

BENJAMIN R. FUHRMAN, DMA

www.benfuhrman.com

Education

- Doctor of Musical Arts in Music Composition from Michigan State University – 2009
Dissertation: Erebus – Music for Saxophone Quartet and Computer
- Master of Music in Music Composition from Michigan State University – 2006
Thesis: Concerto for Mandolin and Strings
- Bachelor of Music – Violin Performance, Magna cum Laude from Hope College. Minor in French – 2004
Thesis: An Analysis of Organic Motivic Development in the Andante and Allegro of Berg's "Violinkonzert"

Teaching Experience

- **Adjunct Professor of Music**
Mott Community College
Dean of Fine Arts and Social Sciences: Mary Cusack
(810)-762-0474
January 2016 – Present
Duties: Teach music fundamentals (reading, notation, aural skills, keyboard skills, and basic composition) to music majors, non-majors, and music technology students using a combination of in class and online instruction. Prepare music majors lacking a theory background with the skills necessary to progress to Music Theory 1.
Courses Taught: Music Fundamentals.
- **Digital Media Instructor**
Information Technology Empowerment Center (ITEC)
Supervisor: Kirk Riley
(517)-432-1451
September 2011 – Present
Duties: Teach Digital Media to Lansing area students, supervising their production of public service announcements. Run the Digital Media intensive, weekend, and summer programs in conjunction with the YMCA and Lansing Community College, focusing on the use of open source tools. Serve on the programming committee.
Courses Taught: K-12 Level Digital Media, Summer Intensive Digital Media Classes.
Programs Taught: LightWorks, Windows Movie Maker, Audacity, AVISynth, VirtualDub
- **Computer Music and Mandolin Instructor**
Michigan State University Community Music School
Supervisor: Jaime DeMott
(517)-355-7661 Ext. 11
February 2011 – Present
Duties: Syllabus and curriculum design and teaching for the computer music courses offered. Audio reinforcement, recording, and mastering of school events. Overseeing the installation and use of technology in the control room and performance hall. Teaching private lessons in electronic music and mandolin. Assisting the music therapy program with technology and electronic instrument design and implementation. Record and master recitals and audition CDs. Reinforce live sound at events.
Courses Taught: K-12 Level Computer Music, Adult Level Computer Music, Collegiate Level Computer Music, Adult Level Introductory Mandolin, Private Mandolin Lessons.
Programs Taught: ProTool, Ableton Live, Max4Live, Reason, FL Studio, Audacity, LMMS
- **Music Mentor** (2007 – 2008), and **CASTL Fellow** (2008 – 2009)
Michigan State University Residential College in the Arts and Humanities
Supervisor: Mark Sullivan
(517)-353-7653
June 2007 – May 2009

Duties: Facilitating student music activities while pursuing independent research related to the scholarship of teaching and learning as it pertains to music.

Research Project: *Engaged Music*

- **Teaching Assistant and Student Administrator of the Computer Music Laboratory**

Michigan State University

Supervisor: Mark Sullivan

(517)-353-7653

August 2005 – May 2009

Duties: Administering laboratory computers, installing and removing software and hardware, MIDI routing, facilitating student knowledge of notation and audio editing programs. As of August 2006, this position was augmented to include teaching electronic music and music composition.

Courses Taught: MUS 440: *Electronic Music*, MUS 480/880 *Music Composition (undergraduate and graduate levels)*.

Programs Taught: ProTools, Reason, Max/MSP/Jitter, PureData, KORE, BBC Sample Library, Vienna Symphonic Library, Gigastudio, Finale, Audacity

Additional Experience

- Private composition and theory instructor – Lansing MI – April 2011 – Present
- Volunteer instructor for Closing the Digital Gap a nonprofit digital literacy organization in Lansing, MI - June - July 2011.
- Mandolinist for the Mediterranean fusion band Wisaal – February 2010 – April 2015
- Master class on composing for saxophone and computer at Oklahoma State University – December 11, 2010
- Composer in Residence for ART342 in Fort Collins, CO - September - December 2010
- Panel Member – Art342 and SOVA: Discussing the Residency Experience, and the Life of the Professional Artist – Colorado State University – November 17, 2010
- Lecture on original compositions for saxophone and computer at Colorado State University – November 14, 2010
- Lecture on electro-acoustic music at Kalamazoo College – May 21, 2010
- Panel Member - Suitcases: Global Exchange with UDESC Brazil and MSU MFA Candidates – EDGES Conference, Michigan State University – March 20, 2008
- Private tutoring in violin and chamber music in Holland Michigan – 2001-2004

Commissioned Works

- *Mechanical Landscapes* for Strings, Percussion, Piano, and Live Electronics – for the East Lansing High School Orchestra – Current work in progress, to be premiered May 18, 2016
- Soundtrack and sound design for *Picky Birds* video game – for producer Catherine Ryu, PhD, and supported by the Targeted Support Grant for Technology Development as part of the Tone Perception Efficacy Study – Current Work In Progress
- *Separation Anxiety* – (electro-acoustic) for the Michigan State University National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory and Facility for Rare Isotope Beams – 2015
- *Mind the Gaps* – (short film score) for the Michigan State University National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory and Facility for Rare Isotope Beams – 2015
- *Un Coup de Dés* for Narrator and Computer with Live Multi-Media Processing for Corrina Van Hamlin – 2015
- *Elegy for Violin, Viola, and Computer* for Mary Kothman and Kaitrin Meidell – 2014
- *Visually Sound* - Designed, programmed, and assisted in the build of an interactive music box sculpture in conjunction with REACH Studio Art – 2014
- *Recursion (for S)* for Bass Clarinet and Computer for Will Cicola – 2014
- *Three Arabesques for Alto Saxophone and Piano* for Nathan Bogert – 2013
- *Zen Mycology (electro-acoustic sound installation)* for Ty Forquer – 2012
- *Allusions and Evocations for Vibraphone, Percussion, and Narrator* for Sam Gould – 2012
- *Power Cycle for Cajón and Computer* for Sam Gould – 2012

- *Prism Chain for Flute, Saxophone, and Marimba* for Ryan Janus – 2011
- *Spare Change Suite for Electronically Prepared Toy Piano* for Ty Forquer – 2011
- *Lyric Variations for Solo Violin* for Barton Rotberg – 2011
- *Through a Glass, Darkly for Saxophone Quartet and Computer* for the H₂ Quartet – 2010
- *Songs of a Mute Voice for Baritone Saxophone and Computer* for Jeffrey Loeffert – 2010
- *Chthonic Fragments for Wind Symphony* for Magnolia West High School of Houston, TX – 2009 – 2010
- *Erebus for Saxophone Quartet and Computer* for the H₂ Quartet – 2008 – 2009
- *Three English Songs for Counter-Tenor and Guitar* for Daniel Schuetz – 2008
- *Meditations: An Abstract Pseudo-Liturgy (electro-acoustic sound installation)* for Blacksoil Church of Lansing, MI – 2008
- *Fractal Genesis for Solo Alto Saxophone* for Shawn Teichmer – 2008
- *147 Revisited for Electronic Wind Controller and Computer* for University Reformed Church of East Lansing, MI – 2007
- *Sexy Coffee Thing for Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Violin, and Piano* for Drew Whiting - 2007
- *Hypnos for Trumpet and Computer* for Mark Flegg – 2007
- *Minimal Gnosis Tenor Saxophone and Pre-Recorded Saxophone Quartet* for Jack Kinsey – 2006
- *Introduction and Rondo for Violin and Marimba* for Grant Gould – 2004

Recordings/Filmography

- As the sole composer and performer
 - *Concrete Oasis* – An exploration of urban decay and renewal in the Rust Belt. Current work in progress with funding provided by the Arts Council of Greater Lansing. Scheduled for a late 2016 release.
- With *Wisaal* as a composer and mandolinist
 - *Live* – scheduled for a 2016 release
 - *The Warp and the Weft* – 2012
 - *Mosaic* – 2010
- As a contributing composer
 - *Attention K-Mart Shoppers* – released by Argali Records – 2016
 - *Differential Moods* - released by saxophonist Jeffrey Loeffert – 2014
 - *Electro-Acoustic Miniatures 2012: Re-Caged* - released by the Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the US – 2012
 - *Ambient Volume VII #1 Radio Sampler* – released by OASIS Disc Manufacturing – 2007
 - *Tangents* – released by The Alliance of Michigan State University Composers – 2007
- As a sound recording and mixing engineer, and mandolinist
 - *Hmong Memories at the Crossroads* – forthcoming release from a partnership of the Humanity Without Walls Consortium and Michigan State University. Scheduled for a 2016 release.
- As director, audio engineer, and composer
 - *Most Teens Don't* – PSA for the Ingham Substance Abuse Coalition, screened at NCG Cinema in Lansing, MI – 2014

Articles Published

- *The Past is The Waste Land on Which to Build the Future: A Composer's Response to "BLANCH IT, MIX IT, MASH IT: A FAIR-USE FRAMEWORK FOR THE MASHUP"* - solicited and published by the *Thomas M. Cooley Law Review* – Published by the *Thomas M. Cooley Law Review*, Volume 29, No. 3, 2012 – released July 2013.

Selected Premieres and Performances

- Premier of *Mechanical Landscapes* for Strings, Percussion, Piano, and Computer by the East Lansing High School Orchestra – East Lansing, MI – May, 18, 2016
- Performance of *Reflections in a Gasoline Rainbow* at Soochow University – Suzhou, Jiangsu, China – April 24, 2016

- Performance of *Reflections in a Gasoline Rainbow* at the Apex Contemporary Performance Sound System Takeover at The Beer Grotto – Ann Arbor, MI – April 9, 2016
- Performance of *Reflections in a Gasoline Rainbow* at the 2016 College Music Society Great Lakes Conference – South Bend, IN – April 2, 2016
- Performance of *Three Arabesques* by saxophonist Nathan Bogert at the 2016 North American Sax Alliance National Conference – Texas Tech University – March 11, 2016.
- *Mind the Gaps* premiered at Michigan State University's *50 Years of BEAM* program – Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, Michigan State University – East Lansing, MI – October 8, 2015
- *Separation Anxiety* premiered at Michigan State University's *50 Years of BEAM* program – Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, Michigan State University – East Lansing, MI – October 8, 2015
- *Reflections in a Gasoline Rainbow* performed at the 2015 Electro Acoustic Barn Dance Festival – University of Mary Washington – Fredricksburg, VA – Oct. 1 – 3, 2015
- *Reflections in a Gasoline Rainbow* performed at the 2015 International Computer Music Festival – University of North Texas – Sept. 25 – Oct. 1, 2015
- *Reflections in a Gasoline Rainbow* premiered at the New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival – June 20-22, 2015
- *There Will Come Soft Rains* performed at the Manchester New Music Festival – Manchester University – March 27-29, 2015
- *Elegy for Violin, Viola, and Computer* premiered by Mary Kothman and Katrin Meidell at the 45th Annual Festival of New Music – Ball State University, Muncie, IN – March 12, 2015
- *Prelude for Un-Specified Instrument* performed by Jeffrey Loeffert – Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI – November 20, 2014
- *Recursion (for S)* premier by clarinetist Andrea Cheeseman at the Electro Acoustic Barn Dance Festival – University of Mary Washington – Fredricksburg, VA – Nov. 13 – 15, 2014
- *Observations* premier at the College Music Society National Conference – St. Louis, MO – October 31, 2014
- *Visually Sound* project unveiling at REACH Studio Art – Lansing and East Lansing, MI – May 31, 2014
- *Three Arabesques* premier by saxophonist Nathan Bogert at the University of Missouri Kansas City Conservatory – Kansas City, MO – May 10, 2014
- *Swarm* performed by the composer at the 2014 SCI National Conference – Ball State University, Muncie, IN – March 20 – 22, 2014
- *Lyric Variations* premier by violinist Barton Rotberg at Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory of Music – Berea, OH – February 22, 2014
- *Sirens* performed by violinist Sarah Plum at Bard College – Annandal-on-Hudson, NY – October 5, 2013
- *There Will Come Soft Rains* performed at the Studio 300 BYTE Gallery – Transylvania University – Lexington, KY – October 4-5, 2013
- *Sirens* performed by violinist Sarah Plum at Spectrum – New York City, NY – October 3, 2013
- *Fuga-telle Degradation* performed by the Tower Duo at the Brevard Music Center – Brevard, NC – July 30, 2013
- *Study on Morning Religion, There Will Come Soft Rains*, and excerpts from *Erebus* performed in a talk by Dr. Ricardo Lorenz at the Laboratorio Nacional de Musica Electroacoustica (LNME) and the Casa de las Americas – Havana, Cuba – March 2013
- *There Will Come Soft Rains* performed at the 2014 SEAMUS National Conference – St. Paul, MN – April 20, 2013
- *Hypnos* performed by the composer at the Manchester New Music Mini-Festival – Manchester, IN – February 23, 2013
- *Fuga-telle Degradation* premier by the Tower Duo at the SCI National Conference – The Ohio State University – February 13-16, 2013
- *There Will Come Soft Rains* premier at Street: Festival of Electronic Music, Art and Performance – Miami, FL – December 6-8, 2012
- *Sirens* performed by violinist Sarah Plum at the Unruly Music Festival – Milwaukee, WI – October 19, 2012
- *Zen Mycology* premier at (SCENE) MetroSpace – East Lansing, MI – September 26, 2012
- *Swarm* premiered by the composer at the Electro Acoustic Barn Dance Festival – Fredricksburg, VA – October 29, 2011
- *Sirens* performed by violinist Sarah Plum at Drake University – Des Moines, IA – September 15, 2011

- *Sirens* performed by violinist Sarah Plum at the Ankunft: Neue Musik Festival – Berlin, Germany – August 25, 2011
- *Cumulus Refractions* with live VJ-ing performed by the composer at (SCENE) Metrospace – East Lansing, MI – April 11, 2011
- *Cumulus Refractions* premier at the World Electro-Acoustic Listening Room Project – California State University Fullerton – March 5, 2011
- *Songs of a Mute Voice*, *Hypnos*, and *Prelude for Un-Specified Instrument* performed by Jeffrey Loeffert at the North American Saxophone Alliance regional conference – Chicago, IL – February 25, 2011
- *Songs of a Mute Voice* premier by Jeffrey Loeffert at the United State Navy Band's International Saxophone Symposium – George Mason University – Fairfax, VA – January 7, 2011
- *Erebus* score and audio exhibited at (SCENE) Metrospace as part of the ResVu 1&2 exhibit – East Lansing, MI – April 10, 2010
- *Hypnos* performed by Geoffrey Deibel at the University of Central Missouri New Music Festival 2010: Dualities – Warrensburg, MO – 2010
- *Study on Morning Religion* and *Gestalt Variations* performed at Alma College – Alma, MI – February 22, 2010
- *Hypnos* performed at Bowling Green State University – February 3, 2010
- *Gestalt Variations* premier at *Beauty, Horror and Silence: The Electronic Arts and Music Festival* – Miami, FL – December 5, 2009
- *Hypnos* (revised for violin) premiered by the composer at ElectroAcoustic JukeJoint 2009 – Cleveland, MS – November 14, 2009
- *Zais* premiered at the New Music Hartford concert in Hartford, CT – August 30, 2009
- *Erebus* world premier performance by the H₂ Quartet at the World Saxophone Congress in Bangkok, Thailand – July 8, 2009
- Exhibition of *Meditations: An Abstract Pseudo-Liturgy*, with computer generated images by the composer at the ARC Gallery in Chicago, IL – February 4 – 27, 2009
- *Asterion II* performed at the ElectroAcoustic JukeJoint 2008 – Cleveland, MS – November 14, 2008
- *Study on Morning Religion* performed at Digital Arts Weeks 2008 – Basel, Switzerland – September 25 – 28, 2008
- *Meditations: An Abstract Pseudo-Liturgy* exhibited with computer generated images by the composer at Gallery 101 of the Kresge Art Gallery in East Lansing, MI – August 16 – 30, 2008
- *Meditations: An Abstract Pseudo-Liturgy* exhibited with computer generated images by the composer in Florianópolis, Brazil – June 10 – 27, 2008
- *Meditations: An Abstract Pseudo-Liturgy* premiered at Blacksoil Church, Lansing MI – June 14, 2008
- *Nyx* from *Statues of Mechanical Gods* performed at IMMArts TechArt07 Festival – DeKalb, IL – May 19, 2007

Awards

- Recipient of the Arts Council of Greater Lansing's 2015-2016 Chris Clark Fellowship – October 21, 2015 – To be used to cover the costs of composing, mixing, mastering, and CD production of a multi-movement work on urban decay and renewal.
- Featured artist for the Arts Council of Greater Lansing's 2014-2015 Billboard Project (possibly the first composer in the US to receive a billboard) – November 2014 – <http://www.lansingarts.org/ProgramsServices/BillboardProject.aspx>
- Recipient of an ASCAP Plus Award – November 19, 2014
- Recipient of the Arts Council of Greater Lansing's 2014-2015 Chris Clark Fellowship – August 6, 2014 – Used to cover travel and hotel costs to attend the 2014 College Music Society National Conference
- Recipient of an ASCAP Plus Award – October 5, 2012
- Winner (as part of the band Wisaal) of the 2012 Michigan State University Excellence in Diversity Award for Excellence in Advancing Global Competency – East Lansing, MI – December 9, 2011
- Recipient of an ASCAP Plus Award – September 9, 2011
- Recipient of an ASCAP Plus Award – September 10, 2010
- Received the MSU Graduate Travel Grant to attend ElectroAcoustic JukeJoint 2008 – September 15, 2008
- Hope College Distinguished Artist Award – 2000

- Hope College Distinguished Scholar Award – 2000

Professional Associations

- Member of the Arts Council of Greater Lansing – since 2010
- Individual Member of the National Association of Schools of Music – since 2009
- Member of Society of Composers, Inc. (SCI) – since 2008
- Member of the College Music Society (CMS) – since 2008
- Member of the Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States (SEAMUS) – since 2008
- Member of the American Society for Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) – since 2007
- President of the Alliance of MSU Composers 2007 – 2009
- Technical Advisor to the Alliance of MSU Composers 2006 – 2007
- Inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda national music honor society, Zeta Delta chapter – 2004

Miscellaneous Media Appearances

- Co-host of the podcast *Patch In*, focusing on electro-acoustic music for the *Sound Notion* network
- Featured as the Composer of the Day on the Society of Composers, Inc. website front page – November 7, 2015
- Featured as the Composer of the Day on the Society of Composers, Inc. website front page – August 11, 2015
- Featured performer on *Current State* on WKAR 90.5FM performing solo mandolin music – May 15, 2015
- Featured composer on *Composers Circle* – April 14, 2015 - <http://composerscircle.com/benjamin-fuhrman/>
- Featured as the Composer of the Day on the Society of Composers, Inc. website front page – November 13, 2014
- Featured on *Current State* on WKAR 90.5FM as part of the band Wisaal - April 4, 2014
- Performance reviewed in *The State News* - February 17, 2014 – <http://statenews.com/article/2014/02/music-retreat-at-planetarium-features-live-performers>
- Featured guest on the *SoundNotion* podcast – January 19, 2014 – <http://www.soundnotion.tv/2014/01/soundnotion-147/>
- Featured guest on the *SoundNotion* podcast – April 28, 2013 – <http://www.soundnotion.tv/2013/04/soundnotion-114/>
- Featured on *Michigan Music Box* on WLNZ 89.7 FM as part of the band Wisaal, discussing the release of *The Warp and the Weft* – November 30, 2012
- Featured on *The Basement* on WDBM 88.9 FM as part of the band Wisaal, discussing the release of *The Warp and the Weft* – November 29, 2012
- Featured guest on the *SoundNotion* podcast – October 21, 2012 – <http://www.soundnotion.tv/2012/10/soundnotion-89/>
- Created an anti-drug commercial that was screened in local schools and theaters for the Eaton Intermediate School District - September 27, 2012 - <http://www.benfuhrman.com/videos/MTD-ShortVersion.mov>
- Featured on *Michigan Music Box* on WLNZ 89.7 FM as part of the band Wisaal – May 3, 2012 – <http://mimusicbox.wordpress.com/2012/05/03/episode-4-wisaal/>
- Interviewed for the article *Event Celebrates Power of Ukulele*, appearing in *The State News* – March 18, 2012 - http://statenews.com/article/2012/03/event_celebrates_power_of_ukulele
- Featured artist on the Arts Council of Greater Lansing website – <http://www.lansingarts.org/> – Week of January 23, 2012
- Featured on the website *Ukulele Perspective*, September 30, 2011. <http://ukulele-perspective.com/2011/09/30/ben-fuhrmans-work-with-the-ukulele/>
- Appeared in a YouTube video for the Ukulele Godspell Competition performing an original interpretation of *Amazing Grace* for solo ukulele (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vEM71yQUk2w>)
- Featured on *The Basement* on WDBM 88.9 FM as part of the band Wisaal – June 6, 2011

- Audio engineer for the short film *Download*, released by Folio Film Productions – July 28, 2010 (<http://www.vimeo.com/13744215>)

References

- Dr. Ricardo Lorenz, Associate Professor and Chair of Composition, Michigan State University, (517)-355-7658, lorenzri@msu.edu
- Dr. Mark Sullivan, Associate Professor of Composition, Michigan State University, (517)-353-7653, sullivan@msu.edu
- Dr. Jeffrey Loeffert, Assistant Professor of Saxophone and Music Theory, Oklahoma State University, (405)-269-1693, jeffloeffert@yahoo.com
- Jeffrey Kiston, Vocal Music Instructor, Central Community College, (402)-562-1270, jkitson@ccneb.edu
- Dr. Matthew Schoendorff, Adjunct Instructor of Music Theory and Composition, Wayne State University, (810)-730-1330, matthewschoendorff@gmail.com
- Dr. Leigh VanHandel, Associate Professor and Chair of Music Theory, Michigan State University, (517)-353-2943, lvh@msu.edu