

David Bithell

Assistant Professor of Composition
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Education

University of California, Berkeley, 1999 – 2006

Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the Townsend Center for the Humanities, 2005 – 2006

Ph.D., Music Composition, Fall 2004

-----Edmund Campion, dissertation advisor

M.A., Music Composition, Spring 2001

-----Study of Composition and New Technology with David Wessel and Cindy Cox

-----Study of Ethnomusicology with Benjamin Brinner and Bonnie Wade

University of California, San Diego, 1995 – 1999

B.A., summa cum laude in Music with honors in Composition, Spring 1999

-----Study of Composition with Roger Reynolds, Rand Steiger, and Brian Ferneyhough

-----Study of Contemporary Trumpet Technique with Edwin Harkins

-----Study with Harvey Sollberger and Thomas Nee (conducting), George Lewis and Bertram Turetzky (improvisation), and Steve Schick (contemporary performance practice)

Teaching Experience

University of North Texas – Assistant Professor of Composition, 2006 – present

Teaching Electro-Acoustic Music, Intermedia Performance Art, graduate and undergraduate composition lessons, doctoral seminars in composition and technology, and thesis advising.

UC Berkeley Music Department – Lecturer, 2005 – 2006

Taught Counterpoint and designed a new course Art as Research: Experimental Music Theater and Multimedia Composition in conjunction with the Townsend Center for the Humanities.

Pomona College – Lecturer of Music Theory, Spring 2005

Taught Music Theory I and III, the first and last semesters of the music major theory sequence, covering traditional forms, diatonic and chromatic harmony, and including an introduction to species counterpoint and early 20th Century techniques.

UC Berkeley Music Department – Graduate Student Instructor, 2000 – 2004

Designed and taught seven semesters of music minor courses including Introduction to Music Theory and Basic Musicianship and led sections of American Musical Cultures and Introduction to Western Music. Attended graduate seminars in undergraduate pedagogy, 2000 – 2003

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, Spring 2002

ArtsBridge Instructor at Mira Vista Elementary School, Spring 2002

Private Instructor in trumpet and composition for beginning and advanced students, 1996 – 2006

Music Composition

Recent Premieres include:

"The President has his Photograph Taken", for trumpet, video, and interactive electronics. Premiered at the IS ARTI Festival in Kaunas, Lithuania, November 2005. Subsequently performed at the University of the Pacific, the ODC Theater, Texelectronica 2006, the International Computer Music Conference (ICMC 2006) in New Orleans, 2007 SPARK Festival of Electronic Music and Art, University of Texas at Austin, Miami Art Central, the Painted Bride Art Center, SUNY Stony Brook, and Princeton University.

"Lumen", an evening-length experimental music theater work for trumpet (David Bithell), assistants, four percussionists, live interactive electronics, portions of which were premiered on the Strictly Ballroom Series, Stanford University, April 2004. Complete version premiered on the sfSoundSeries at the ODC Theater, San Francisco, January 2005.

Reviewed by San Francisco Classical Voice:

http://www.sfcv.org/arts_revs/sfsoundseries_1_18_05.php

"Situations [plural/fixe]", for trumpet (David Bithell), two trombones, slide projection, and live electronic sound premiered at the 24th Annual Festival International des Musiques d'Aujourd'Hui MANCA in Nice, France with support from the Centre National de Creation Musicale (Nice), the Center for New Music and Audio Technologies (Berkeley), and the France/Berkeley Fund, France, November 2003. Subsequent performance on the sfSoundSeries San Francisco, California, February 2004. Solo version premiered on the Strictly Ballroom Series, Stanford University, April 2004.

"Extensions/Transformations", an evening-length collection of music theater, electroacoustic compositions, and improvisations presented at the Center for New Music and Audio Technologies, November 2002 (collaboration with Ali Momeni). Solo version performed at California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, California, January 2003.

Other premieres include those on the sfSoundSeries (San Francisco, CA), WORKS/San Jose, Berkeley New Music Project, ACME Observatory Series (Berkeley, CA), UC Berkeley Noon Concert series, UC San Diego New Music Forum, and UC San Diego Undergraduate Performers' Forum.

Commissions from UC Berkeley's Center for New Music and Audio Technology, the intermedia performance group Double Vision, percussionist Russell Greenberg, violinist Mark Menzies, and UC San Diego Carillonneur Scott Paulson.

Music Performance

Trumpet player specializing in contemporary music and improvisation:

Major Performances include:

-----San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, the sfSoundGroup, ROVA Saxophone Quartet, Nova Ensemble, SPARK Festival, Berkeley Contemporary Chamber Players, Berkeley New Music Project, Cal Performances, Berkeley Edge Festival, Berkeley TEMPO Festival, Stanford Edge Festival, California Institute for the Arts "Vexations" Festival, and those with Matt Ingalls, John Schott, Hugh Livingston, and Larry Ochs.

Premiered works for Trumpet and Electronics by:

-----Olly Wilson, Ali Momeni, Per Bloland, Jan Maresz (US Premiere), Ronald Bruce Smith (US Premiere), and David Bithell.

Trumpet player with the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus, La Jolla, California, 1995 – 1999

Gamelan Sari Raras: member of traditional Javanese ensemble, Berkeley, California, 2000 – 2004

Music Technology

Faculty Member with the UNT Center for Experimental Music and Intermedia, 2006 – present

Head Programmer for UC Berkeley's Space Science Laboratory Sonification Project, 2004 – 2005

UC Berkeley's Center for New Music and Audio Technologies (CNMAT), 1999 – 2004

-----Graduate Student Composer researching real-time interaction and multimedia composition.

-----Specializing in Max/MSP, Jitter, ProTools, Peak, AudioSculpt, as well as standard and non-traditional music notation programs.

Conducting and Organizing

Co-Director and Conductor with sfSound (www.sfsound.org), 2002 – present

-----Lead an innovative new music ensemble and performance series producing 10 concerts a year.

-----Organize residencies at the ODC Theater, Community Music Center of San Francisco, and Wesleyan University as well as an east-coast tour including Merkin Hall, NYC

Orchestra Manager for the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus, La Jolla, California, 1997 – 1999

Conductor and Music Director for the John Muir Musical Ensemble, UC San Diego, 1995 – 1999

Coordinator of the Undergraduate Performers' Forum at UC San Diego, 1997 – 1999

Awards and Honors

American Composers' Forum Encore Grant (with the percussion duo Hunter/Gatherer), 2008

University of North Texas Faculty Research Grant, 2006 - 2007 and 2007 - 2008

Meet the Composer "Creative Connections" Award, 2005

UC Berkeley Eisner Prize for Excellence in the Creative Arts, 2004

Nichola DeLorenzo Prize for Music Composition, 2004

CalSpace Summer Fellowship to develop solar sonification software, 2004

Regents Intern Fellowship, UC Berkeley 1999 – 2000 and 2003 – 2004

UC Berkeley Department of Music's Christofilos Prize for academic achievement, 2002

Silicon Graphics/Cray Undergraduate Research Scholarship for the analysis of experimental musical instruments and the construction of new instruments, 1998 – 1999

UC San Diego John Muir College Most Outstanding Senior Award, 1999

UC San Diego Department of Music Peter Farrell Award for Most Outstanding Senior, 1999

UC San Diego Thomas Nee Award for Outstanding Contribution to the La Jolla Symphony, 1999

Phi Beta Kappa, Golden Key National Honor Society, and Caledonian Society of John Muir College

Publications

David Bithell, "Image, Engagement, Technological Resource: An Interview with Roger Reynolds", *Computer Music Journal*, Volume 31 Issue 1, Spring 2007.

Laura Peticolas, Roberto Morales Manzanares, David Bithell, Nahide Craig, Janet Luhmann, Stuart Bale, "Space Weather Sonification for scientists, educators, and musicians" American Geophysical Union, Spring Meeting 2005.

David Bithell, "East Meets West: 4th Annual San Francisco Electronic Music Festival" Essay-review published in the *Computer Music Journal*, Volume 28 Issue 1, Spring 2004.

Various reviews for the San Francisco Classical Voice, January 2004 – 2005

Lectures and Presentations

Princeton University - Lecture/Demonstration of my work with Music, Multimedia, and Technology - SlashArts Series - November 14, 2007.

SUNY Stony Brook - Lecture/Demonstration of my work with Music, Multimedia, and Technology - November 12, 2007.

2007 International Digital Media and Art Association (iDMAA) Conference - "Improvisation and the Happy Accident" - Panel Discussion - November 9, 2007.

University of North Texas - Music Now Series - "A Composer's Survival Guide" - Panel Discussion - April 2, 2007.

Florida International University School of Music- "Toward Musical Intermedia: Structuring Medial Connectivity" - March 26, 2007.

Texas A&M University Center for Humanities Research and the Department of Performance Studies - "Toward Musical Intermedia: Structuring Medial Connectivity" - March 5, 2007.

Texelectronica 2006 Festival of Art, Music, Technology, Society and Culture - Fort Worth Museum of Modern Art - "Interactivity" - Lecture and Panel Discussion - October 28, 2006.

University of North Texas - Music Now Series - "Lumen:Aria - A Case Study in Improvisation and Interactivity" - September 25, 2006.

Wesleyan University - "Collaborative Performance and Composition" - Talk as a part of an sfSound residency - February 22, 2006.

University of California, Berkeley - Composition Colloquium Series - Talk and Panel Discussion with Ali Momeni and Roberto Morales - January 24, 2003.