

Laurent Fintoni

CURRICULUM VITAE

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International creative with over 20 years of experience in media and culture. Digital Humanist focused on digital cultural heritage and archives. Versatile, organized, and solution-oriented. Passionate about culture. Author and recognized specialist in hip-hop and electronic music history.

Education

University of Bologna / Digital Humanities and Digital Knowledge M.A.

OCT 2020 - NOV 2022, Bologna

Data science and cultural heritage in a digital context.

Thesis: Challenges in Cataloging Musical Heritage Online

Final grade: 110/110 cum laude (4 GPA)

Manchester Academy of English / CELTA

OCT - DEC 2006, Manchester

Cambridge ESOL qualification for teaching of English as a secondary language.

University of East London / Communication Studies B.A.

FEB 1998 - JUNE 2002, London

Culture and media theory.

Thesis: Are Turntablists the Musicians of The Future?

Final grade: 2:1 (3.3 GPA).

Professional Experience

University of Bologna / Research Fellow

NOV 2023 - PRESENT, Bologna

Three-year research project in conjunction with the Italian Ministry of Culture, tasked with investigating ways of showcasing and integrating the digital cultural heritage of Italian universities within the national infrastructure. Developed a catalogue, repository, and multiple semantic artefacts.

Links: <https://icdp-digital-library.github.io/KNOT/>

Various Clients / Editorial, Operational, Content services (freelance)

2002 - PRESENT, Worldwide

Editorial/operational services, content/social media management, multimedia production in the music, culture, hospitality, and technology industries. Clients: HEDD Audio, Electronic Arts, Intel, Marriott, VICE, Red Bull, Japan Times, The FADER & more.

Links: <https://www.thefader.com/contributor/laurent-fintoni>,
<https://www.vice.com/en/contributor/laurent-fintoni>,
<https://daily.redbullmusicacademy.com/author/laurent-fintoni>

Sound Liberation / Label and Operations Manager (P/T)

Jan 2016 - PRESENT, NYC/Los Angeles/Remote

Management of physical and digital production and distribution for music releases.

Advising on brand consolidation through content creation.

Links: <http://dub-stuy.com/>

Digital Humanities Advanced Research Centre / Research Internship (P/T)

FEB - JUN 2022, Bologna

Developed an app to discover new musical heritage resources using Python, APIs, NLP, and Machine Learning, as part of my master's thesis.

Links: <https://github.com/polifonia-project/musow-pipeline>

Velocity Press / Author

OCT 2019 - OCT 2020, Los Angeles

Bedroom Beats & B-Sides, my first book, documents the stories behind instrumental hip-hop and electronic music at the turn of the century. Published November 2020.

Links: [youtube.com/watch?v=kFAGcWd6LCk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kFAGcWd6LCk), [Ethnomusicology Review \(UCLA\)](#)

Yadastar* / Moving Images Manager

JAN 2018 - OCT 2019, Los Angeles

Managed video production for Red Bull Music Academy, Red Bull Radio, and Red Bull Music brands, working with local RB entities and production partners. Project management for custom digital content projects. Tested new social media formats. Managed YouTube channel, analytics, and production guidelines and standards.

Links: <https://www.redbullmusicacademy.com/lectures>

Red Bull Music Academy / Digital Project Manager, Producer (freelance)

JUN 2016 - JAN 2018, NYC/Los Angeles

Project management for RBMA video lecture archive update, Red Bull Radio rebranding, global guidelines, and RBMA Facebook Live series for 2017 NYC and LA festivals. Produced all RBMA lectures for 2017 US festivals. Managed teams of freelancers and diverse budgets.

Links: <https://www.redbullmusicacademy.com/about>, <https://www.youtube.com/rbma>

FACT Magazine / Weekend Editor (P/T)

SEPT 2013 - JAN 2017, Brussels/NYC

News writing, copy-editing, and social media management (>200K followers) for globally known publication focused on music and culture.

Links: <https://www.factmag.com/author/laurent/>

Big Agency / SEO, Content, Digital Project Manager

JAN 2009 - DEC 2011, London

Project management and development of an online content network (9 sites), including external dev agency, testing, processes, budgets. SEO and content management for travel brands and client sites. Editorial support to marketing and social activities.

Wise Media / Editor

AUG 2008 - JAN 2009, Milan

Edited *ID Community* publications (3 magazines focused on identification technology). Managed content, writers, editorial calendar, production.

International Herald Tribune - Asahi Shimbun / Copy Editor

OCT 2007 - JUNE 2008, Tokyo

Copy-editing for news stories, briefs, editorial, opinion pieces, and front page features.

Great Hotels of the World (Big Agency) / Sub-Editor, SEO, Content Manager

FEB 2005 - DEC 2006, London

Content management, SEO, and editorial work for luxury travel brand directories, magazines, and websites. Production for print publications.

Firehouse Publishing / Editorial Assistant, Production Manager

DEC 2002 - DEC 2004, London

Editorial and production for B2B/B2C auto industry print and marketing materials.

Concurrent with the above I've also worked as a CELTA-qualified English teacher in Tokyo (2007-2008), a Census Field Worker in Los Angeles (2020), European tour manager for Shigeto (2014), event organizer / project manager for Original Cultures in Europe (2009-2015), fundraiser in Tokyo (2011), and freelance translator (2011-).

Publications

Books:

- + [Bedroom Beats & B-Sides: Instrumental Hip-Hop and Electronic Music at The Turn of The Century](#), Velocity Press, 2020

Articles & Book Chapters (academic):

- + [Rethinking Scholarly Digital Objects as Cultural Heritage: the KNOT Project](#), *Umanistica Digitale*, 9(20), 381-403, 2025
- + [CLEF 2.0. Solutions for Native Linked Data Cataloguing of Italian Digital Cultural Heritage](#), *JLIS.It* 16 (1):108-26, 2025
- + [L'Università di Bologna a supporto dell'ecosistema digitale della cultura presso il Ministero della Cultura](#), *Visioni future: Next Generation Library - Vol.1*, 2023

Datasets:

- + [KNOT Catalogue Knowledge Graph](#), 2025
- + [KNOT Controlled Vocabularies](#), 2024

Selected Articles (non-academic):

- + ["Aron's Record Store and the Development of the LA Beat Scene"](#), *RBMA Daily*, 2019
- + ["Complex Movements is the Detroit Collective Using Sci-Fi Storytelling to Empower Its Community"](#), *The FADER*, 2016
- + ["Le hip-hop nineties ou l'illusion du sacré"](#), *Audimat* 5 (1), 83-97, 2016
- + ["Wheel it Up: History of the Rewind"](#), *Cuepoint*, 2015
- + ["How Fruity Loops Changed Music-Making Forever"](#), *RBMA Daily*, 2015
- + ["The Return of the Boom Bap: New Maneuvers in Hip Hop"](#), *Serie B*, 2008

Google Scholar page: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=MXxfgXoAAAAJ>

Lectures / Teaching Experience

Guest lectures:

- + Beat Scene Narratives @ Music & Culture class, UC Riverside, 2025
- + Beat Scene Narratives @ 3024 Mentoring course, 2025
- + [The Birth of the L.A beat scene](#) @ Dilla, Detroit, and Machine Music class, New York University, 2022 + 2023
- + A Boom Bap Continuum @ Beat BBQ, Cologne, 2013
- + A Boom Bap Continuum @ A Love Supreme, Limerick, 2013
- + A Boom Bap Continuum @ [Sonic Lectures](#), Centrum, Berlin, 2012
- + A Boom Bap Continuum @ Roots of Contemporary Music, Bradly Center, London, 2011

Teaching:

- + Music Journalism Workshop @ [CAMP](#), 2025
- + Tools for DH Research Crash Course @ Digital Humanities & Digital Knowledge M.A, University of Bologna, 2023 - 2025

Conference Presentations / Posters

Presentation / Posters:

- + Scholarly Primitives Revisited (again): Building a Taxonomy of Scholarly Digital Objects @ Building Knowledge Landscapes Across the Digital Humanities seminar, 2025
- + /DH.arc Vocabularies: Making semantic artefacts more visible and accessible using SKOS @ AIUCD Conference + WOOC Workshop (poster), 2025
- + Rethinking scholarly digital objects as cultural heritage: the KNOT project @ AIUCD Conference, 2024
- + CLEF 2.0. Soluzioni per la catalogazione nativa Linked Data del patrimonio digitale culturale italiano @ AIUCD Conference, 2024 (co-author)
- + L'Università di Bologna a supporto dell'ecosistema digitale della cultura presso il

Ministero della Cultura - Digital Library @ Convegno Stelline, Milan, 2023 (co-author)

Chair:

+ [Studio Science with Bernie Grundman](#), RBMA Festival Los Angeles, 2017

+ DJs for Life Conference, Birmingham, 2005

DH Projects

/DH.arc Vocabularies (2024-2025)

<https://lab.dharc.unibo.it/skosmos/>

Repository for semantic artefacts created by the Digital Humanities Advanced Research Centre at the University of Bologna, dockerised PHP and Apache Jena app (Skosmos).

KNOT Catalogue (2023-2025)

<https://projects.dharc.unibo.it/knot/>

A catalog of digital scholarly objects and activity, running on a Python app (CLEF) and a Blazegraph backend. Part of the KNOT pilot, supported by the Ministry of Culture.

Music Archives & Historical Resources (2021-2023)

<https://studies.laurentfintoni.com/mji/>

A catalog of archives, historical, and research resources that deal with music in some way. Created and maintained as a Google Doc, now running on a Ruby app (Minicomp).

i muri non finisco mai (2022-2023)

<https://studies.laurentfintoni.com/walls-bologna/>

Photography and mapping project exploring vernacular memory on the walls of Bologna, built using HTML, CSS, and JS.

musoW Discovery Tool (2022)

<http://github.com/polifonia-project/musow-pipeline>

Pipeline to discover new musical heritage resources for inclusion in the musoW catalog using Logistic Regression, APIs, and Python libraries. Part of Polifonia H2020 project (deliverable 1.9).

The Sampling Ontology (2022)

<https://ilaross.github.io/SamO/index.html>

An extension of the Music Ontology for sampling phenomena in music.

RBMA Text Analysis (2021)

<https://laurentfintoni.github.io/RBMA-Text-Analysis/>

Exploring the RBMA lectures archive using text analysis and mining, with Python and R comparative analysis.

View more projects at <https://studies.laurentfintoni.com/>

Media Coverage

[“The Global Music Vault wants to preserve the world’s music in case of disaster – but how will they do it?”](#), *The Independent*, 2023

[“The Race to Save Hip-Hop’s Lost Eras”](#), *Pitchfork*, 2022

[“A New Generation of Filipino Hip-Hop Builds On a Deep Bay Area Legacy”](#), *KQED*, 2021

[“Music dug up from under the earth’: how trip-hop never stopped”](#), *The Guardian*, 2021

[“Bedroom Beats & B-sides book review”](#), *The Wire* magazine, 2020

[“Is Bandcamp the Holy Grail of Online Record Stores?”](#), *The New York Times*, 2016

[“Dance artists come together for Japan”](#), *The Japan Times*, 2011

Skills

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- + *Advanced*: Web Development, Project Management, Content Management & Production, Copywriting, Copy-editing, Adobe CS, MS Office/Google Docs, HTML, CSS, CMS (custom/open source), Social Media
 - + *Intermediate*: Data Science & Modelling, Machine Learning, Python, Semantic Web, Multimedia (Post)Production, SEO/SEM, Analytics
 - + *Basic*: JavaScript, MySQL, PHP, Linux/Window servers, R, Docker, Ruby, XML

Languages

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- + *Fluent/Native*: English, Italian, French
 - + *Basic*: Spanish, Japanese

References

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- + Francesca Tomasi, Professor in Archival and Library Sciences, FICLIT, University of Bologna
 - + Todd Burns, Editor in Chief, uDiscover Music (Universal Music Group), Los Angeles