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The Dent Medal

The Dent Medal, in memory of Edward J. Dent, is awarded by the Royal Musical Association annually to recipients selected for their outstanding contribution to musicology, from a list of candidates drawn up by the Council of the Association and the Directorium of the International Musicological Society.

For 2016 the Dent Medal is awarded to MARK KATZ, Ruel W. Tyson, Jr Distinguished Professor of Humanities and Director of the Institute for the Arts and Humanities at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Professor Katz received his Ph.D. in 1999 at the University of Michigan, with a dissertation entitled 'The Phonograph Effect: The Influence of Recording on Listener, Performer, Composer, 1900–1940'. He has written on recordings and technology, as well as on violin performance and hip-hop culture. His work pays close attention both to the workings of musical texts and to the technology that helps shape their composition and reception. His most recent project, funded by the US Department of State, has taken musicology and hip-hop studies in bold new directions, creating a model of exemplary and ethical scholarship that internationalizes the discipline in productive ways. He is an ambassador for musicology, popular music studies and knowledge exchange.

Professor Katz has produced three groundbreaking monographs in overlapping but very different fields of musicological enquiry. His first book, *Capturing Sound: How Technology Has Changed Music* (University of California Press, 2004), now in its second edition (2010), was one of the first pieces of musicology to study the effect of recording technology on musical composition, and won the 2007 Hacker Prize from the Society for the History of Technology. Its subject matter ranges from early twentieth-century violin portamento to hip-hop sampling. In hip-hop studies and in studies of music and technology, Professor Katz's chapters on sampling and MP3 file-sharing have been critical for the details of *how* sampling occurs in addition to its cultural effects. He fuses the realms of technology theory and musicology in new and exciting ways, and covers a wide range of eras and genres with ease. His second book, *The Violin: A Research and Information Guide* (Routledge, 2006), deals with the arena of performance studies. His experience working at the Peabody Conservatory for seven years, and as a violinist, contributed to this useful guide, and he is able to encompass both university and conservatoire worlds within his research. His third monograph, *Groove Music: The Art of Culture of the Hip-Hop DJ* (OUP, 2012), is essentially the first academic history of the hip-hop DJ. He also has published a number of articles and chapters on related topics, as well as a jointly edited collection – *Music, Sound, and Technology in America* (Duke University Press, 2012), co-edited with Timothy Taylor and Tony Grajeda – on music and technology.

His contribution to musicology, in particular to the study of recorded performance, music and technology, and popular music, has been monumental. The concept of the 'phonograph effect', for example, has been taken up most prominently in jazz studies, and has been applied to the decline of portamento in twentieth-century classical performance practice (as evidenced through recordings). His ideas have helped musicologists go beyond the score, to consider recording length and other constraints. *Groove Music* also includes a companion website which

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has pushed the boundaries of interactive cross-media texts. His interviews with prominent DJs, and his own immersion in DJ education (taking classes on DJing himself, for example) has helped to foster a more practice-based method for study. He has been responsible for the creation at UNC of several new courses, including the Art and Culture of the DJ, Beat Making Lab, Rap Lab and Rock Lab, which aim to introduce students without formal musical training to composition, performance, music history, entrepreneurship and community engagement.

Finally, his current projects will be of interest not only to hip-hop studies, but also to how government-funded research can make a global impact. In 2013, Katz was awarded a grant of nearly $1,000,000 from the US Department of State to create and run Next Level, a programme that sends American hip-hop artists abroad to foster cultural exchange, conflict resolution and entrepreneurship. The programme has included travel to Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, India, Montenegro, Senegal, Serbia and Zimbabwe. In this increasing era of 'impact' in UK research, Professor Katz is engaging in incredibly productive work which involves a two-way exchange of knowledge and respect surrounding hip-hop culture. His activities provide an extremely useful and practical model which could teach the UK community about the possibilities of creating research with real social impact.

Previous winners of the Dent Medal have been:

1961	Gilbert Reaney	Great Britain
1962	Solange Corbin	France
1963	Dénes Bartha	Hungary
1964	Pierre Pidoux	Switzerland
1965	Barry S. Brook	USA
1966	F. Alberto Gallo	Italy
1967	William W. Austin	USA
1968	Heinrich Hüschen	West Germany
1969	Willem Elders	Holland
1970	Daniel Heartz	USA
1971	Klaus Wolfgang Niemöller	West Germany
1972	Jozef Robijns	Belgium
1973	Max Lütolf	Switzerland
1974	Andrew McCredie	Australia
1975	Martin Staehelin	West Germany
1976	—	
1977	Reinhard Strohm	Great Britain
1978	Christoph Wolff	USA
1979	Margaret Bent	Great Britain
1980	Craig Wright	USA
1981	Anthony Newcomb	USA
1982	David Fallows	Great Britain
1983	Lorenzo Bianconi	Italy
1984	Iain Fenlon	Great Britain
1985	Curtis A. Price	USA
1986	Silke Leopold	West Germany
1987	Richard F. Taruskin	USA
1988	Jean-Jacques Nattiez	Canada

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1989	Paolo Fabbri	Italy
1990	Christopher Page	Great Britain
1991	Roger Parker	Great Britain
1992	Kofi Agawu	Ghana
1993	Carolyn Abbate	USA
1994	Lorenz Welker	Germany
1995	Susan Rankin	Great Britain
1996	Ulrich Konrad	Germany
1997	Philip V. Bohlman	USA
1998	Rob C. Wegman	USA
1999	Gianmario Borio	Italy
2000	Philippe Vendrix	Belgium
2001	Martha Feldman	USA
2002	Laurenz Lütteken	Switzerland
2003	John Butt	Great Britain
2004	Daniel Chua	Great Britain
2005	Julian Johnson	Great Britain
2006	Mary Ann Smart	USA
2007	Georgina Born	Great Britain
2008	Anselm Gerhard	Switzerland
2009	W. Dean Sutcliffe	New Zealand
2010	Martin Stokes	Great Britain
2011	Annegret Fauser	USA
2012	Michel Duchesneau	Canada
2013	Elizabeth Eva Leach	Great Britain
2014	Alexander Rehding	USA
2015	Marina Frolova-Walker	Great Britain

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