# Jonathan Cziner, Composer & Educator

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#### **CURRICULUM VITAE**

## **EDUCATION**

THE JUILLIARD SCHOOLDoctor of Music — Music Composition2016 - 2021THE JUILLIARD SCHOOLMaster of Music — Music Composition2014 - 2016NEW YORK UNIVERSITYBachelor of Music — Music Composition2010 - 2014

## **Major Teachers**

**Justin Dello Joio** — Composition, New York University & The Juilliard School

Robert Beaser — Composition, The Juilliard School

#### **Other Educators**

Kevin Puts — Minnesota Orchestra Composer's Institute, 2019

Steve Mackey — New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Edward T. Cone Institute, 2018

**David Ludwig** — Atlantic Music Festival, 2017

**Donald Crocket** — Atlantic Music Festival, 2017

Han Lash — Atlantic Music Festival, 2017

Samuel Adler — Berlin Music Composition Program, 2016

Phillip Lasser — European American Musical Alliance (EAMA), 2013

David Conte — EAMA, 2013

**Harold Farberman** — Bard College Conducting Academy, 2012

# **TEACHING**

Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra Music Composition Program, Founder and Director (2024 - Present)

Designed and teaching course for high school students enrolled in the GDYO who are interested in pursuing composition. The program is for beginners who want to start their composition journey and introduces them to orchestration, using music software programs, and works by living composers in various genres.

**Charles Ives Music Festival**, Music Composition Artist Faculty (2020 — Present)

Currently teaching orchestration and arranging, and private composition lessons.

Special Music School (Kaufman Music Center) — 9th, 10th, & 11th Grade Music Theory (2018 - 2021)

Taught high school level courses to talented pre-college students. Emphasis on different genres of music ranging from 18th and 19th century classical to 20th and 21st century popular music. Experience creating curriculum and lesson plans.

**The Juilliard School** — Theory Department Teaching Fellow (2015 - 2018)

Taught undergraduate courses focusing on 19th century theoretical concepts, including form and harmonic analysis with emphasis on the music of Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, and Wagner.

The Juilliard School — History Department Teaching Assistant and Tutor (2017 - 2020)

Taught undergraduate topics including Schumann's early music, the music of Hindemith and Stravinsky, and electronic composers of the 20th century including Varese, Stockhausen, and Babbitt.

**Larchmont Music Academy** — Piano and Music Composition Instructor (2014 - 2016) Taught beginner and intermediate students of all ages, including adults.

# **RESEARCH AND LECTURES**

"The Influence of Gustav Mahler's Late Period on the Works of Several Contemporary American Composers"

- Dissertation, The Juilliard School
- Includes the music of John Adams, Stephen Albert, Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, John Corigliano, Augusta Read Thomas, Christopher Rouse, and Steven Stucky among others.

"Measuring The Brain's Response to Novel Stimuli in a Real Music Context: A Study of the Compositions of Ludwig van Beethoven"

- Submitted to the Intel Science Talent Search
- Mentored by Dr. Elyse Sussman of Albert Einstein College of Medicine

## The Juilliard School — May 2021

Lecture Presentation of dissertation: "The Influence of Gustav Mahler's Late Period on the Works of Several Contemporary American Composers."

#### **Tuscon HarpFest at the University of Arizona** — November 2021

Guest Composer and Lecturer. "How to Write for Harp"

Charles Ives Music Festival — Summers 2021, 2022, & 2023

**Composition Lectures** 

# **UPCOMING AND RECENT PERFORMANCES**

Dallas Symphony Orchestra	Clarinet Concerto, Greg Raden, Cl. Fabio Luisi, cond.	2025
Lakes Area Music Festival	North Long Lake, MN, Christian Reif, cond.	2025
Interlochen Center for the Arts	Ruach (and Other Delights), Creston Herron	2025
Stella Chen 24-25 Recital Tour	Solaris, Stella Chen, violin; TBD, piano	2024-25
Emily Levin 24-25 Recital Tour	Music for the Temple, Emily Levin, harp	2024-25
Voices of Change	Lunaris, Maria Schluening, violin	2024
Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra	Solaris, Stella Chen, violin; Stilian Kirov, conductor	2024
Carpe Diem String Quartet	String Quartet	2024
Voices of Change	Lunaris (Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano)	2024
Voices of Change	Ancient Voices, Alex Kienle, horn; Emily Levin, harp	2024
Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra	Rear-view, Ruth Reinhardt, conductor	2023

Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra (IPO)	Solaris, Stella Chen, violin; Stilian Kirov, conductor	2023
Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra	Ruach (and Other Delights), Jonathan Cziner, conductor	2023
IPO	Nifrach, Stilian Kirov, conductor	2023
IPO	Rear-view, Stilian Kirov, conductor	2023
IPO	Celestial Symphony, Stilian Kirov, conductor	2022
New York Youth Symphony	Ruach (and Other Delights), Mike Repper conductor	2022
Cleveland Guitar Festival	Wanderlust, Colin Davin, guitar & Emily Levin, harp	2022
Astral Artists	Music for the Temple, Emily Levin, harp	2022
Lyric Chamber Music Society	Wanderlust, Colin Davin, guitar & Emily Levin, harp	2021
IPO	Four Lakes, Stilian Kirov, conductor	2021
Tucson HarpFest	Nebulous, HarpFusion	2021
<b>Grant Park Music Festival</b> **	Resonant Bells, Ruth Reinhardt, conductor	2021
Fine Arts Chamber Players	A Household of Three, for Piano Trio	2021
<b>Charles Ives Music Festival (CIMF)</b>	A Household of Three, for Piano Trio	2021
Portland Symphony Orchestra **	Resonant Bells, Ruth Reinhardt, conductor	2020
Voices of Change	Violin Sonata No. 2, Maria Schleuning, violin	2020
Bargemusic	still, moving, Julian Schwarz, cello	2019
CIMF	Wood Music, Mitch Lyon, cello & Kyle Ritenauer, marimba	2019
Juilliard Orchestra	flowers of fire, Jeffery Milarsky, conductor	2019
Minnesota Orchestra	Resonant Bells, Osmo Vänskä, conductor	2019
New Jersey Symphony	Resonant Bells, David Robertson, conductor	2018

<sup>\*\*</sup> Canceled due to Coronavirus Pandemic

# **UPCOMING AND RECENT COMMISSIONS**

Dallas Symphony Orchestra	Concerto for Clarinet and Orchestra (for Gregory Raden)	2025
Voices of Change	Lunaris (Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano)	2024
Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra	Solaris for Violin and Orchestra (for Stella Chen)	2023
Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra	Nifrach for String Orchestra	2023
Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra	Rear-view, for Orchestra	2023
Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra	Celestial Symphony, for Chamber Orchestra	2022
Carpe Diem String Quartet	String Quartet	2021
New York Youth Symphony	Ruach (and Other Delights), for Orchestra	2021
<b>Interlochen Center for the Arts</b> (Co	o-Commission)	
Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra	Four Lakes, for Chamber Orchestra	2021
Davin - Levin Duo	Wanderlust, for Harp and Guitar	2020
Astral Artists	Music for the Temple, for Harp	2020
Church of St. Thomas More	Missa Brevis, for SATB Choir & Organ	2020
Ruth Reinhardt, conductor	Sternenzelt, for Chamber Orchestra	2019
Juilliard Orchestra	flowers of fire, for Soprano and Orchestra	2019

# Cziner CV, Pg. 4

Julian Schwarz, cellist	still, moving, for Cello and Piano	2019		
Edoardo Turbil, pianist	7 Character Pieces, for Piano	2018		
American Guild of Organists	Fantasy Chorale, for Organ	2017		
New Juilliard Ensemble	Transient Bodies, for Sinfonietta	2017		
	Transfert Boutos, for Singontesta	2017		
SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS				
Lansing Symphony Orchestra Composer-in-Residence	Finalist	2023		
Chicago Classical Review	Best Composer Debut	2022		
Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, Classical Evolve Competition	Winner	2021		
New York Youth Symphony, First Music Orchestral Commission	Grand Prize Winner	2020		
Sioux City Symphony Composer of the Year	Finalist (sternenzelt)	2019		
Juilliard Orchestra Competition	Selected Composer (flowers of fire)	2019		
Minnesota Orchestra, Composers Institute	Selected Composer (Resonant Bells)	2019		
New York Youth Symphony, First Music Orchestral Commission	Honorable Mention	2019		
New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Cone Institute	Selected Composer (Resonant Bells)	2018		
<b>BMI Student Composer Awards</b>	William Schuman Prize (Resonant Bells)	2018		
The Juilliard School	Palmer Dixon Prize (Resonant Bells)	2018		
American Academy of Arts and Letters	Charles Ives Scholarship	2018		
American Guild of Organists	Student Commissioning Award	2017		
The Juilliard School	Palmer Dixon Prize (Transient Bodies)	2017		
Sioux City Symphony Composer of the Year	Finalist (reAwaken)	2017		
<b>BMI Student Composer Awards</b>	Finalist (reAwaken)	2017		
New York University	Outstanding Achievement Award	2014		
COM	MERCIAL RECORDINGS			
Neon and Oak Red Dog Ensemble	flowers of fire (chamber version)	2023		
A Nightmare Wakes	Original Motion Picture Soundtrack Composed and Conducted by Jonathan Cziner	2020		
Brahmsiana Steven Masi, Piano	Echoes of Youth	2019		
Something Borrowed Emily Levin, Harp	comes the light	2017		

# **RESIDENCIES AND ARTISTIC DIRECTORSHIPS**

**Voices of Change**, Artistic Director (2024 — Present); Co-Artistic Director (2023 — 2024); Dallas's premiere professional new music chamber ensemble, founded in 1974.

Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, Composer-in-Residence (2022—2023)

**Avaloch Farm Music Institute**, Residency with Red Dog Ensemble (2019).

Charles Ives Music Festival, Associate Artistic Director (2017—2020); Artist Faculty (2020—Present)

Located in Ridgefield, CT, the Charles Ives Concert Series regularly features dynamic and unique emerging artists performing the music of Charles Ives, 20th and 21st-century American composers, and music that transcends the traditional boundaries of classical music to incorporate other styles of music.

## **Dynamic Music Festival**, Co-Artistic Director (2013 — 2015)

An annual new music festival in New York City dedicated to premiering and performing works by composers attending universities in NY, NJ, and CT. Dynamic Music Festival performed 29 new works, by 28 composers, from 9 of the top music schools and conservatories in the tri-state-area.

# **LIST OF WORKS**

## LARGE ENSEMBLE / ORCHESTRA

*North Long Lake, MN* (2025) *ca.* 6' — 2 2 2 3 - 4 3 3 1 - tmp+3 - hp. - str

• Premiered July 27, 2025 — LAMF Orchestra, conducted by Christian Reif, Brainerd, MN.

Nifrach (2022) ca. 10' — Strings Orchestra

- Commissioned by the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, Stilian Kirov, Music Director
- Premiered May 12, 2023 IPO, conducted by Stilian Kirov, Chicago, IL.

**Rear-view** (2022) ca. 10' — 2 2 2 2 - 4 3 3 1 - tmp+2 - hp. - str

- Commissioned by the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, Stilian Kirov, Music Director
- Premiered February 12, 2023 IPO, conducted by Stilian Kirov, Chicago, IL.
- Additional Performances:
  - November 17 & 18, 2023 Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra conducted by Ruth Reinhardt, Bradley Symphony Center, Milwaukee, WI.

*Celestial Symphony* (2022) ca. 20' — 2 2 2 2 - 2 2 0 0 - tmp. - str

- Commissioned by the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra (IPO), Stilian Kirov, Music Director
- Premiered November 12, 2022 IPO, conducted by Stilian Kirov, Chicago, IL.

Ruach (and other delights) (2020) ca. 14' — 3 3 3 3 - 4 3 3 1 - tmp+3 - hp, cel. - str

 Co-commissioned by the Interlochen Arts Academy and the New York Youth Symphony, Michael Repper, Music Director.

- Premiered March 13, 2021 New York Youth Symphony, conducted by Michael Repper at Carnegie Hall, NY, NY.
- Additional Performances:
  - Summer 2024 Interlochen
  - May 13, 2023 Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra conducted by the composer, Meyerson Symphony Center, Dallas, TX.

#### Four Lakes (2020) ca. 10' — 1 1 1 1 - 2 1 1 0 - perc(3) - hp - str

- Commissioned by the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, Stilian Kirov, Music Director
- Premiered September 25, 2021 Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Stilian Kirov.
- Awards:
  - Classical Evolve Competition Winner, named Composer-in-Residence of IPO

## **Resonant Bells** (2018) ca. 12' — 3 3 3 3 - 4 3 3 1 - tmp+3 - hp, cel - str

- Premiered July 14, 2018 New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, conducted by David Robertson at Richardson Auditorium, Princeton, NJ.
- Additional Performances:
  - July 2021 Grant Part Music Festival Orchestra conducted by Ruth Reinhardt\*\*
  - November 2020 Portland Symphony Orchestra conducted by Ruth Reinhardt\*\*
  - January 18, 2019 Minnesota Orchestra conducted by Osmo Vänskä, Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis, MN.
    - \*\* = Cancelled due to Coronavirus Pandemic
- Awards:
  - 2018 Palmer Dixon Prize, Most Outstanding Composition at the Juilliard School
  - 2018 William Schuman Prize, BMI Student Composer Awards
  - 2018 New Jersey Symphony Cone Composition Institute, selected composer
  - 2019 Minnesota Orchestra Composer Institute, selected composer
  - 2019 NYYS Symphony First Music, Honorable Mention

#### Transient Bodies (2017) ca. 10'—1111-111-1-2 perc. - hp, pno - str [2 1 1 1]

- Commissioned by the New Juilliard Ensemble
- Premiered April 4, 2017 NJE conducted by Joel Sachs, Alice Tully Hall, New York, NY
- Awards:
  - 2017 Palmer Dixon Prize, The Juilliard School

#### *reAwaken* (2015) *ca.* 12' — 3 3 3 3 - 4 3 3 1 - tmp+3 - hp, pno - str

- Written for the Juilliard Orchestra
- Awards:
  - 2017 BMI Student Composer Awards, Finalist
  - 2017 Sioux City Symphony Composer of the Year, Finalist
  - 2017 Minnesota Orchestra Composer Institute, Runner Up

#### **SOLOIST AND ORCHESTRA**

**Solaris** (2023) *ca.* 13' — 2 2 2 2 - 4 3 3 1 - tmp+2 - cel. - str

for Violin and Orchestra

- Commissioned by the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra for violinist Stella Chen
- Premiered October 14, 2023 Stella Chen, violin with the IPO conducted by Stilian Kirov, Chicago, IL.

*flowers of fire* (2018) *ca.* 18' — 2 2 2 2 - 4 3 3 1 - tmp+3 - hp, cel. - str for Soprano and Orchestra

- Written for the Juilliard Orchestra
- Premiered February 28, 2019 Kathleen O'Mara, soprano with the Juilliard Orchestra conducted by Jeffery Milarsky at Alice Tully Hall, New York, NY.
- Awards:
  - 2019 Juilliard Orchestra Composers Concert, selected composer

## **CHAMBER MUSIC (2-6 Players)**

**Lunaris** (2023-24) ca. 20' — vln + pno

- Commissioned by Voices of Change for violinist Maria Schluening
- Premiered November 26, 2024 in Dallas, TX

**Solaris** (2023) ca. 13' — vln + pno

- Commissioned by the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra for violinist Stella Chen
- Piano Version Premiered January 21, 2025 in Montreal, Canada.

String Quartet (2022) ca. 14'

- Commissioned by the Carpe Diem String Quartet (CDSQ)
- Premiered February 10 & 11, 2023 CDSQ, Columbus, OH.

Glimmer, Flutter (2022) ca. 10' — ob. (or Cl. or Fl.) + vln. + vla. + vc.

- Commissioned by Filip Fenrych
- Clarinet Version Premiered July 2022 Taylor Marino, clarinet at the Charles Ives Music Festival
- Oboe Version Premiered Jan 2024 Gina Ford, Oboe

**Ancient Voices** (2021) ca. 10' — hn. + hp.

- Commissioned by Alexander Kienle
- Premiered April 7, 2024 Alexander Kienle, horn; Emily Levin, harp

A Household of Three (2021) ca. 14' — piano trio

- Commissioned by Fine Arts Chamber Players
- Premiered March 27, 2021 Maria Schleuning, violin; Jolyon Pegis, cello; Benjamin Loeb, piano
- Additional Performances:
  - August 11, 2021 George Meyer, violin; Julian Schwarz, cello; Marika Bournaki, piano

*Wanderlust* (2020) *ca.* 6' — gtr. + hp.

- Commissioned by the Davin-Levin Duo
- Premiered December 14, 2021 Colin Davin, guitar & Emily Levin, harp, Lyric Chamber Music Society, NY, NY.
- Additional Performances
  - November 11, 2022 Davin & Levin, Greenbay WI
  - October 16, 2022 Davin & Levin, Camp Hill, PA
  - October 15, 2022 Davin & Levin, Summit, NJ
  - June 3, 2022 Davin & Levin, Cleveland, OH
  - May 15, 2022 Davin & Levin, Macon, GA
  - February 6, 2022 Davin & Levin, Westcliffe, CO
  - February 5, 2022 Davin & Levin, Denver, CO

## *still, moving* (2019) *ca.* 10' — vc + pno

- Commissioned by Julian Schwarz and Marika Bournaki
- Premiered August 30, 2019 Julian Schwarz, cello & Marika Bournaki, piano, Bargemusic, Brooklyn, NY.
- Additional Performances
  - February 20, 2020 Schwarz and Bournaki, Black Box Theater, NYU
  - November 2, 2019 Schwarz and Bournaki, Ridgefield, CT

## *Wood Music* (2019) *ca.* 6' — vc + mar.

- Commissioned by Philip Sheegog
- Premiered March 24, 2019 Philip Sheegog, cello & Tyler Cunningham, marimba, The Juilliard School, New York, NY.
- Additional Performances
  - August 8, 2019 Mitch Lyon, cello & Kyle Ritenauer, marimba, Danbury, CT.

## *Nebulous* (2017) ca. 8' — 4 hp

- Commissioned by the Dallas Harp Quartet
- Premiered October 21, 2017 Dallas Harp Quartet, Dallas Public Library, Dallas, TX.
- Additional Performances
  - July 28, 2018 DHQ, San Miguel Chapel, Santa Fe, NM
  - April 15, 2017 DHQ, Ark & Dove Presbyterian Church, Odenton, MD
  - April 14, 2017 DHO, Virginia Harp Center, Midlothian, VA

#### Once New (2017) ca. 20' — vla + hp

- Commissioned by the Lyric Chamber Music Society
- Premiered November 14, 2017, Emily Levin, harp (Dallas Symphony Orchestra) and Jacob Shack, viola (Baltimore Symphony Orchestra). Lyric Chamber Music Society, New York, NY.
- Additional Performances
  - August 5, 2018 Emily Levin & Jacob Shack, Ridgefield, CT.

#### **Responses** (2016) ca. 11' — vlc + pno

- Commissioned by Ariana Nelson (Houston Grand Opera Orchestra)
- Premiered April 17, 2017, Ariana Nelson, cello and Adam Rothenberg, piano. Paul Hall, The Juilliard School
- Additional Performances
  - March 4, 2018 Ariana Nelson, cello & Mika Sasaki, piano Ridgefield, CT.

#### Sonata No. 2 for Violin and Piano (2016) ca. 20'

- Commissioned by the Charles Ives Concert Series
- Premiered August 11 2016 Hannah Ji, violin & Robert Fleitz, piano, Danbury Music Center, Danbury, CT.
- Additional Performances
  - October 18, 2020, Maria Schleuning, violin; Liudmila Georgievskaya, piano
  - December 15, 2016, Hannah Ji & Robert Fleitz, The Juilliard School, NY, NY.

## Toward a Brilliant Light (2015) ca. 8'— fl + cl + vln + vc + pno + perc

- Commissioned by the Atlantic Music Festival
- Premiered July 15, 2016 AMF Contemporary Ensemble, Colby College, Watertown, ME.
- Additional Performances
  - August 11, 2018 Conducted by Yuga Cohler. Ridgefield Playhouse, Ridgefield, CT.

# **Solo**

## Music for the Temple (2020) ca. 10' — hp

- Commissioned by Astral Artists for harpist Emily Levin
- Premiered March 22, 2020 Emily Levin, harp. American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA.
- Additional Performances
  - January 2024 Emily Levin, Dallas, TX

#### *Echoes of Youth* (2018) *ca.* 10' — pno

- · Commissioned by Steven Masi for BRAHMSIANA
- Released November 15, 2019

## 7 Character Pieces (2018) ca. 15' — pno

- Commissioned by Edoardo Turbil
- Premiered January 8, 2019 Edoardo Turbil, piano. Accademia Di Musica, Pinerolo, Italy.

## Fantasy Chorale (2017) ca. 9' — org

- Commissioned by the American Guild of Organists
- Premiered November 5, 2017 Colin MacKnight, organ. St. Thomas 5th Avenue Church, New York, NY.

## ...comes the light (2017) ca. 5' — hp

- Commissioned by Emily Levin
- Recorded on Levin's debut album Something Borrowed
- Premiered September 19, 2017 Emily Levin, harp. Le Poison Rouge, New York, NY.
- Additional Performances
  - July 2022 Emily Levin, Newport Classical, Newport, RI
  - May 27, 2018 Emily Levin, Minneapolis, MN
  - February 24, 2018 Emily Levin, Dallas, TX

- 4 Character Pieces (2015) ca. 15' pno
  - Premiered December 2015 Adam Rothenberg, piano. Paul Hall, The Juilliard School
  - Additional Performances
    - March 3, 2016 Robert Fleitz, piano, Lakeland, FL

Sonata for Piano (2011) ca. 12' — pno

• Premiered 2011 — Jonathan Cziner, piano. New York University

## Vocal/Choral

The Nature of Loss (2014) ca. 8'— soprano + pno

- Premiered November 5, 2017 Kresely Figueroa, soprano & Joseph Yungen, pno. Paul Hall, the Juilliard School, NY.
- Additional Performances
  - March 29, 2016 Joanie Hofmeyr, soprano & Robert Fleitz, pno. Juilliard School, NY.

# Film/Media/Dance

A Nightmare Wakes (2020)

- Directed by Nora Unkel
- Released on Shudder on February 4, 2021

Murderers' Overflow (2018) ca. 2' — vln

- Commissioned by Alice Ivy-Pemberton for *Drowning Monuments* film
- Premiered January 30, 2019 in Paul Hall, The Juilliard School, NY
- Featured on Bifrost Online

**Reverence** (2015) ca 10' — Fl + Vln + Vc + Perc + Pno

- Choreography by Caitlin Javech
- Composed for the 2015 Choreographers and Composers collaboration at The Juilliard School.
- Performed at the 2015 Capezio Dance Award Ceremony.

#### **Blood Bath** (2014)

- Directed by Scott Schuler
- 2014 Tisch 48 Winner:
  - Best Picture
  - Best Director
  - Best Cinematography
  - Best Set Design
  - Best Editing

## Goblin Song (2014)

- Directed by Nora Unkel
- Tisch First Run Film Festival Winner:
  - Best Original Score