

# GOD in Music City

How does music shape **religious identity** in Nashville?

How does religion shape the city's **music**?

What religious and **spiritual experiences** shape how music is listened to, performed, consumed, or otherwise experienced in this city?

In what sense is the **music industry** shaped by, and a shaper of, religion?

In short, is music a religion in **Nashville**, and is religion inherently musical here?

**God in Music City** is a semester-long series of events that brings together scholars, students, musicians, religious leaders, and community members to explore the ways in which local and regional identity is both formed and informed by religious and musical practice in Nashville — Music City, USA.

*Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Religion and Culture at Vanderbilt University*



VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

**Center for the Study of Religion and Culture**

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# GOD in Music City

a series of events exploring the ways **religion** and **music** shape each other in Nashville, Tennessee



JANUARY 12 - APRIL 18, 2008

# Events

For more information, schedule updates, registration, and event blog

Saturday, January 12, 7 p.m.

## **God in Music City CD Release Party**

The Commons Center,  
Vanderbilt University

*Co-sponsored by The Commons*

**Hosts:** Greg Barz, Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology; Julie Lee, Nashville-based singer-songwriter and Artist in Residence

Tuesday and Wednesday,  
January 15 and 16, 9 p.m.

## **God in Music City at The Bluebird: The New Agrarians (Tom Kimmel, Pierce Pettis, Kate Campbell), with Julie Lee**

Bluebird Café, 4104 Hillsboro Pike

**Host:** Tom Kimmel, Nashville-based singer-songwriter and Artist in Residence

Thursday, February 7, 4:10 p.m.

## **Music, Religion, and the South: Notes from the Field**

CSRC University Seminar  
Buttrick Hall

**Presenter:** John McClure, Charles G. Finney Professor of Homiletics and Chair of the Graduate Department of Religion

Saturday, February 16,  
9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

## **Nashville Houses of Worship: A Bus Tour**

*Co-sponsored by the Vanderbilt  
American Studies program*

**Guide:** Robin Jensen, Luce Chancellor's Professor of the History of Christian Art and Worship

Saturday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.

## **Music of the Spirit: Panel Discussion followed by Nashville Chamber Orchestra Concert**

Schermerhorn Symphony Center

**Moderator:** Allison Pingree, Director of the Vanderbilt University Center for Teaching and affiliated faculty, Blair School of Music



Thursday, March 13, 9 p.m.

**Strange Bedfellows:  
Gay Christian Music**

The Basement, 1604 8th Avenue South

*Co-sponsored by the Carpenter Program  
in Religion, Gender, and Sexuality*

**Moderators:** Jewly Hight, music critic, artist, Vanderbilt Divinity School degree candidate; Ellen Armour, E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Chair in Feminist Theology and Director of the Carpenter Program in Religion, Gender, and Sexuality

Sunday, March 30, 7 p.m.

**The Lord Is My Shepherd:  
Variations on Psalm 23**

Turner Recital Hall, Blair School of Music

*Co-sponsored by Blair School of Music*

**Moderator:** Michael Alec Rose, Associate Professor of Composition

Wednesday, April 2, 4 p.m.

**God in Country Music Videos**

Vanderbilt Divinity School Art Room

**Presenters:** James Hudnut-Beumler, Dean of Vanderbilt Divinity School and Anne Potter Wilson Distinguished Professor of American Religious History; James Byrd, Assistant Professor of American Religious History and Associate Dean for Graduate Education and Research

*Co-sponsored by Vanderbilt Divinity School*

Thursday and Friday, April 17–18 **God**

THURSDAY

**God in Music City: The People  
Who Make the Music**

10 a.m. Keynote Address

Noon Lunch and Poster Session I

**Student projects from the God in  
Music City undergraduate course**

1 p.m. Greg Barz

**Who Are the People Who Make  
God Music in Music City?**

For more information, schedule u  
blogs, visit [www.godinmu](http://www.godinmu)



**in Music City Capstone Conference** Convener: John McClure *Co-sponsored by Vanderbilt Divinity School*

3:30 p.m. Jewly Hight  
**The Spiritual Concerns of Women  
in Americana Music**

5 p.m. Reception  
8 p.m. Tom Kimmel & Friends  
**Music, Religion, and the South:  
Where Do Songs Come From?**

**FRIDAY**

**God in Music City: The Power  
of the Music**

9 a.m. **Presentation of Graduate  
Student Work**

11 a.m. Michael Rose  
**Provisional Conversion to  
Religious "Truth" through Music**

Noon Lunch and Poster Session II  
**Student projects from the God in  
Music City undergraduate course**

1:30 p.m. James Hudnut-Beumler  
and James Byrd

**God in Country Music Videos,  
Redux**

3 p.m. John McClure and  
Allison Pingree

**Using Music to Explore and  
Expand Religious Identity in  
Teaching and Preaching**

5 p.m. **Panel Discussion,  
moderated by Robin Jensen  
Vanderbilt and the Popular Music  
Community in Nashville**

January – May 2008

**Music History and Literature 278  
Music and Religion:  
God in Music City**

An undergraduate course at the Blair  
School of Music, Vanderbilt University

**Instructors:** Greg Barz and  
Allison Pingree



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updates, registration, and event  
[siccity.org](http://siccity.org).

