

XAVIER MUZIK

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Bio

Xavier Muzik is a Los Angeles-based producer and composer who is deeply interested in how we assign meaning and identity to people, places, and objects. He developed his fascination for this subject through his personal experiences as a Black, multiracial man negotiating complex issues of race and identity. With a Master's Degree in Music Composition and a minor in Creative Community Development from The Mannes School of Music at The New School, he has written music for various genres, including orchestra, chamber ensembles, dance, and film. Through his unique perspective and technical expertise, Xavier creates innovative and meaningful works that challenge conventional boundaries.

Education

MANNES SCHOOL OF MUSIC | NEW YORK, NY — M.M. MUSIC COMPOSITION

Minor - Creative Community Development

January 2020 - May 2022

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS | SANTA CLARITA, CA — B.F.A. MUSIC COMPOSITION

September 2013 - May 2016

Teachers

JESSIE MONTGOMERY — COMPOSITION

New York | 2020 - 2022

TIMO ANDRES — COMPOSITION

New York | 2020

JAMES NEWTON — COMPOSITION

Los Angeles | 2018 -2020

EYVIND KANG — COMPOSITION

Los Angeles | 2015 -2016

KAREN TANAKA — COMPOSITION

Los Angeles | 2013 -2015

PAUL NOVROS — JAZZ KEYBOARD

Los Angeles | 2016

TISHA MABEE-GOLDSTEIN — PIANO

Los Angeles | 2013

Lectures, Festivals, Lesson, and Masterclasses

GROUP LESSON WITH TYSHAWN SOREY | YARN/WIRE INSTITUTE

Stony Brook University, June 2022

PRIVATE LESSON WITH MICHELLE LOU | YARN/WIRE INSTITUTE

Stony Brook University, June 2022

FESTIVAL | YARN/WIRE INSTITUTE

Stony Brook University, June 2022

MASTERCLASS | STEVEN MACKEY ON MY PIECE, *FRACTURED*

highSCORE Music Festival, August 20, 2021

FESTIVAL | highSCORE MUSIC FESTIVAL

Pavia, Italy (Online due to COVID), Summer 2021

FESTIVAL | HEAR NOW MUSIC FESTIVAL FOR CONTEMPORARY COMPOSERS

Los Angeles, Summer 2017

LECTURE | ESA-PEKKA SALONEN ON COMPOSITION

The Wild Beast at CalArts, January 15th, 2016

Presentations

MY COMPOSITIONAL METHOD

Yarn/Wire Institute at Stoney Brook, June 15, 2022

MY COMPOSITIONAL METHOD

The Computer School, May 11, 2021

LUMINA BY OLLY WILSON

Mannes School of Music, Spring, 2022

FILM SCORING WITH MICHAEL BACON ON *FREE RENTY*

Mannes School of Music, Fall, 2021

GRIEF BY WILLIAM GRANT STILL

Mannes School of Music, Fall, 2021

WORK AND MOTIVATION AS A COMPOSER

highScore Music Festival, Summer, 2021

MY COMPOSITIONAL METHOD

highSCORE Music Festival Online, August 15, 2021

RESEARCH PAPER ON BIRACIAL COMPOSERS AND IDENTITY

Mannes School of Music, Spring, 2021

Professional and Work Experience

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT — AMERICAN COMPOSERS FORUM | SAINT PAUL, MN AND LOS ANGELES, CA

September 2022 - Present

- Manage the logistics and personnel for a series of five events taking place over the course of a year with a \$55,000 budget
- Manage logistics and materials for American Composers Forum board meetings
- Act as a first point of contact for CEO

COMPOSER | LOS ANGELES, CA

September 2014 - Present

- Prepared and delivered eight lessons and lectures to middle school, college, and post-college level classrooms regarding my compositional craft and/or music analysis
- Received twenty-five performances and seven commissions from figures and ensembles such as The Tucson Symphony Orchestra, The Mannes Orchestra, The MACE Ensemble, The JACK Quartet, and The ETHEL String Quartet
- Created an award winning original film score in collaboration with Michael Bacon

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER — LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT | LOS ANGELES, CA

January 2019 - January 2020

- Effectively and clearly delineated classroom rules and procedures in a manner that is accessible to all students of diverse backgrounds creating a safe and nurturing learning environment
- Delivered clear and precise instruction in a way that commands attention, but is warm and personable to foster relationships with individual schools, teachers, and students
- Requested by faculty to repeatedly cover classrooms on a weekly basis
- Prepare lesson plans for myself and other substitutes on extended jobs reducing prep and maximizing class time

ASSISTANT — ANTHONY PARNTER, CONDUCTOR AND MUSIC DIRECTOR | LOS ANGELES, CA

October 2019 - January 2020

- Ensured the comfort of headline performers with the San Bernardino Symphony like singer, Jennifer Holliday, and Cellist, Lynn Harrell
- Inspected and formatted various elements of the San Bernardino Symphony website redesign to ensure optimum visitor experience
- Recorded and catalogued materials for Mr. Anthony Parnter, e.g. conductor scores, to ensure easy accessibility both physically and digitally

FIELD OPERATIONS / ORGANIZING INTERN — ELIZABETH WARREN FOR PRESIDENT | LAS VEGAS, NV

June 2019 - August 2020

- Organized the Las Vegas, NV community around progressive policies while collecting voter issue ID's to build a campaign that's reflective of the priorities of said communities with the purpose of electing Elizabeth Warren President by doing the following:
 - ❖ Overseeing, developing, and managing two separate subdivisions (turfs) of Las Vegas as drawn by the campaign
 - ❖ Managing teams of volunteers of up to approx. 10-15 as they completed door-knocking, phone banking, and data entry shifts

FELLOW — LET AMERICA VOTE | LAS VEGAS, NV

September 2018 - November 2018

- By knocking over 2,000 doors and innovating best practices for voter outreach in Nevada, I assisted in achieving the following:
 - ❖ Electing America's first female majority state legislature
 - ❖ Flipping the gubernatorial, lieutenant gubernatorial seats, and a federal senatorial seat
 - ❖ Flipping the state Attorney General seat
 - ❖ Passing automatic voter registration

Awards and Recognition

- Winner Michael Morgan Prize (Formerly the Emerging Black Composers Project) with SFS and SFCM | 2023
- Finalist ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards Competition | 2022
- Best Original Score at the Brooklyn Film Festival for *Free Renty* | 2022
- Dean's Award at The Mannes School of Music | 2022

- Selection 2022 “JACK” String Quartet Graduate Pilot Course at The Mannes School of Music | 2022
- Selection Tucson Symphony EarShot Orchestral Reading (with ACO) for *Somatic* | 2022
- Winner ETHEL String Quartet’s HomeBacked V commissioning competition | 2022
- Selection 2021 “JACK” String Quartet Reading at The Mannes School of Music | 2021
- Official Selection for Masterclass under Steven Mackey during the highScore Music Festival for Contemporary Composers | 2021
- Official Selection of the highScore Music Festival for Contemporary Composers | 2021
- Winner Martinů Prize for Orchestral Composition for *Somatic* (Premiere Spring 2022) | 2021
- Selection 2020 “JACK” String Quartet Reading at The Mannes School of Music | 2020
- New School President’s Scholarship | 2020 - Present
- Official Selection of the Hear Now Music Festival for Contemporary Composers | 2017
- Selection Score Reading with The Ensemble at CalArts | 2016
- CalArts Scholarship | 2013-2016

Commissions

- Michael Morgan Prize (Formerly the Emerging Black Composers Project) with SFS and SFCM | 2023
- Han Lee Solo Piano and Max Patch Commission | 2023
- ETHEL HomeBaked Round V Commission Competition Selection | 2021
- Ian Fales Double Bass Commission with Support from Robert Black Foundation | 2021
- Angelica Mondol Viaña Dance Commission with Support from Spark Movement Collective | 2021
- New Millennium Brass Ensemble | 2016
- The Formalist String Quartet, Mark Menzies | 2016
- Julie Feves Bassoon Quartet | 2015

Films

- *Free Renty* dir. David Grubin, scored in collaboration with Michael Bacon | 2021

Performances

THREE IRREVERENT VIGNETTES | 06/01/23 — FLYING TIGER BREWERY, MONROE, LA
 Performed by Trevor Davis

CICLO 2 | 04/29/23 — BAM FISHER HILLMAN STUDIO
 Choreographed by Angelica Mondol Viaña

PILLOWTALK | 10/16/22 — BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY
 Premiered by Allison Loggins-Hull and the ETHEL Quartet

PILLOWTALK | 10/15/22 — PETRIE QUART CAFE AT THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART
 Performed by Allison Loggins-Hull and the ETHEL Quartet

PILLOWTALK | 10/14/22 — PETRIE QUART CAFE AT THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART
 Performed by Allison Loggins-Hull and the ETHEL Quartet

***THREE IRREVERENT VIGNETTES* | 06/24/22 — DIMENNA CENTER FOR CLASSICAL MUSIC**

Premiered by Lily Kaufman

***SOMATIC (orchestra)* | 05/19/22 — LEO RICH THEATER**

Performed by the Tucson Symphony Orchestra conducted by José Luis Gomez

***SOMATIC (orchestra)* | 05/18/22 — LEO RICH THEATER**

Performed by the Tucson Symphony Orchestra conducted by José Luis Gomez

***SOMATIC (orchestra)* | 05/17/22 — LEO RICH THEATER**

Performed by the Tucson Symphony Orchestra conducted by José Luis Gomez

***SOMATIC (orchestra)* | 05/15/22 — NEW SCHOOL TISHMAN AUDITORIUM**

Premiered by the Mannes Orchestra conducted by David Hayes

***MUZAK* | 05/04/22 — AUDITORIUM AT 66 WEST 12TH STREET**

Premiered by the “JACK” String Quartet

***2:00 AM* | 04/15/22 — AUDITORIUM AT 66 WEST 12TH STREET**

Premiered by the Mannes American Composer’s Ensemble cond. David Fulmer

***A SERIES OF LULLABIES (no. 1-3)* | 04/11/21 — ERNST C. STIEFEL THEATER AT MANNES SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

Premiered by pianist Diyora Tursunova

***SOMATIC (piano)* | 12/06/21 — GLASSBOX THEATER AT MANNES SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

Premiered by pianist Diyora Tursunova

***CICLO 2* | 11/14/21 — DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN**

Choreographed by Angelica Mondol Viaña

***CICLO 2* | 11/13/21 — DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN**

Choreographed by Angelica Mondol Viaña

***FREE RENTY* | 10/15/21 — BRATTLE STREET THEATER**

Premiered at the Brattle Street Theater in Cambridge during the GlobeDocs Film Festival

***THESE HALLOWED STREETS* | 08/20/21 — highSCORE MUSIC FESTIVAL**

Premiered by Quartetto Zuena

***THE SURFACE* | 05/05/17 — LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE**

Performed by Sara Andon, Claire Brazeau, Chris Stoutenborough, and Anthony Parnter as an official selection of the “Hear Now Music Festival”

***THE SURFACE* | 04/30/17 — FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF VENICE**

Performed by Sara Andon, Claire Brazeau, Chris Stoutenborough, and Anthony Parnter as an official selection of the “Hear Now Music Festival”

***FRACTURED* | 09/28/16 — ROY O. DISNEY HALL AT CALARTS**

Premiered by Cody Putman, Tara Speiser, Julie Feves, and Jonathan Stehney

***CELESTIAL BODIES* | 04/22/16 — THE WILD BEAST AT CALARTS**

Premiered by The New Millennium Brass Ensemble

***IMPROVISATION ENSEMBLE* | 04/22/16 — ROY O. DISNEY HALL AT CALARTS**

***SPHERES OF METROPOLIS* | 04/29/16 — THE WILD BEAST AT CALARTS**

Premiered and Commissioned by The Formalist Quartet

***THE SURFACE* | 04/21/15 — THE WILD BEAST AT CALARTS**

Premiered by Rachel Rudich, Joe Theal, Ernesto Cruz, and Jonathan Stehney

***MEMORIES* | 09/2014 — ROY O. DISNEY HALL AT CALARTS**

Premiered by Paul Berkolds on Baritone Voice and Abigail Lyons on Piano

***THE SMALL HOURS* | 09/2014 — ROY O. DISNEY HALL AT CALARTS**

Premiered by Emilio Cuenca

Professional Memberships and Affiliations

- BMI
- American Composers Forum

Works Catalogue

LARGE ENSEMBLE

2:00 am — 2022

Sinfonietta - ca. 8'00"

1111 - 1110 - 02 - hp, pf - solo strings

***Somatic* — 2021**

Orchestra - ca. 7'30"

3333 - 4331 - timp+2 - hp, pf - strings

***Celestial Bodies* — 2015**

Brass Ensemble - ca. 8'30"

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CHAMBER

***Three Irreverent Vignettes* — 2022**

Tenor Saxophone and Boss RC-30 Looper - ca. 7'00"

***Untitled: for Five Flutes and One Alto Flute* — 2022**

Flute Ensemble - ca. 5'00"

***muzak* — 2022**

String Quartet - 6'00"

***PillowTalk* — 2022**

Commissioned by ETHEL with support from ETHEL's Foundation for the Arts with support from the National Endowment for the Arts

Flute and String Quartet - ca. 12'00"

***Shower Thoughts* — 2022**

Commissioned by Ian Fales, This project was made possible with the support of the Robert Black Foundation Trust

Double Bass and Pre-recorded Electronics - 5'30"

***Lullaby No. 3 in G Major* — 2021**

Piano - ca. 4'00"

***Lullaby No. 2 in D Major* — 2021**

Piano - ca. 4'00"

***Lullaby No. 1 in C Major* — 2021**

Piano - ca. 3'30"

***Somatic* — 2021**

Piano - ca. 7'30"

***These Hallowed Streets* — 2021**

Cello Quartet - ca. 5'00"

***Concord: The Star-Spangled Banner* — 2016**

Piano - ca. 3'30"

***Fractured* — 2015**

Commissioned by Julie Feves

Bassoon Ensemble - 10'30"

***SPHERES OF METROPOLIS* — 2015**

Commissioned by Mark Menzies and The Formalist Quartet

String Quartet - 30'00"

***Cello Solo No. 1* — 2015**

Solo Cello - 2'57"

***Memories* — 2014**

Baritone Voice and Piano - 3'00"

***The Small Hours* — 2014**

Solo Piano

FILM

***Free Renty* — 2021**

Dir. David Grubin

Composed in collaboration with Michael Bacon

DANCE

***Ciclo 2* — 2021**

Commissioned by Angelica Mondol Viaña with support from Michelle Thompson Ulerich and the Spark Movement Collective

Electronic - 7'13"

***Dance Suite no. 1* — 2016**

Electronic - 1'19"

***Dance Suite no. 2* — 2016**

Electronic - 1'51"

***Dance Suite no. 3* — 2016**

Electronic - 1'36"

Dance Suite no. 4 — 2016

Electronic - 2'06"

Dance Suite no. 5 — 2016

Electronic - 2'30"

FIXED MEDIA

Throwback.3 — 2021

Beat - 3'00"

Beat 02 20 20 — 2020

Beat - 3'58"

v0.1_DiscoDuet_072419 — 2019

Beat - 4'22"

Heal.4 — 2019

Beat - 4'39"

ugly hand — 2018

Electronic - 22'40"

...rush... — 2016

Electronic - 2'58"

...tic... — 2016

Beat - 5'23"

... I ... — 2016

Electronic - 4'39"

Star — 2016

Electronic - 9'22"

I Remember The Internet — 2016

Electronic - 2'38"

Ectropy — 2016

Electronic - 3'29"

this is a song... — 2015

EDM - 4'34"

Stay the Night with Me — 2015

Piano; Fixed Media - 4'34"