

# Postdoctoral Fellow in Interdisciplinary Interventions in the Design of Music Recommendation Systems

As part of an international interdisciplinary research initiative focused on developing new concepts and designs for music recommendation systems, Fernando Diaz (Mila, Google) and Georgina Born (UCL) are looking for a one year Postdoctoral Researcher. Candidates will have a demonstrated track record of research topics related to the understanding and design of music recommendation systems. The project aims to bridge models of music recommendation found in machine learning with new and alternative conceptions stemming from the social sciences and humanities, informed by critical debates over bias and discrimination and oriented to non-profit and public service media values. As such, we seek candidates with strong and relevant academic backgrounds in a core computational discipline and/or in the social sciences or humanities, including science and technology studies. A background or skills in machine learning or computer science are desirable, but are not required. The position will be based at Mila in Montreal, and we expect this position to involve collaboration with researchers based there. Successful candidates will have a well-established research track record, evidenced by notable journal or conference publications and broader contributions to the research community. Prior experience with or an eagerness to collaborate across disciplines is desirable.

This position will be in dialogue with a larger international interdisciplinary project involving engineers designing music recommendation systems and social scientists and humanists: Georgina Born's European Research Council-funded program, 'Music and Artificial Intelligence: Building Critical Interdisciplinary Studies'. Some background can be found in Born, Morris, Diaz, and Anderson, 'Artificial Intelligence, Music Recommendation, and the Curation of Culture', Schwartz Reisman Institute for Technology and Society, 2021, and Born, 'Diversifying MIR: Knowledge and Real-World Challenges, and New Interdisciplinary Futures', *Transactions of the International Society for Music Information Retrieval*, 3(1), pp. 193–204. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5334/tismir.58>.

The position is based in Montréal, Quebec for one year starting in the fall of 2021. Salary is 74,000 CAD. Applications received before July 7, 2021 will receive full consideration.

For more information and to apply, contact Fernando Diaz: [diazf@acm.org](mailto:diazf@acm.org).

## Required qualifications

- PhD in a relevant field (completed).
- A strong research program demonstrated by journal and/or conference publications.
- The ability to work in and respond to a highly collaborative and interdisciplinary environment, and to take initiative and work independently.
- Strong communication skills.

## Preferred qualifications

- Background or skills in machine learning or computer science.
- Demonstrable experience and leadership, such as service on conference program committees, workshop organization, teaching or tutorials, or outreach activities.

### **Application Material**

- A cover letter, indicating how the applicant's research record and skills are relevant to the position and the project, mentioning any interdisciplinary experience and skills, and emphasizing potential connections and synergies with the Mila lab. 1 page will usually suffice.
- A CV, listing all peer-reviewed publications, workshop and conference organisation.
- Three reference letters, to be submitted independently before the deadline.
- A research statement (maximum 2 pages) that outlines your research achievements and agenda, how they lead into your suitability for this position, and any initial observations about the project itself.
- 2 writing samples: please submit the conference or journal articles, book chapters, etc., that you are most proud of and that best demonstrate your expertise.