

Ben Stonaker

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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin

D.M.A., Composition **2015**

Dissertation: "Bloodsong" for mezzo-soprano, chamber orchestra, and fixed media [50:00]

Primary composition instructors: Donald Grantham, Dan Welcher, Yevgeniy Sharlat, and Russell Pinkston

University of Missouri-Kansas City

M.M., Composition **2007**

Thesis: "Diversions" for alto saxophone and orchestra [14:00]

Primary composition instructors: Chen Yi, James Mobberley, and Paul Rudy

Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge, LA)

B.M., Composition **2004**

Primary instructors: Stephen D. Beck (composition), Steve Cohen (clarinet), Jennifer Hayghe (piano)

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ASSISTANTSHIPS

- Instructor for MUS214C Beginning Composition, *UT Austin* **2013-2015**
- Assistant director of the UT New Music Ensemble, *UT Austin* **2012-2015**
- Barr Institute Fellowship, *UMKC* **2005-2007**
- Composers in the Schools Program Fellowship, *UMKC* **2004-2007**
- Graduate Assistantship – Undergraduate Orchestration, *UMKC* **2005-2006**
- Conservatory Top 10 Scholarship, *UMKC* **2004-2006**
- Conservatory Chancellor's Scholarship, *UMKC* **2004-2006**
- Dean's List, *LSU* **1999-2002**
- TOPS Scholarship, *LSU* **1999-2002**

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Austin

Instructor for MUS214C Beginning Composition – an introduction to composition concepts and procedures through musical analysis, writing of short exercises, and supervised original projects. Full time AI appointment / undergraduate lecture course (both music majors and non-majors). Included developing curriculum and course design for each semester taught. Immediate supervisor: Byron Almén **2013-2015**

University of Texas at Austin

Assistant Director, UT New Music Ensemble– Included rehearsals and performances for each of the six concerts every season in addition to maintaining office hours and attendance records, music librarian duties, setup for all rehearsals and performances, and programming suggestions. Immediate supervisor: Dan Welcher **2012-2015**

Lafourche Parish, Louisiana

Itinerant Music Instructor – Lafourche Parish School Board (including Central Lafourche High School, South Lafourche High School, Bayou Blue Middle School, Lockport Middle School, and Raceland Middle School). Duties included assisting band directors in rehearsals, holding sectionals and private lessons, running full band rehearsals when needed, and arranging/composing marching band music for Central Lafourche High. Immediate supervisor: Jim Trant **2009-2012**

Nicholls State University (Thibodaux, LA)

Guest Lecturer/”From the Composer’s Perspective” – Invited by Dr. Paula Van Goes to hold two workshops on composition. The first seminar focused on a variety of compositional styles and ways to start developing ideas. The second focused on student works and score editing. **2011**

Nicholls State University (Thibodaux, LA)

Guest Lecturer – Invited by Dr. Paula Van Goes to hold a master class for music education majors that focused on contemporary music in middle/high school bands and how to guide younger students into improvisation through minimalism. Rehearsed/read through my composition “In B-flat” based on Terry Riley’s “In C”. **2010**

University of Missouri-Kansas City

Composers in the Schools – Included weekly private lessons and group seminars at assigned high schools in the Greater Kansas City area. Topics discussed and presented focused on compositional process, music history, music theory, and listening to contemporary works. Two notable lectures I designed were “Old-School Video Game Music” (the theory behind the music of Koji Kondo), and “Snapshots of the Progression of Music” (by way of listening to a selected “Kyrie eleison” from an important composer in each important time period in music history). Immediate supervisor: Jim Mobberley **2004-2007**

University of Missouri-Kansas City

Mentorship Program – Included giving weekly private composition lessons to assigned undergraduate students interested in or majoring in composition. Immediate supervisor: Jim Mobberley **2004-2007**

University of Missouri-Kansas City

Graduate TA for Undergraduate Orchestration – lectures taught included: Clarinet, Saxophone, Woodwind Extended Techniques, Orchestration of Winds: Bands vs. Orchestra. Immediate supervisor: Reynold Simpson **2006-2007**

COMMISSIONS

Joshua Thomas / Coast Guard Band
· New work for saxophone, cello, and soprano to be premiered in April 2018 **2017-2018**

New Orleans Chamber Orchestra
· **FACES** for flute, clarinet, horn, and strings **2017**

Texas Clarinet Colloquium, Dr. Mary Druhan (Texas A&M-Commerce)	
· 6 SMALL THOUGHTS for five E-flat clarinets and melodica	2017
Louisiana Saxophone Quartet	
· BORDERLINE PERSONALITIES (Saxophone Quartet No. 4)	2015
Texas Clarinet Colloquium, Dr. Mary Druhan (Texas A&M-Commerce)	
· LOW MOTION for large bass clarinet ensemble	2015
Bennington Chamber Music Conference	
· PAST IN FLOOD for wind quintet and piano	2014
Mary Druhan, International Clarinet Association	
· SENTIMENTAL REMINISCENCES for two clarinets and brass quartet	2013
Central Lafourche High School (Grant Duplessis, head band director)	
· CATAWAMPUS for winds, percussion, and two conductors	2011
Animus Ensemble	
· SLOWLY DOWNWARD for clarinet, viola, and prepared piano	2011
Iridium Saxophone Quartet	
· SAXOPHONE QUARTET No. 3	2011
Mary Druhan, International Clarinet Association	
· LACHRYMOSE for clarinet, violin, and viola	2010
Eric Lau, Professor of Saxophone, University of New Mexico	
· BACKJUMP for flute, alto saxophone, and fixed media	2009
Evergreen Junior High School (Jennifer Foret, band director)	
· NARROW LOOPS for band	2006

PUBLICATIONS, RECORDINGS, AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- “Saxophone Quartet No. 3” – Iridium Saxophone Quartet
CD: Into Xylonia, Blue Griffin, November 2014 – made possible by the Aaron Copland Recording Fund
- “Composers on Composing for Band” – GIA Publishing ©2008, Edited by Mark Camphouse
Contributed a chapter in the fourth volume: “Young and Emerging Composers”
- “Renewing the Creative Environment” Chicago, IL – 2005 Midwest Band & Orchestra Clinic
Two panel discussions with Libby Larsen and Rik Hansen
- “While We Were Yet Sinners” TRN Music ©2003

AWARDS

- 2014 Composition Fellow – Bennington Chamber Music Conference
 - 2008 UMKC Orchestra Composition Competition Winner – “Diversions” for alto saxophone and orchestra
 - 2006 ASCAP/CBDNA Frederick Fennell Prize Honorable Mention – “Pooka” for wind ensemble
 - 2005 UMKC Chamber Music Composition Competition, 2nd Prize – “The Pentagonal Square”
 - 2002 NBA Young Composer Mentor Project Participant – “While We Were Yet Sinners”
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2013-2017 RECENT PERFORMANCES (NON-CONFERENCE/FESTIVAL)

- **FACES** for flute, clarinet, horn, and strings
Marigny Opera House, New Orleans Chamber Orchestra
May 25, 2017
New Orleans, LA
- **BORDERLINE PERSONALITIES** (Saxophone Quartet No. 4)
Southeastern Louisiana University, Quartetto Obrero
November 29, 2016
Hammond, LA
- **BLOODSONG** for mezzo-soprano, chamber orchestra, and fixed media
University of Texas at Austin, DMA Composition Recital
September 22, 2015
Austin, TX
- **CHAMBER CONCERTO** for 12 players
University of Texas at Austin, New Music Ensemble
November 24, 2014
Austin, TX
- **SAXOPHONE QUARTET No. 3**
University of Houston, Iridium Saxophone Quartet
April 2, 2014
Houston, TX
- **SAXOPHONE QUARTET No. 3**
Texas A&M, Iridium Saxophone Quartet
April 1, 2014
College Station, TX
- **ANTS RUNNING FROM A CHARRED CATFISH** for brass and percussion
University of Texas at Austin, UT CLUTCH Composer Concert
November 11, 2013
Austin, TX
- **NONE MORE BLACK** for bassoon and rock band
University of Texas at Austin
May 3, 2013
Austin, TX
- **GEOMETRIC FRAGMENTS No. 5** for clarinet and percussion
University of Texas at Austin, UT CLUTCH Composer Concert
April 2, 2013
Austin, TX
- **PHOSPHENES I: ISOLATION** for chamber orchestra
University of Texas at Austin, UT New Music Ensemble
March 27, 2013
Austin, TX

CONFERENCE/FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES

- **6 SMALL THOUGHTS** for five E-flat clarinets and melodica
2017 Texas Clarinet Colloquium
February 18, 2017
Commerce, TX
- **BORDERLINE PERSONALITIES** (Saxophone Quartet No. 4)
2016 NASA Biennial Conference
March 11, 2016
Lubbock, TX
- **BORDERLINE PERSONALITIES** (Saxophone Quartet No. 4)
2015 World Saxophone Congress
July 13, 2015
Strasbourg, France
- **LOW MOTION** (Geometric Fragments No. 9) for large bass clarinet ensemble
2015 Texas Clarinet Colloquium
June 13, 2015
Dallas, TX
- **PAST IN FLOOD** for wind quintet and piano
2014 Bennington Chamber Music Conference
August 6, 2014
Bennington, VT
- **SENTIMENTAL REMINISCENCES** for two clarinets and brass quartet
2014 International Clarinet Association Clarinet Fest
July 30, 2014
Baton Rouge, LA
- **WIND PANTS** for E-flat clarinet, two soprano saxophones, and fixed media
2013 NASA Region VI Conference
March 9, 2013
Orlando, FL
- **GEOMETRIC FRAGMENTS No. 5** for clarinet and percussion
2013 Texas Clarinet Colloquium
March 2, 2013
Commerce, TX
- **GEOMETRIC FRAGMENTS No. 4** for forty-four contra-clarinets
2012 International Clarinet Association Clarinet Fest
August 5, 2012
Lincoln, NE

- **BACKJUMP** for flute, alto saxophone, and fixed media
2012 World Saxophone Congress July 14, 2012
St. Andrews, Scotland
- **SAXOPHONE QUARTET No. 3**
2011 Sacramento State Festival of New American Music November 8, 2011
Sacramento, CA
- **BACKJUMP** for flute, alto saxophone, and fixed media
2011 National Flute Association Convention August 11, 2011
Charlotte, NC
- **LACHRYMOSE** for clarinet, violin, and viola
2010 International Clarinet Association Clarinet Fest July 23, 2010
Austin, TX
- **BACKJUMP** for flute, alto saxophone, and fixed media
2010 NASA Biennial Conference March 4, 2010
Athens, GA
- **NO SOUND EXCEPT YOU** for baritone saxophone and fixed media
2009 NASA Regional Conference March 7, 2009
Columbus, GA
- **ALL MAROONS AND GRAYS** for tenor saxophone and prepared piano
2008 NASA Biennial Conference April 18, 2008
Columbia, SC
- **NARROW LOOPS** for band
St. Cloud State Great River Band Fest March 24, 2006
St. Cloud, MN
- **JUMPIN' ON THE MATTRESS** for solo tenor saxophone
2003 NASA Regional Conference April 22, 2005
Jonesboro, AR
- **DREAMSCAPES** music for 13
LSU Contemporary Music Festival February 23, 2003
Baton Rouge, LA
- **INTENTIONS** for wind quintet
2003 NASA Regional Conference January 24, 2003
Gainesville, FL

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- ASCAP
- American Composers Forum
- International Clarinet Association
- North American Saxophone Alliance

REFERENCES

Dan Welcher – Professor of Composition, University of Texas at Austin

- Director of UT New Music Ensemble and immediate supervisor for UTNME assistantship
- Served as chair of dissertation committee
- Two semesters as private composition instructor
- Years known: 5

Phone: 512.567.1293

Email: dwelcher1@me.com

Dr. Yevgeniy Sharlat – Associate Professor of Composition, University of Texas at Austin

- Mentor for development of curriculum for Beginning Composition course
- Served on dissertation committee
- One semester as private composition instructor
- Supervised my position as “Performer Liaison” for UT Composer Forum and CLUTCH Concerts
- Years known: 5

Phone: 512.471.2479

Email: ysharlat@mail.utexas.edu

Dr. Mary Alice Druhan – Professor of Clarinet, Texas A&M University-Commerce

- Private clarinet instructor during my junior and senior years in high school (1997-1999)
- Longtime supporter of my work, commissioned several new works from me for clarinet since 2010
- Professional experience and collaboration with performances and presentations at the ICA Clarinet Fest and Texas Clarinet Colloquium
- Years known: 20

Phone: 903.886.5298

Email: Mary.Druhan@tamuc.edu