

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Andy Kirshner, D.M.A., associate professor of music in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, and associate professor of art and design in the Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design, retired from active faculty status on December 31, 2023.

Professor Kirshner received a D.M.A. degree in 1999 and a M.M. degree in music composition in 1995, both from the University of Michigan. Professor Kirshner received a B.M. degree in saxophone performance in 1983, from the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, and a B.A. degree in philosophy, also in 1983, from Tufts University (magna cum laude). After two years as an adjunct lecturer, Professor Kirshner joined the University of Michigan full-time in 2001, as an assistant professor of music, in the Department of Performing Arts Technology, in the School of Music, Theater & Dance (SMTD), and as an assistant professor of art and design, in the Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design (STAMPS). In 2008, he was promoted to associate professor of music, with tenure, in SMTD, and associate professor of art and design, in STAMPS. At UM, Professor Kirshner teaches film scoring, sound design, multimedia collaboration, and video production.

A composer, performer, writer, and filmmaker, Professor Kirshner draws on an eclectic background in jazz, classical composition, theater, dance, film, and the humanities to construct multidisciplinary compositions that explore complex historical and social questions.

Professor Kirshner's compositions and performances have been recognized and funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, Meet the Composer, the American Music Center, Artserve Michigan, the Institute for Research on Women and Gender, and the UM Office of Research. At the University of Michigan, he was twice a fellow at the Institute for the Humanities. In 2022, he received the Rogers Edge Award from the Stamps School in recognition of "creative practice that moves beyond disciplinary boundaries and brings together different kinds of people and ideas." His earlier work includes *An Evening with Tony Amore*, a music-theatre piece for jazz voice and orchestra based on the myth of Frank Sinatra; *Who It Is*, a one-man video musical about race and identity; and *The Museum of Life and Death*, a 25th-century sci-fi adaptation of the medieval play, *Everyman*. His two feature films, *Liberty's Secret*, and *10 Questions for Henry Ford*, have screened at festivals nationally and internationally, and in many university and community settings.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Andy Kirshner, associate professor emeritus of music and associate professor emeritus of art and design.**

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2023