoke College's 2024 symposium ***Reframing the Gaze: Maria Theresia Paradis, Blind Musicians, and Musical Culture before and after Braille.***

Honisch has published in such journals as ***Music Theory Online***, ***Journal of Inclusive Education***, ***Voices: A World Forum for Music Therapy***, ***Journal of Interdisciplinary Voice Studies***, and ***Journal of Teaching Disability Studies, Theory & Event*** (with Katharina Clausius), and ***Journal of Popular Music Education*** (with Kurt Thumlert and Jason Nolan). Honisch has also contributed book and recording reviews to ***Journal of Musicological Research*** and ***Nineteenth-Century Music Review***, chapters to ***The Oxford Handbook of Music and Disability Studies***, ***The Oxford Handbook of Music and the Body***, ***Transnational Horror Cinema: Bodies of Excess and the Global Grotesque*** (Palgrave Macmillan) and ***Defining the Boundaries of Disability: Critical Perspectives*** (Routledge). Current projects include an article on disability and dramaturgy for the ***Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Disability Studies***. In addition to his research and teaching, Honisch remains active as a freelance musician, and serves as Section Editor of ***Postcolonial Text***, Assistant Editor of ***Journal of Global Higher Education***, and sits on the Review Board of ***Journal of Teaching Disability Studies***, and the Editorial Board of ***Public Disability History***. Strongly committed to service in higher education, Honisch serves on the University of British Columbia Accessibility Committee, and on a working group for Health, Wellbeing, and Inclusivity at St. John's College.