

# Oliver Kwapis, Composer and Performer

Curriculum Vitae

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## **EDUCATION**

- 2025 (anticipated) D.M.A. in Performance of Data-driven Instruments; University of Oregon  
School of Music and Dance, Eugene, OR  
Graduate Employee, Intermedia Music Technology  
Electronic Composition/Performance studies Jeffrey Stolet, Akiko Hatakeyama, and Jon Bellona
- 2021 M.M. in Music Composition; Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, Bloomington, IN  
Composition studies with David Dzubay and P.Q. Phan  
Electronic Composition/Performance studies with Chi Wang and John Gibson
- 2019 B.M. in Music Composition; Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH  
Composition studies with Stephen Hartke, Jesse Jones, and Elizabeth Ogonek

## **Conferences and Summer Festivals**

- 2022 Greater New York Chapter of the American Musicological Society's Spring 2022 Meeting (online)  
Presented paper "Randy Newman's Timbre of Loneliness in "I Think it's Going to Rain Today"
- 2021 National Student Electronic Music Event (NSEME); Ithaca, NY (online)  
Presented Clock, Lightning Bolt, Volume, I Love You So Much
- 2020 Fresh Inc Festival; Kenosha, WI (online)  
Lessons with Dan Visconti and Austin Wintory
- 2020 June in Buffalo; Buffalo, NY (online)  
Lessons with Hilda Paredes, Robert H.P. Platz, Roger Reynolds, and Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon
- 2018 soundSCAPE Composition and Performance Exchange; Cesena, Italy  
Lessons with Jason Eckardt and Shawn Jaeger
- 2018 Mostly Modern Festival Institute; Saratoga Springs, NY  
Lessons with David del Tredici, Robert Beaser, Hannah Lash, Stephen Cabell, and Robert Paterson
- 2017 The Powerhouse Theater Training Program; Poughkeepsie, NY  
Playwrighting lessons with Max Reuben
- 2016 Ojai Playwright's Conference; Ojai, CA  
Playwrighting lessons with Alice Tuan

## Masterclasses

2020	Jeffrey Stolet (through The Jacobs School of Music)
2020	Eric Nathan (through The Jacobs School of Music)
2018	Billy Childs (through Oberlin Conservatory)
2015	John Adams (through the Nancy and Barry Sanders Los Angeles Philharmonic Composer Fellowship Program)
2014	Esa-Pekka Salonen (through the LA Phil Fellowship)
2014	Kaija Saariaho (through the LA Phil Fellowship)
2014	Andrew Norman (through the LA Phil Fellowship)
2014	John Corigliano (through the LA Phil Fellowship)
2013	Daníel Bjarnason (through the LA Phil Fellowship)
2013	Magnus Lindberg (through the LA Phil Fellowship)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2021-25	<p>Graduate Employee, Intermedia Music Technology, University of Oregon School of Music and Dance</p> <p>Winter 2022 Assisted Prof. John Bellona with Digital Audio Workstation Techniques II (MUS 477/577)</p> <p>Explores the principles and techniques of audio mixing, sound design, and music production using a computer. Assisted Prof. Bellona with weekly lectures and two weekly lab sections in which students gained hands-on experience with Logic Pro X and graded weekly assignments.</p> <p>Winter 2022 Maintained Dept. of Intermedia Music Technology “Kyma Farm”</p> <p>Daily maintenance of five Kyma systems (Pacas and Pacaranas) and Mac Minis used by students in Data Sonification (MUS 479/579) and Digital Audio and Sound Design (MUS 447) for remote coursework.</p> <p>Fall 2021 Assisted Prof. Jeffrey Stolet with Interactive Media Performance (MUS 448/548)</p> <p>Examines concepts of interactive performance using MIDI, digital audio, and video processing, and considers issues related to designing performance algorithms in Cycling 74’s Max/MSP software. Assisted Prof. Stolet with weekly lectures, led two weekly lab sections in which students gained hands-on experience with the Max/MSP software, and graded weekly assignments.</p>
2018	<p>Composition teacher, secondary lessons, Oberlin Conservatory of Music</p> <p>Taught for-credit composition lessons to non-majors enrolled in Oberlin Conservatory of Music’s “Secondary Lessons” course.</p>

- 2013-15 String Teacher, Community Youth Partnership, North Hollywood, CA.  
Teacher in an after-school music program for LAUSD elementary school students. Primary duties included directing rock bands and chamber ensembles, leading string sectionals.
- 2012-13 String Teacher, Academy of Creative Education, Exploratorium, North Hollywood, CA.  
Teacher in summer music camp run by Oakwood Elementary School. Primary duties included assisting faculty in leading ensemble rehearsals, leading string sectionals.

### **AWARDS, HONORS AND COMMISSIONS**

- 2022 Winner, 70th annual BMI Student Composer Awards, **Dreams of Flight**
- 2022 “Subwhistle,” an essay on the role of timbre in Bryan Jacobs’ titular sound installation was published as part of the Analysis, Creation, and Teaching of Orchestration (ACTOR) Partnership’s Amazing Moments in Timbre series (peer reviewed).
- 2021 Winner, IU Jacobs School of Music New Voices for Orchestra Competition, **Dreams of Flight**
- 2021 Finalist, ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards, **Approach to Zion**
- 2019 Honorable Mention, Boston New Music Initiative’s 5th Annual Young Composers Competition, **My Mad Dances**
- 2019 Finalist, Delirium Musicum’s 2019 Call for Scores, **My Mad Dances**
- 2019 Oberlin Conservatory of Music’s 2019 Walter E. Aschaffenburg Prize awarded to a graduating senior for outstanding music composition
- 2019 **Concertante** was commissioned by Tim Weiss and the Oberlin Contemporary Music Ensemble. It was premiereed, with viola soloists Josephine Stockwell and Nicholas Gallitano on May 9, 2019, in Oberlin’s Warner Concert Hall.
- 2014 **Dusk in Winter** was commissioned by the National Children’s Chorus for their 2014/15 season. It was premiered at the Broad Stage, Santa Monica, CA, May 2015 and performed again in Alice Tully Hall, NYC, June 2015.
- 2013-15 Selected as a 2013-2015 Fellow for the Nancy and Barry Sanders Los Angeles Philharmonic Composer Fellowship Program. Fellowship included composition studies with James Matheson, Sarah Gibson and A.J. McCaffrey as well as performances and readings with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Los Angeles Master Chorale, and the Calder Quartet.

### **COMPLETE PUBLIC PERFORMANCES**

- 2021 **Dreams of Flight** for orchestra. IU Jacobs School of Music Concert Orchestra, David Dzubay. Musical Arts Center, IU Jacobs School of Music, Bloomington, IN. 11/14. (Premiere)

- 2021 **The Glass Menagerie** for chamber ensemble. With Brian Hohlfeld, co-composed and synthestrated incidental music for Tennessee Williams' The Glass Menagerie which was produced as part of the Tennessee Williams Festival St. Louis 2021. The Tennessee, St. Louis, MO. 08/19-08/22. (Live premiere)
- 2021 **Monologue** for solo tuba in F. Alec Rich. Ryan Opera Theater, Northwestern University Bienen School of Music, Evanston, IL. 05/28. (Premiere)
- 2021 **Talk-back** for improvising performer, Gametrak controller, USB footswitch, and Max/MSP. Oliver Kwapis. Livestreamed as part of the Jacobs School of Music's Center for Electronic and Computer Music Spring 2021 Concert. 05/13. (Premiere)
- 2021 **Clock, Lightning Bolt, Volume, I Love You So Much** for improvising performer, Korg nanoKONTROL 2, and Max/MSP. Oliver Kwapis. Livestreamed as part of the National Student Electronic Music Event (NSEME). 04/24.
- 2021 **Re-heard** for fixed media. Grunwald Gallery, IU Jacobs School of Music, Bloomington, IN. 03/22-04/02. (Premiere)
- 2021 **Clock, Lightning Bolt, Volume, I Love You So Much** for improvising performer, Korg nanoKONTROL 2, and Max/MSP. Oliver Kwapis. Livestreamed as part of the Jacobs School of Music's Center for Electronic and Computer Music Fall 2020 Concert. 01/21. (Premiere)
- 2020 **The Glass Menagerie** for chamber ensemble. With Brian Hohlfeld, co-composed and synthestrated incidental music for a radio-play version of Tennessee Williams' The Glass Menagerie which broadcast as part of the Tennessee Williams Festival St. Louis 2020: En Avant! Classic 107.3 FM & twslt.org. 11/08, 11/15. (Radio premiere)
- 2020 **Speed Dating** for mixed quintet. Wet Ink Ensemble. Livestreamed as part of the Jacobs School of Music's "48 Hours" collaboration. 11/08. (Premiere)
- 2020 **Approach to Zion** for solo piano. Eric Huebner. Livestreamed by the Center for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Music from Slee Hall, SUNY Buffalo, Buffalo, NY. 09/29.
- 2020 **Naked Light** for four double basses. Andrew French, Ayaka Arai, Torstein Johansen and Alex Goodin. Livestreamed as part of the Fresh Inc Festival. 06/19. (Premiere)
- 2019 **Approach to Zion** for solo piano. Amanda Lubin. Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH. 02/15. (Premiere)
- 2019 **Concertante** for two solo violas and sinfonietta. Josephine Stockwell and Nicholas Gallitano (soloists) with the Oberlin Sinfonietta, Tim Weiss. Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH. 05/09. (Premiere)
- 2018 **Night Through Eight Eyes** for brass quintet. Andrew Conover, Adam Teske, Nicholas Ginsburg, Ivan Saenz and Alec Rich. David H. Stull Recital Hall, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH. 12/15.
- 2018 **Here and There** for soprano and piano [original text]. Alexandra Prat and Liam

- Kaplan. Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH. 11/17.
- 2018 **Night Through Eight Eyes** for brass quintet. Andrew Conover, Adam Teske, Nicholas Ginsburg, Ivan Saenz and Alec Rich. Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH. 11/17.
- 2018 **A Burnt Ship** for soprano and piano [text by John Donne]. Caitlin Aloia and Liam Kaplan. Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH. 11/17.
- 2018 **My Mad Dances** for string sextet. Lana Auerbach, Herdís Guðmundsdóttir, Nicholas Gallitano, Josephine Stockwell, Cordelia Mutter, Adam Willson. Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH. 11/17. (Premiere)
- 2018 **A Burnt Ship** for soprano and piano [text by John Donne]. Stephanie Quintin and Emily Morin. Performed during the soundScape Composition and Performance Exchange. Sala Concerti "L. Dallapiccola," Conservatorio Bruno Maderna, Cesena, Italy. 07/11 and 07/20. (Premiere)
- 2018 **Night Through Eight Eyes** for brass quintet. Atlantic Brass Quintet. Performed during the Mostly Modern Festival, Arthur Zankel Music Center, Saratoga Springs, NY. 06/13. (Premiere)
- 2017 **Five Variations on a Piece by Bartók** for solo piano. Amanda Lubin. Clonick Hall, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH. 03/03. (Premiere)
- 2017 **Here and There** for soprano and piano [original text]. Alexandra Prat and Liam Kaplan. Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH. 04/12. (Premiere)
- 2016 **Walking the Black Cat** for soprano and piano [text by Charles Simic]. Katherine Lerner Lee and Natasha Gwirceman. Fairchild Chapel, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH. 02/20. (Premiere)
- 2015 **Caricature** for solo cello. Aliya Ultan. Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH. 12/04. (Premiere)
- 2015 **Dusk in Winter** for SSA choir and harp [text by W.S. Merwin]. National Children's Chorus, dir. Luke McEndarfer. Alice Tully Hall, New York, NY. 06/28.
- 2015 **The Little Boy Lost** for SATB choir [text by William Blake]. National Children's Chorus, dir. Luke McEndarfer. Alice Tully Hall, New York, NY. 06/28.
- 2015 **Light Numbers** for string quartet. Calder Quartet. Public reading during the LA Phil Fellowship, Dorothy Chandler Rehearsal Room #4, Los Angeles, CA. 05/30.
- 2015 **Light Numbers (mvt. III)** for string quartet. Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. LA Phil Board Retreat, Montecito, CA. 05/09.
- 2015 **Dusk in Winter** for SSA choir and harp [text by W.S. Merwin]. National Children's Chorus, Luke McEndarfer. The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage at the Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center, Santa Monica, CA. 05/08. (Premiere)

- 2015 **The Little Boy Lost** for SATB choir [text by William Blake]. National Children's Chorus, dir. Luke McEndarfer. The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage at the Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center, Santa Monica, CA. 05/08.
- 2015 **Be Made Whole** for large orchestra. Los Angeles Philharmonic, Gemma New. Performed as part of the LA Phil's "Symphonies for Schools" series, Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles, CA. 4/23 and 4/25. (Premiere)
- 2015 **Bagatelle, After Gustav Klimt's "The Kiss"** for two pianist and two percussionists. Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Public reading during the LA Phil Fellowship, Walt Disney Concert Hall's Choral Hall, Los Angeles, CA. 04/18. (Premiere)
- 2014 **Under the Paralyzed Noonday Brightness** for mixed quintet. Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Public reading during the LA Phil Fellowship, Walt Disney Concert Hall's Choral Hall, Los Angeles, CA. 11/22. (Premiere)
- 2014 **The Little Boy Lost** for SATB choir [text by William Blake]. Members of the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Luke McEndarfer. Public reading during the LA Phil Fellowship, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion's Rehearsal Room #1, Los Angeles, CA. 05/31. (Premiere)
- 2014 **In Reaction In Sorrow** for woodwind quintet. Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Public reading during the LA Phil Fellowship, Walt Disney Concert Hall's Choral Hall, Los Angeles, CA. 04/05. (Premiere)
- 2014 **Dances: Two Miniatures for Wind Ensemble** for wind ensemble. The woodwinds of Oakwood School's High School Orchestra, Oliver Kwapis. Oakwood School Theater, Oakwood School, North Hollywood, CA. 03/08.
- 2014 **A Short Glimpse of Titan** for large orchestra. Los Angeles Philharmonic, Ben Gernon. Performed as part of the LA Phil's "Symphonies for Schools" series, Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles, CA. 02/06 and 02/07. (Premiere)
- 2013 **Sleep Hold Onto My Hand** for mixed quartet. Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Public reading during the LA Phil Fellowship, Walt Disney Concert Hall's Choral Hall, Los Angeles, CA. 10/26. (Premiere)

## COMPLETE WORKS

### Orchestra & Large Ensemble

- 2021 **Dreams of Flight.** Full orchestra. [10 minutes]
- 2019 **Concertante.** Two solo violas and sinfonietta. [14 minutes]
- 2016 **Theme and Variation.** Full orchestra. [2.5 minutes]
- 2015 **Be Made Whole.** Full orchestra. [2.5 minutes]
- 2014 **Dances: Two Miniatures for Wind Ensemble.** Wind Ensemble. [2 minutes]
- 2013 **A Short Glimpse of Titan.** Full orchestra. [1.5 minutes]

### Chamber

- 2020 **Can You Guess My Name?** Narrator and mixed sextet. Text taken from anonymous Anglo-Saxon riddle-songs. [duration TBD] (in progress)
- 2020 **Speed Dating.** Mixed quintet. [3.3 minutes]
- 2020 **Naked Light.** Four double basses. [9 minutes]
- 2018 **Night Through Eight Eyes.** Brass quintet. [9 minutes]
- 2018 **My Mad Dances.** String sextet. [8 minutes]
- 2015 **Light Numbers.** String quartet. [6 minutes]
- 2015 **Bagatelle, After Gustav Klimt's "The Kiss."** Two pianists and two percussionists. [4.5 minutes]
- 2014 **Under the Paralyzed Noonday Brightness.** Mixed quintet. [4.5 minutes]
- 2014 **In Reaction In Sorrow.** Woodwind quintet. [3 minutes]
- 2013 **Sleep Hold Onto My Hand.** Mixed quartet. [2.5 minutes]

### Choral & Vocal

- 2018 **A Burnt Ship.** Soprano and piano. Text by John Donne. [8 minutes]
- 2017 **Here and There.** Soprano and piano. Original text. [6 minutes]
- 2016 **Jenny Kiss'd Me.** Voice and piano. Text by Leigh Hunt. [1 minute]
- 2016 **Puppet-Maker.** Voice and piano. Text by Charles Simic. [2 minutes]
- 2016 **Walking the Black Cat.** Soprano and piano. Text by Charles Simic. [2 minutes]
- 2015 **Dusk in Winter.** SSA choir and harp. Text by W.S. Merwin. [2.5 minutes]
- 2014 **The Little Boy Lost.** SATB choir. Text by William Blake. [2 minutes]

### Solo

- 2020 **Monologue.** Tuba in F. [9 minutes]
- 2019 **Approach to Zion.** Piano. [12 minutes]
- 2018 **Toccata for Kitty.** Piano. [4 minutes]
- 2016 **We'll Have Had This Day.** Harp. [8.5 minutes]
- 2015 **Five Variations on a Piece by Bartók.** Piano. [6 minutes]
- 2015 **Caricature.** Cello. [1 minute]

### Electronic

- 2021 **Talk-back.** A structured improvisation for Gametrak controller, USB footswitch, and Max/MSP. [10 min.]
- 2021 **Re-heard.** Fixed media on loop to accompany Tiffany Hokanson's M.F.A Thesis Show, "Re-seen." [22 minutes].
- 2020 **Clock, Lightning Bolt, Volume, I Love You So Much.** A structured improvisation for Korg nanoKONTROL 2, and Max/MSP. [9 minutes]
- 2020 **Study for Henry.** A structured improvisation for floor tom, three Polyend Perc Drumming Machines, and Max/MSP. [6 minutes].

2019           **Remembering Stewball.** Fixed media (5.1 and stereo versions). [5.5 minutes]

**Other**

2020           **The Glass Menagerie.** Chamber orchestra. Incidental music to Tennessee Williams' The Glass Menagerie. Composed and synthestrated with Brian Hohlfeld. [2 hours, 4 minutes]

2016           **From Here to the Valley.** Chamber orchestra. A short film score composed and synthestrated with Henry Kwapis. [20 minutes]

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

2021-present Member, University of Oregon Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation (GTFF)

2020-present Member, Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States (SEAMUS)

2019-present Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society, Theta Chapter, Oberlin, OH

2018-present Member, Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI)

**REFERENCES**

**Jeffrey Stolet**

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