

James Fothergill-Brown

Audio Resume

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Audio is one of James Fothergill-Brown's strongest motivators.

He has created:

- A music label
- A music festival
- Dozens of events
- Communities

-Born June 4th 1984 in Ontario.

-Raised in rural south-west Quebec, educated in Montreal, now works the prairies & BC.

James has worked a variety of jobs across Canada and the UK.

- Silviculture (plantation management – planting, burning, brushing)
- Computer Repair/Spreadsheet Design/Web Development/Data Management
- Quality Assurance across many platforms & devices
- Audio Mixing & Soundtrack Development

James has lived in Tahsis, BC for 6 years. <https://goo.gl/maps/hqBdCnn3yAB2>

He moved there for extreme silviculture work.

Also to gain focus in audio production, design & advanced mixing methods.

Extreme silviculture work has afforded James opportunities to:

- Receive advanced education in Glasgow at Shoogle Studios by professionals
- Produce Nootka Sounds www.nootkasounds.com and create community events.

His chief approach in audio production/design is rooted in physical foundations, while also respecting aesthetics without prejudices.

James understands that damaged signals pose risks not only to equipment, but also to the health & safety of the end user – James conducts his audio work respectfully.

Formal Education

2016 – *Shoogle Studios*

Certificate in Advanced Audio Mixing/Mastering

Glasgow, Scotland.

Prof. Rab Goldie & Conor Dalton – info@shooglestudios.com

<https://www.shooglestudios.com>

Shoogle Studios in Scotland provided James a unique opportunity to study under practicing & engaging audio artists. Though some teach at the university level, the less formal, more personally engaging format at Shoogle is their personal preference.

James graduated strong, noticed for his talents.

2009 – *Concordia University*

Bachelor of Arts – Specialization in English Literature & Major in Liberal Arts

Montreal, Quebec.

Contact: vpetkov@spacetimesociety.org for audio science reference

Music professor Virginia Nixon passed in 2016

James was heavily involved with various arts & culture communities at this time on and off campus. Musically, he was involved in deep underground dance culture as well as engaging with the unplugged hipster houses. He earned a couple music residencies during this time, and hosted a show on CJLO. James was also involved in many theatre projects and some political – a student councilor at the college.

His studies throughout the years have found focus on audio and its interaction with physical spaces/beings – his final work at Concordia with Vesselin Petkov was on the subject of human physical responses to tones, chiefly sourcing Hermann Helmholtz – *On The Sensation Of Tone* along with documented scientific or military-run experiments. While respecting how psychological motivators may effect an end-user's experience, James conducts his work with confidence in consideration of rooted physical rationales.

2004 – *Heritage Cegep*

DEC – Liberal Arts

Hull, Quebec. 819-778-2270

Audio Experience – Event Production

Tahsis Days 2018

James produced & directed 2 days worth (14 hours) of music programming for Tahsis Days 2018. This included organizing acts to fill in the time, performing, setting up & maintaining the PA, and mixing all performers throughout the days.

250-934-6344 for confirmation from Tahsis Village Office

Nootka Sounds Music Festival – 2017

James produced, directed, cleared the land, bought the equipment, hired performers, organized the set list, set the stage, managed the performers, and ran the complete audio mix for a 2-day music festival in Tahsis, British Columbia.

<https://nootkasounds.com/event/nosof/> -- please contact business partner Carla Haywood for details on event -- carlahaywood0@gmail.com

Various Events at Sally's Grill – 2017-2018

James produced several small concerts, including Canada Day 2018, and ran karaoke evenings at Sally's Grill from 2017-2018.

250-934-7793 to reach Sally

<https://soundcloud.com/thesierrajanniseband/the-sierra-jannise-band-dead-man-walking>
<https://youtu.be/zyxu0-kDCUI>

Touring Events with Hay Now Brown Cow – 2016-2017

James toured a few venues with Carla Haywood as Hay Now Brown Cow around Vancouver Island, including Nanaimo, Gold River, and Tahsis.

Please contact carlahaywood0@gmail.com for confirmation on these events.

<https://soundcloud.com/haynowbrowncow/hay-now-brown-cow-at-the-ridge-in-gold-river>

Various Events Under Nootka Sounds Banner – 2014-2018

James produced many music events, including a regular Halloween concert in Tahsis, under the Nootka Sounds banner from 2014-2018. James would also produce events in tree planting camps with friends using amplified equipment, usually running “open-mic” style events, accommodating between 1-8 voices.

Please call 778-746-1157 to reach Martin Davis of Tahsis for word on these events

Various Events in Montreal – 2009-2012

James was hired as a DJ for many events in Montreal before moving to Tahsis. He performed and otherwise assisted in over two dozen shows, including for promoters such as Digital Garden, Prism Code, Move The Masses, & Projekt Underdog.

Please contact Patryk Dorosz at 514-623-9335 for word on these events.

Buddhi Lounge Residency – 2009

James held a weekly residency over summer 2009 at Le Buddhi Lounge in Montreal. James was responsible for the Saturday night program.

Larry Bernard, former owner, is currently out of service travelling around the world.

School / Community Theatre Productions – 1989-2018

James took up most opportunities to perform in school music-related events, including choir events, theatre, and talent nights. While performing other people’s work early on, he was performing many of his own works towards the end of his school years. James has a continuing involvement with community theatrical events. He has not only produced audio, but he has also performed for over two dozen plays.

Please write to olson.stephanie2009@gmail.com for Stephanie Olson of Ubedam Theatre in Tahsis for confirmation of recent work.

Audio Experience

Nootka Sounds – 2014-2018 – www.nootkasounds.com

Nootka Sounds Music Society Inc. was formally registered as a non-profit collective of musicians and artists in 2017, though the core members came together earlier to produce the Tahsis Halloween Concerts and eventually grew to put on the *Nootka Sounds Music Festival* in 2017.

5 albums have been produced by James under the Nootka Sounds banner.

A distribution deal was met with Kobalt Music Group end 2017. James Fothergill-Brown curates the releases from start to finish, selecting, producing, and conducting the final masters in house. <https://nootkasounds.com/release/>

James mixes and performs with all of the live acts under the banner. His is a key supportive role them through clean, dynamic amplification using both digital and analog tools, while adding effects layers – creative, musical input.

<https://soundcloud.com/haynowbrowncow/hay-now-brown-cow-at-the-ridge-in-gold-river>

<https://soundcloud.com/thesierrajanniseband/the-sierra-jannise-band-dead-man-walking>

Tahsis Days 2018 is a good example of James' curious approach to sound design – he enjoys engaging the community. One part of the program, The Tahsis Days Gong Show saw James asking community members, namely school children, to gather & hammer on gongs that James had prepared for the day.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOSfR25iJ-M>

James ran Nootka Sounds as an open studio, with services listed here:

<https://nootkasounds.com/services/>

James privately publishes some of the more curious of these sessions here:

<https://soundcloud.com/wolfloup> – the project is run as music therapy for Tahsis locals.

Pieces published as “The Floating Tahsis Jazz Band” exemplify this work

- Most of James' music is recorded live, single-track, with minimal post-production.
- Clean one-shot recordings that represent live situations in all their reality is an ideal recording tye.

Comicadia – 2018 -- <https://www.comicadia.com/>

James is working with the Comicadia graphic novel collective to produce, mix, master their audio for upcoming podcasts. He has already written for them a theme song for the podcast, as well as a bunch of tools for future creative use.

<https://soundcloud.com/wolfloup/comicadia-podcast-theme-alternate>

Move The Masses – 2009-2010 (2012)

James signed his first music-related contract in 2009 with Move The Masses. He produced two songs for Rene Benoit to release. Paul Rufin mastered James' songs, teaching James his processes along the way. James worked closely with former Montreal resident Hakim Guelmi and met with leading Montreal producers like Vincent Lemieux, Tim Hecker, and otherwise spent many afternoons/evenings learning & collaborating with many talented individuals. James regularly reaches out to academics such as Daniel Levitin, more recently Patrick Carpenter, in search of answers to hard questions. James has learned how to conduct himself professionally among professionals. Gigs thru 2010-2012 sprung out from these movements, and helped guide James in his future event productions. James released as Jay Bee during this time, though performed more regularly as *Field [] Equation* with Patryk Dorosz.

Equipment - <https://nootkasounds.com/gear/>

James' tree planting work has allowed him to build up a studio of equipment capable of delivering not only high quality master recordings, but also the ability to produce a fully fledged musical environment capable of transmitting full-range physically tactile audio to audiences of up to 150, and heard by ear clearly for up to 300-400 witnesses.

James blends digital with analog gear. He prefers taking care throwing down cables to tune the final end of systems with analog warmth so as to not rely on a central DSP (though his DSP is licensed with quality software). His approaches and methodologies come with the experience of working with some high grade equipment from the likes of Meyer, Funktion One, and PK, let alone that which he personally owns.

Other Employment Experience

Silviculture

James has earned his living by working primarily in the Silviculture industry for the last 10 years. His first 4 were spring/summer interior-based missions, while in 2012 he moved onto full-time coastal work. Much of his earnings have gone into music-related projects.

Nootka Reforestation – 2012-2018

James has been a long-term employee of Nootka Reforestation for 6 years.

His approach is thoughtful & crafty when facing some of the most difficult terrain conditions that silviculture workers encounter in Canada. He went from average results to some of the consistently highest returns in the company, while also demonstrating better care in terms of quality with each passing year.

Not only is James one of the most productive of employees, he also engages with the company in tasks that help the overall scope of the company. James enjoys imagining & putting into practice initiatives that present solutions to issues ranging from the particular to the everyday.

James has an exceptional ability at dealing with computer-related issues. He has written for the company 2 Excel spreadsheets, one for incident tracking, the other – much more critical – functions as the day-to-day tracking of work performed by employees. James outperformed several hired Excel professionals in this regard and is able to deliver exceptional products.

He also acts as shop assistant off-season, helping with sorting equipment and preparing vehicles for day-to-day seasonal operations. James also assists with building homes for employees to live out of, with tasks including framing, dry walling, painting, and other related general labour tasks.

Lawrence Klingler & Julie Siemens may be reached at:
nootkareforestation@hotmail.com or 250-934-6399

Other Employers

Eric Boyd Forestry – 2014-2016 - <http://www.boydforestry.co.uk/>

James Fothergill-Brown earned a youth mobility work visa for the UK and spent two winter/spring seasons over in Scotland. James took the opportunity not only to travel, but also to further his music education.

- eboyd10975@btinternet.com

Smokey Lake Reforestation – 2008-2009, 2015-2017

The first silviculture company James worked for and one of his favourites – tree planting with a strong traditional mindset in Saskatchewan's oldest active tree planting firm – still run by original management.

- smokeylaketreeplanters@hotmail.com

Big Sky Silviculture Ltd. – 2013-2016 - <http://www.bigskysilviculture.ca>

James worked a special, spontaneous mission for Jeff Brown, owner, in 2013. Since then an interesting, fun relationship has followed. Quality silviculture company.

- helifishing@ymail.com

Quality Assurance – 2008-2011

James worked as a Quality Assurance Specialist for Electronic Arts, Babel Media Group, and VMC, finding faults with video games across a variety of devices, from consoles to mobile devices. James demonstrated great skill & talent across all areas.

Restaurant Work – 2002-2012

James enjoyed serving as a general labourer in kitchens, doing well in small, family-oriented spaces that genuinely care for their products and customers. While usually officially a dishwasher, James was always quick enough to help in any area requiring an extra set of hands. Some good times were had, especially when in the heat.

Skills

Practically, years of silviculture have taught James to be

- Self-motivated
- Considerate of the Team
- Forward-thinking in terms of planning and execution
- Timely
- Organized

Years of event planning have taught James

- Coordination
- Compassion
- Maintenance

James has practical, skilled knowledge of the following software structures:

- Microsoft Office (namely Word & in-depth working knowledge of Excel)
- Ableton Live – his chief non-exclusive DAW – please check here for more:
<https://nootkasounds.com/gear/>
- Wordpress

James has worked intensely with PCs since DOS and has experienced its progression into Windows 3.1 thru to Windows 10. His understanding of networking protocols, software/hardware interactive functionality, and the fundamental principles behind programming languages runs deep. James is familiar with MAC systems too, though he prefers PCs for customization purposes and maintaining cleaner, more direct control.

Optimum control for live music situations is critical. Mentors in Montreal taught James that even one brief moment of unwanted noise, a click, from digital systems through a loud PA is unacceptable in any live performance situation.

James' standard for shared audio experiences is driven by a mentality of preservation and security. In a loud music environment, damaged signals may be physically damaging not only to equipment but also to people – it is with such considerations that James conducts his operations. James' standard is set very high – he has been cited as someone who perhaps has a “golden ear”.

Final Word

James has demonstrated consistent talent across many areas throughout his life. Most of his colleagues, peers, friends, teachers, associates, and companions would stand up for him as a forward-thinking, intelligent human being.

Much of his curiosities in the sciences stems from youth, working with his godfather Garvin Boyle.

Garvin Boyle is currently studying & teaching Ecodynamics, an economic model based out of theories of dynamic systems relating to proposed mathematical foundations that account for gene mutations and planetary movements, to name just a couple things. James has enjoyed a lifetime of continuing engagement with Garvin over his research.

garvin.boyle@rogers.com

<https://orrery-software.webs.com/>

James also enjoyed a variety of other forms of community engagement, from pro wrestling to politics.

Listening to and working on music in the evening remains a favourite pastime.

It has been with no small effort that James hopes to spend his whole days working on music and sound instead.

Notable Works:

<https://nootkasounds.bandcamp.com/track/so-tight-with-love>

<https://nootkasounds.bandcamp.com/track/bois-mort>

<https://nootkasounds.bandcamp.com/track/dipole-repeller>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-HCq3m2-Vds>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D7z2kr0JVKs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyxu0-kDCUI>

https://soundcloud.com/james_fb/james-f-b-tahsis-haunted-house

<https://nootkasounds.com/event/nosof/>