

Tom Shelton

He / Him

London, UK | +44 7511 282962 | tomsheltonguitar@gmail.com / tomshelton24@gmail.com | [LinkedIn](#)

EDUCATION

University of Cambridge | Cambridge, UK Sept. 2025 – June 2026
MPhil in Music; Member of Queens' College
Predicted Final Grade: First Class Honours
Relevant Coursework: Global Musical Tastes in The Age of Big Data, Musicology and its Debates, Global Voices.
Dissertation Title: Defining Success in Precarious Music Careers: Identity, Value, and Meaning-Making in Contemporary London Music Worlds

University of London, SOAS | London, UK Sept. 2022-May. 2025
BA Social Anthropology and Music
Final Grade: 2.1
Relevant Coursework: Theory in Anthropology, World Social Theory, Pop & Politics in East Asia, AI and Social Robotics, Mind Culture & Psychiatry, Writing Across The Arts, Decolonising Popular Music, Sound Recording.

University of West London, London College of Music | London, UK December 2019
UWLQ Level 4 Diploma in Music Teaching
Final Grade: Distinction

The King's School | Grantham, UK Sept. 2007-June 2014
A Levels: Mathematics (A), English Literature (B), Music (B), Further Mathematics (C).

WORK EXPERIENCE

Tom Shelton Guitar Tuition | London, UK Nov. 2015-Present
Business Owner and Private Tutor

- Managed over 150 private music students, children and adults.
- Managed over £100,000 of revenue, as well as advertising and student enrolment.
- Planned and conducted more than 2500 lessons, ranging from beginner to advanced level. Involved motivating and inspiring students of all ages in a variety of settings including in schools.
- Highest rated guitar and bass tutor Google Business profile in local area (5.0 stars).

Mind Mental Health Charity | London, UK August 2024-July 2025
Peer Navigator Volunteer

- Worked as a volunteer for Mind's Wellbeing Network making calls to residents, providing self-help resources, signposting and support with service referrals.
- Worked closely with a dynamic team to support clients in a mental health service.

Agri-System Brokers | London, UK / Mpumalanga, South Africa May 2023-October 2023
Research Assistant

- An agricultural innovation system brokerage consultancy working to find ways in which the agricultural education and training systems in South Africa can be improved, collaborating with the Agricultural Research Council and the University of Mpumalanga.
- Used open source research methods to map innovation systems and government policy, wrote and conducted interviews, contributed to writing an analytical paper and proposal.

Sony Music UK | London, UK May 2015-Oct. 2016
Session Musician

- Toured the UK multiple times, including performances at major festivals.
- Recording sessions at Abbey Road Studios and Maida Vale Studios for BBC Radio 1. Live performances broadcast on Radio X.
- Notable performances: Hackney Empire, Reading & Leeds Festivals, Bestival, Electric Brixton.

Independent Artist | London, UK
Guitarist and Bassist (Various Groups), Tour Manager

- Multi-instrumentalist: electric guitar, bass guitar, acoustic guitar, backing vocals, charango, piano, upright bass, percussion, mandolin, ukulele, sequencers, samplers, gamelan, drums.
- Performed at 500+ concerts including: Reading & Leeds, Shepherd's Bush Empire, Isle Of Wight Festival, Hackney Empire, The Leadmill, Electric Ballroom, Green Man, Boardmasters.
- Experienced composer, collaborator, producer for projects including podcasts and video games.
- Managed social media accounts, and design, marketing, global distribution of merchandise.
- Experience as Tour Manager, Guitar Technician, and Driver for other artists.

High Vis Productions | London, UK

Feb. 2019-March 2020

Artist Liaison, Events Crew

- Liaised between event management team and festival performers at Urban Village Fete at Greenwich Peninsula, May 2019.
- Worked as event crew in 2019 and 2020 at various events in London for our clients Greenwich Peninsula and Hemingway Design. Worked as part of a dynamic, fast-paced small team to install and de-rig event structures and signage, and ensure the smooth running of medium to large events.

Freedom Angels Animal Rescue | Romania and UK

Feb. 2023-June 2023

Social Media Management, Content Creation

- Volunteered for a charity who rescue Romanian street dogs and adopt them to homes in the UK. Content creation and management for Instagram and TikTok accounts, and dealing with enquiries.

Hoxton Film Services | London, UK

March-Sep. 2016

Set Crew, Marshall

- Moved and erected film sets in London for clients BBC and ITV.
- Marshalled on set in Central London for a BBC drama, assisted communications and direction between film crew and the general public.

Alternative Press Magazine | Nottingham, UK

April-July 2015

Volunteer Music Writer

- Attended concerts and festivals and wrote reviews which were published on altpress.com.

Millars General Store | London, UK

June 2019-Sept. 2022

Assistant Manager

- Small independent organic greengrocer/deli Millars General Store in Vauxhall.
- Customer service, sales, social media, stock management, deliveries.
- Front line worker during Covid-19 pandemic, adapting safety policy and maintaining the store's role as an essential part of the local community.

Skillington Workshop | Lincolnshire, UK

Jan.-April 2019

Conservator

- Restored and protected Victorian mosaics, tilework and stonework at St George's Church.

Maddison's House Clearances and Probate Valuations | London, UK

Feb. 2017-June 2018

House Clearance

- Worked in a small team to bring 50+ vacant properties up to market standard. Restored and upcycled furniture and clothing. Worked closely with Emmaus homelessness charity.

PAPERS & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Mythology and Mental Health in London's contemporary music scene. (*Undergraduate dissertation*)
- The Voice of Celia Cruz, Nostalgia, and the Cuban Exile Experience
- "He's Not An American": Bad Bunny's Music as a Locus for Discourses of Race and Ethnicity in the United States
- A critical analysis of the Buena Vista Social Club: Why the music industry should rewrite the story of the biggest selling Cuban album of all time. (*submitted for publishing, SOAS student journal*)
- What can we learn about gender - roles, representations and relationships - through listening to popular music in East Asia?
- Why the Hammond Organ became the soundtrack to the Black Consciousness movement in S. Africa.
- The comedic grey area: Intersectionality in stand up comedy.

SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

Diploma in Electric Guitar Teaching, DBS Enhanced Certificate, UK Driver's License, Spanish Language (A2), Working with Children, Children's Education, Mental Health Support, Customer Service, Audio-Video and Podcast Editing, Social Media Management (Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, YouTube), Multi-Instrumentalist, Copywriting, Musicology, Website Design, SEO (basic), Google (Business, Docs, Sheets, Drive, Search), Microsoft (Word, Outlook, Excel, PowerPoint), Zoom, Skype, Trello, Slack, Apple Logic Pro, Final Cut Pro, Muse Score, Sibelius, Cubase, Pro Tools, Guitar Pro 8, Instrument and Sound Technician, Audio Recording Equipment, Procreate, Coding in R and R Studio (basic), Construction Skills (basic), Music Journalism, Music Production.