

JOHN LIBERATORE

CURRICULUM VITAE

• COMPOSER • PIANIST • GLASS HARMONICIST • THEORIST • EDUCATOR

home: (315) 730 – 6849

office: (574) 631 – 516

email: jsliberatore@gmail.com

www.johnsliberatore.com

Assistant Professor of Composition and Theory,

Department of Music;

University of Notre Dame

EDUCATION

- 2014 **Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester**
PhD in Music Composition
Dissertation essay: *Mutual Relationship: An Aesthetic Analysis of Jo Kondo's High Window*
Dissertation composition: *Hold back thy hours*, for tenor and chamber orchestra
Advisors: Robert Morris, Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon
- 2009 **Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester**
Master of Music in Composition
Primary teachers: David Liptak, Yehudi Wyner (visiting)
- 2007 **Setnor School of Music, Syracuse University**
Bachelor of Music in Composition, *summa cum laude*
Primary teachers: Daniel S. Godfrey, Nicolas Scherzinger, Andrew Waggoner

RESIDENCIES AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2017 **MacDowell Colony**, Peterborough, NH
Fellowship, Artist-in-Residence
- 2017 **Millay Colony for the Arts**, Austerlitz, NY
Fellowship, Artist-in-Residence
- 2016 **Valencia International Performance Academy**, Valencia, Spain
Invited/Commissioned Composer
- 2013 **I-Park Foundation**, East Haddam, CT
Fellowship, Artist-in-Residence
- 2013 **Brush Creek Arts Foundation**, Saratoga, WY
Fellowship, Artist-in-Residence
- 2012 **Private Studio of Jo Kondo**, Tokyo/Kamakura, Japan
Residence funded by the Presser Foundation
- 2011 **Tanglewood Music Center**, Lennox, MA
Composition Fellow
- 2009 **MusicX Festival**, Blonay, Switzerland
Participant
- 2006 **Bowdoin Music Festival**, Brunswick, ME
Participant

TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2015 – *present* **University of Notre Dame**, South Bend, IN
Assistant Professor of Theory and Composition,
Department of Music;
Faculty Fellow, Graduate Studies in Sacred Music
Faculty Fellow, Nanovic Institute for European Studies (2016-*present*)
- 2013 – 2015 **University of Pittsburgh—Bradford**, Bradford, PA
Visiting Assistant Professor of Music
- 2011 – 2013 **Setnor School of Music, Syracuse University**, Syracuse, NY
Adjunct Lecturer of Theory and Composition
- 2013 (*spring*) **Eastman Computer Music Center**
Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY
Interim Director and Instructor of Record (leave replacement)
- 2008 – 2013 **Eastman School of Music**, Rochester, NY
Teaching Assistant
- Eastman Computer Music Center, 2008 – 2013
 - Private Composition, 2009 – 2013
- 2010 – 2011 **Eastman Community Music School**, Rochester, NY
Instructor of Music Technology
- 2008 – 2011 **Ossia New Music Ensemble**,
Board of Directors
- President, 2010 – 2011
- 2005 – 2013 **Music Director Positions:**
- Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, Rochester, NY: 2009 – 2013
 - First United Methodist Church of West Webster, Rochester, NY: 2007 – 2009
 - Elmwood Presbyterian Church, Syracuse, NY: 2005 – 200

AWARDS AND COMMISSIONS

- 2017 **Rudolf Nissim Prize (ASCAP)**
Special distinction for *this living air*
- 2016 **Commission:** VIPA Festival for The Mivos Quartet
Premiere: July 10 2016, Cons. Superior de Música Joaquín Rodrigo. Valencia, Spain

AWARDS AND COMMISSIONS (cont'd.)

- 2016 **Commission:** Bent Frequency Ensemble
Premiere anticipated: Fall 2017, Kent State New Music Festival
- 2015 **Commission:** New York Virtuoso Singers; Harold Rosenbaum, conductor
Premiered November 28, 2015; National Sawdust, Brooklyn, NY.
- 2014 **Commission:** Washington National Opera, American Opera Initiative
The Investment: chamber opera in one act
Premiered November 21, 2014 at the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater.
- 2014 **Brian Israel Prize**
First Prize for *She rose, and let me in*
- 2014 **ASCAP Morton Gould Award**
for *She rose, and let me in*
- 2014 **Nomination: Julius F. Ježek Prize in Composition**
- 2014 **Selected Composer: Juventas Call for Scores**
- 2013 **ASCAP Morton Gould Award**
for *Nemo sleeps*
- 2013 **SCI/ASCAP Student Commission Competition**
Region II winner for “*Hold back thy hours*”
- 2012 **Presser Music Award**
Funded 10-week residency in Tokyo, studying with Jo Kondo
- 2012 **Commission: Ensemble Gibbs and Main**
Funded by the New York Arts Council
- 2012 **Honorable Mention: American Modern Ensemble call for scores**
Professional Division
- 2012 **Belle Gitelman Award**
Eastman School of Music
- 2012 **Finalist: ISCM Call for Scores**
For *Hold back thy hours*
- 2011 **Tanglewood Composers Fellowship**
Funded by the Wallace Foundation
- 2009, 2012 **Finalist: BMI Student Composer Awards**
- 2009, 2010 **Wayne Brewster Barlow Prize**
Eastman School of Music
- 2008 **Selected Composer: Buffalo Philharmonic Young Composers Forum**
- 2007 **VPA Scholar, Syracuse University**
Highest distinction awarded by the School of Visual and Performing Arts.
- 2007 **Irene Crooker Award**
Syracuse University

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES (*Those of particular note are marked with an asterisk.)

9/22/2017 (ant.)	<i>Hold back thy hours</i>	Oberlin Contemporary Ens. Tim Weiss, cond.	Oberlin Conservatory (guest artist)
*9/19/2017 (ant.)	<i>[commissioned work]</i>	Eunmi Ko, piano.	Seoul Arts Center, Seoul, South Korea.
*5/15/2017	<i>while I sleep</i>	Earplay	ODC Theater San Francisco, CA
*1/27/2017	<i>Four Pieces for Horn Trio</i>	Trio Ramifications	Aino Ackté Music Festival, Helsinki, Finland
*12/8/2016	<i>if I knew, and near the green pine</i>	Jamie Jordan, Emi Ferguson, John Liberatore	Tenri Cultural Institute, New York, NY.
11/13/2016	<i>if I knew, and enduring winter</i>	Jamie Jordan, Emi Ferguson, John Liberatore	PianoForte Foundation, Chicago, IL.
7/10/2016	<i>A tree-sprout, a nameless weed</i>	Mivos Quartet	VIPA Festival, Valencia, Spain.
8/10/2016	<i>Three Line Drawings</i>	Eunmi Ko, piano	Kumho Art Hall, Seoul, South Korea.
6/11/2016	<i>Three Line Drawings</i>	Eunmi Ko, piano.	Salla di Immacolata, Rome, Italy.
4/22/2016	<i>this living air</i>	University of Tennessee Percussion Ensemble. Andrew Bliss, dir.	UT Percussion Festival, Knoxville, TN.
3/17/2016 (ant.)	<i>The Sougning Wind</i>	Duo Damiana	Fine Arts Building Salon, Chicago, IL
1/16/2016 (ant.)	<i>Three Line Drawings</i>	Eunmi Ko, piano.	Royal Conservatory of Music, Madrid, Spain.
*11/28/2015	<i>Agnus Dei</i>	New York Virtuoso Singers Harold Rosenbaum, conductor	National Sawdust, New York, NY
11/1/2015	<i>this living air</i>	McCormick Percussion Group; Eunmi Ko, piano.	USF Orchestral Hall, Tampa, FL.
8/20/2015	<i>as if the horizon</i>	Tiffany Ng, carillon.	St. Servaasbasiliek; Maastricht, the Netherlands
*8/19/2015	<i>as if the horizon</i>	Tiffany Ng, carillon.	Sint-Germanustoren, Tienen, Belgium
2/21/2015	<i>Movements</i>	Strings and Hammers	The Venture Compound, St. Petersburg, FL.
*11/21/2014	<i>The Investment</i>	Washington National Opera Anne Manson, conductor	Kennedy Center Terrace Theater Washington, D.C.
11/15/2014	<i>Memetics</i>	Randall Harlow, organ	Harvard University Cambridge, MA
09/21/2014	<i>She rose, and let me in</i>	Society for New Music	Everson Art Museum Syracuse, NY
*07/03/2014	<i>If I knew</i>	Sophie Burgos, soprano Emlyn Johnson, flute; Daniel Pesca, piano	Megaron Performing Arts Ctr. Athens, Greece
06/04/2014	<i>the vines in the carpet</i>	Jamie Jordan, soprano John Liberatore, piano	NYC Electroacoustic Music Festival
*06/03/2014	<i>She rose, and let me in</i>	Eunmi Ko, piano	Carnegie Hall, Weill Rec. Hall New York, NY
05/22/2014	<i>4 Pieces for Horn Trio</i>	Trio Ramifications	Helsinki Music Center Helsinki, Finland
02/14/2014	<i>Nemo sleeps</i>	Corey Holt Meranda, piano	USF New Music Festival

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES (cont'd.)

*01/31/2014	<i>Nemo sleeps</i>	Dinosaur Annex	Longy School of Music Cambridge, MA
11/23/2013	<i>Inertia</i>	Thomas Snyder, saxophone Liz Ames, piano	Sound Wired Concert Series Evanston, IL
03/22/2013	<i>the vines in the carpet</i>	Jamie Jordan, soprano John Liberatore, piano	N_SEME Conference 2013 Philadelphia, PA
*01/29/2013	<i>Nemo sleeps</i>	Ryan MacEvoy McCullough, piano	Canadian Opera Company Piano Virtuoso Series Toronto, ON
10/27/2012	<i>the vines in the carpet</i>	Jamie Jordan, soprano David Friend, piano	Spectrum Concert Space New York, NY
09/22/2012	<i>Memetics</i>	Randall Harlow, organ	Atkinson Forum of American Studies at Cornell Ithaca, NY
07/22/2012	<i>Lennon Scatters and Fleeces His Flock</i>	John Graham, viola Scott Ney, percussion	Abiquiu Chamber Music Festival Abiquiu, NM
*06/02/2012	<i>Lennon Scatters and Fleeces His Flock</i>	John Graham, viola Sean Connors, percussion	International Viola Congress Rochester, NY
04/15/2012	<i>Plain Truths from Timothy Dexter</i>	Colorfield Ensemble	Midwest Museum of American Art, Elkhart, IN
03/23/2012	<i>Hold back thy hours</i>	Eastman Sinfonietta, Geoffrey Pope, conductor Zachary Finkelstein, tenor	Eastman School of Music Rochester, NY
04/06/2012	<i>Plain Truths from Timothy Dexter</i>	Colorfield Ensemble	upTOWN underGROUND Harlem, NY
*07/13/2011	<i>Lennon Scatters and Fleeces His Flock</i>	Derek Mosloff, viola Matthew Decker, percussion	Seiji Ozawa Hall Tanglewood Music Center Lenox, MA
04/02/2011	<i>Just a Tinfoil Rose</i>	Cuong Vu Trio	Warren Benson Forum, Rochester, NY
07/12/2010	<i>Black Veil</i>	Cleveland Contemp.Players Rolf Schulte, violin,David Russel, cello Geoffrey Burleson, piano	Cleveland State University Cleveland, OH
03/10/2010	<i>Printer's Box</i>	Zuzanna Kwan, piano	The Stone New York, NY
07/30/2009	<i>Ribbons of Wood</i>	Jessica Prus, flute, Yen-Lin Goh, piano Nicholas Photinos, cello	MusicX Festival Hindemith Centre Blonay, Switzerland
11/19/2008	<i>Companion Star</i>	Eastman Philharmonia Oliver Hagen, conductor	Eastman School of Music Rochester, NY
02/27/2008	<i>Inertia</i>	Kevin Ames, saxophone Liz Ames, piano	American Cultural Inst. Of Peru Lima, Peru
02/07/2008	<i>Companion Star</i>	Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Robert Franz, conductor	Buffalo Philharmonic Young Composer's Forum Buffalo, NY
07/30/2006	<i>Indulgence</i>	Mara Plotkin, clarinet	Charles E. Gamper Festival Bowdoin College Brunswick, ME
05/07/2013	<i>Nemo sleeps</i>	Ryan MacEvoy McCullough, piano	Gallery 345 Toronto, ON

RECORDINGS

- 2018 **A line broken, traced**, Albany Records
John Liberatore, chamber music
(under contract)
- includes:
- if I knew*, Jamie Jordan, soprano, Emi Ferguson, flute,
John Liberatore, piano.
- A line broken, traced*, Bent Frequency Ensemble
- a tree sprout, a nameless weed*, The Mivos Quartet
- Line Drawings*, Ryan MacEvoy McCullough, piano
- The Sougning Wind*, Duo Damiana
- Had they remained*, Jamie Jordan, soprano; Daniel Druckman, percussion,
John Liberatore, glass harmonica
-
- 2017 **Organon Novus: 25 Masterworks in 25 Years**, Innova Records
Randall Harlow, organ.
-includes *Memetics*, (dur. c. 7'),
funded through the Copland Foundation and New Music USA
(under contract)
-
- 2017 **Concerti for Percussion and Piano vol .II**, Ravello Records
McCormick Percussion Group, Bob McCormick, dir.
Featuring Eunmi Ko, piano.
-includes *this living air* (dur. c. 17')
(recorded, under contract)
-
- 2016 **She rose, and let me in**, Centaur Records
Eunmi Ko, solo piano
- includes *She rose, and let me in: Variations and Fugue*. (dur. c. 13')

- 2016 **Tenri Cultural Institute**, with Jamie Jordan, soprano, and Emi Ferguson, flute
Performing (piano):
Jo Kondo, *High Window*
John Liberatore, *near the green pine*
John Liberatore, *if I knew*
December 8, 2016, New York, NY
- 2016 **PianoForte Foundation**, with Jamie Jordan, soprano, and Emi Ferguson, flute
Performing (piano):
Jo Kondo, *High Window*
Anton Webern, *Drei Lieder op. 25*
John Liberatore, *if I knew*
Performing (glass harmonica):
John Liberatore, *enduring winter*
November 13, 2016
- 2016 **Sorin Scholars of Notre Dame**
Invited speaker
November 2, 2016.
University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN.
- 2016 **University of Tennessee Percussion Festival**
Guest speaker and composer-in-residence
“Reason and Rationale: composing *Line Drawings*”
April 21-22 2016, University of Tennessee
- 2015 **Howard Hanson Visiting Professor Series: Jo Kondo**
Guest speaker and performer
December 2-6, Eastman School of Music
- 2015 **Composition in Asia Symposium and Festival**
Lecture recital, “Mutual Relationship: an Aesthetic Analysis of Jo Kondo's *High Window*”
January 22-25 2015, University of South Florida, Tampa FL
- 2014 **USF Biennial New Music Festival**
“Intersections of Classical and Modern in *She rose, and let me in*”
February 13-15, University of South Florida, Tampa FL
- 2014 **New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival**
Performing (piano):
John Liberatore, *The vines in the carpet*, with Jamie Jordan, soprano.
Abrons Playhouse Theater, June 2, 2014
- 2013 **N_SEME Conference**
Performing (piano):
John Liberatore, *The vines in the carpet*, with Jamie Jordan, soprano.
March 22, 2013, Temple University, Philadelphia.

REFERENCES

Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon

Composer, Professor of Composition, Department Chair, Eastman School of Music
RZohn-Muldoon@esm.rochester.edu, (585) 274-1576

Robert Morris

Composer, Professor of Composition, Eastman School of Music
rmorris@esm.rochester.edu, (585) 274-1558

Jo Kondo

Composer
mjknd@m.jcnnet.jp (please use email due to time-zone differences)

Baljinder Sekhon

Composer, Assistant Professor of Composition, University of South Florida
SekhonMusic@gmail.com, (803) 413-3841

JOHN LIBERATORE, COMPOSER: LIST OF WORKS (2007 – *present*)

Large Ensemble:

- this living air** - *piano percussion orchestra*, 2015. 18'
- Agnus Dei** - *mixed choir and children's voices*, 2015. 7'
- The Investment** - *chamber opera in one act*, 2014. 22'
- Green grows the holly** - *soprano, flute, oboe, harp, strings*. 2013. 5'
- Hold back thy hours** - *tenor and large chamber ensemble*,
- Lennon Scatters and Fleeces His Flock** - *viola and chamber orchestra*, 2010. 8'30"
- Lamia** - *wind ensemble*, 2010. 8'
- Kuiper** - *chamber orchestra*, 2009. 12'
- Companion Star** - *full orchestra*, 2008. 6'

Chamber Ensemble 3-8 players:

- Had they remained** - *soprano, percussion, glass harmonica*, 2017. 16'
- a tree-sprout, a nameless weed** - *for string quartet*, 2016. 10'
- Last Leaf** - *flute, clarinet, violin, cello*, 2015. 9'
- Four Pieces for Horn Trio** - *violin, horn, piano*, 2014. 13'
- Movements** - *violin, double bass, piano*, 2014. 5'30"
- if I knew** - *soprano, flute, piano*, 2014. 8'.
- a cart full of fingers and thumbs** - *baritone voice, flute, viola, harp*, 2013. 14'
- The boughs did bend** - *piano and string quintet*, 2013. 16'.
- hide and reveal** - *flute, clarinet, violin, cello, percussion*, 5'. 2012
- The vines in the carpet**, after Edward Gorey- *soprano, piano/harmonium, and electronics*, 2011. 10'
- The pavement stones resound** - *for tenor, violin, and piano*, 2011, 4'
- petals on a wet black bough** - *for flute, percussion, and piano*, 2011, 7'
- Just a Tinfoil Rose** - *jazz trumpet, electric bass, and drumset*, 2011. ~8' (with improvisations)
- Plain Truths in a Homespun Dress** - *soprano, clarinet, cello, and percussion*, 2010. 9'
- Ribbons of Wood** - *flute, cello, and piano*, 2009. 9'15
- ...of Four-footed Beastes** - *3 percussionists, double bass, and tenor soloist*, 2008 16'
- Black Veil** - *piano trio*, 2007. 10'

Solos and Duets:

- Line Drawings, Book II** - *solo piano*, 2017. 10'
- enduring winter** - *soprano and glass harmonica*, 2016. 5'
- a line broken, traced** - *saxophone and percussion*, 2016. 13'
- Line Drawings, Book I** - *solo piano*, 2016. 12'
- The Souging Wind** - *flute and guitar*, 2016. 14'
- She rose, and let me in: Variations** - *solo piano*, 2013. 13'
- The boughs did bend** - *violin solo*, 2013. 5'
- near the green pine** - *solo piano*, 2012. 10'
- Tercet** - *violin and piano*, 2012. 10'
- Plain Truths from Timothy Dexter** - *soprano and contrabass*, 2012. 9'
- Nemo sleeps**, after Windsor McCay - *solo piano*, 2011, 9'
- while I sleep**, - *violin and viola*, 2011. 3'
- Tumblers**, - *violin and vibraphone*, 2011-14, 10'
- Lennon Scatters and Fleeces His Flock** - *viola and percussion*, 2010. 8'30"
- Printer's Box** - *solo piano*, 2010. 7'30"
- Copper Candle** - *alto saxophone and computer*, 2009, 5'00"
- Inertia** - *alto saxophone and piano*, 2008 dur 7'00"
- Catalyst** - *trumpet and electronics*, 2008 10'30"
- Chimera** - *viola and cello*, 2008 7'30"

Solo Piano (cross-listed):

Line Drawings, Book II - *solo piano*, 2017. 10'

Line Drawings, Book I - *solo piano*, 2016. 12'

She rose, and let me in: Variations - *solo piano*, 2013. 13'

near the green pine - *solo piano*, 2012. 10'

Nemo sleeps, after Windsor McCay - *solo piano*, 2011. 9'

Printer's Box - *solo piano*, 2010. 7'30"

Works with Electronics:

Ricercare, *interactive electronic interface*, 2016. variable duration

The vines in the carpet, *listed above*

Copper Candle, *listed above*

Filigree - *electronic media*, 2009

Catalyst, *listed above*

Click Track - *electronic media*, 2007

JOHN LIBERATORE, COMPOSER:

BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT:

Exploring intersections with poetry and other art media, music of composer John Liberatore has been performed in venues around the world: the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, The Four Seasons Center, and prestigious venues in Europe, Asia, and South America. Described by critics as “enchanting” and “truly magical,” (Boston and New York Classical Review, respectively), his works seek complexity within simple textures, reaching for ambiguity through transparency. In addition to his work as a composer, he is an active pianist, and one of the world’s few performers of the glass harmonica.

Leading ensembles and soloists have performed his work, including Dinosaur Annex, the Mivos Quartet, Bent Frequency, Duo Damiana, Earplay, the Cleveland Contemporary Players, the Washington National Opera, the Buffalo Philharmonic, and The New York Virtuoso Singers. He has received fellowships from Tanglewood, the MacDowell Colony, the Brush Creek Arts Foundation, the I-Park Enclave, and the Millay Colony. Other notable distinctions include a commission from the American Opera Initiative, two ASCAP Morton Gould Awards, and the Brian Israel Prize. With funding from the Presser Foundation, he studied in Tokyo with Jo Kondo in the summer of 2012, a mentorship that made an indelible impression on his music. Recordings of his piano music are available on Centaur Records, with forthcoming releases, funded by New Music USA and the Copland Fund, scheduled for release on Ravello, Innova, and Albany record labels in 2017/18.

In 2015, Liberatore commissioned glass blowers G. Finkenbeiner Inc. for a new glass harmonica; with this acquisition, he became one of the few exponents of this rare instrument in contemporary music. As a fellow at the MacDowell Colony (Spring 2017), he composed a new song cycle for voice, percussion, and glass harmonica, written for soprano Jamie Jordan and percussionist Daniel Druckman, associate principal in the New York Philharmonic. Based on translations by Niloufar Talebi of contemporary Iranian poetry, these performers, along with the composer, will premiere the work in early 2018. The piece will also be included on an album of Liberatore’s works, scheduled for release later that year.

Liberatore is also active as a pianist, having performed at a number of national venues. Most recently, he appeared at the PianoForte Foundation of Chicago, the Tenri Cultural Institute, the New York Electroacoustic Music Festival, the N_SEME Conference in Philadelphia, the Composition in Asia International Symposium in Tampa, and the Howard Hanson residency of Jo Kondo at Eastman.

In 2014, he received his PhD from the Eastman School of Music, writing his dissertation on the aesthetics of Jo Kondo's piano work *High Window*. While there, he was actively engaged in the production of new music, serving as president of the Ossia New Music Ensemble during the 2010-11 concert season, and producing and supporting concerts through his affiliation with the Eastman Computer Music Center. He served as interim director of the ECMC during the 2012-13 academic year. He holds additional degrees from Syracuse University (B.M. summa cum laude), and Eastman (M.M.). In 2015, he was appointed assistant professor of theory and composition at the University of Notre Dame. A passionate educator, he taught previously at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, Syracuse University, and Eastman.