

Dr. Kyle Grimm

Composer/Educator/Bassist

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Profile

Kyle Grimm is a composer, educator, double bassist, musicologist, and festival director. His music often involves the incorporation of technology with acoustic instruments in an attempt to strike a balance between the gritty and beautiful, through juxtaposition, layering, and synthesis. As an adjunct faculty member, Kyle teaches Music Technology at The Hartt School and privately, he teaches composition, theory, double bass, guitar and piano. Kyle is currently the director of the Hartford New Music Festival, a position he took in 2015.

Degrees Earned

2018 DMA, Music Composition; The Hartt School, University of Hartford

2015 MM, Music Composition; The Hartt School, University of Hartford

2010 BM, Music Composition (Magna Cum Laude); Western Washington University

Teaching Experience

2017-Present Adjunct Faculty - The Hartt School, University of Hartford

Music Technology I - Finale for score engraving, following the principles of music theory and standards of music notation. Leads group discussions of aesthetics. Advises students on decisions for non-conventional notation.

Computer Music Seminar - Max/MSP as a tool for composition and live electro-acoustic performance. Demonstrates basics of message routing and signal processing. Leads group discussions of possible applications. Advises students on final composition projects.

Performance 20/20 Special Project Coordinator: Assist students in the composition and coordination of special project. Provide technical support. Run technical elements for performance.

2017-Present Musicianship and Piano Teacher - Dimension Abundant Life Ministries

Leads group piano lessons; Teaches music theory, composition, music appreciation; Coordinates monthly recitals for students to perform; Curates and provides materials for students.

2018-2019 Guitar Teacher - Farmington Valley Dance & Music

Beginning to Intermediate students in a variety of styles, including rock, pop, and classical. Focused on technique and musicianship.

Additional Experience

2014-Present Freelance Composer - Film, Video Game, and Songwriter

Recent projects include: *Hold the Fort* (video game on Steam); *Autumn Waltz* (short film on Amazon Prime); *Night Fall* (annual outdoor theatrical production in Hartford, CT); *Enamored by the Moon* (Written for Juwan Crawley, currently on Broadway); *Songs* (full-length album in singer-songwriter style, currently on Bandcamp)

2015-Present Music Festival Director - Hartford New Music Festival

Coordinates with local venues to book concerts; Curates concerts; Directs events; Fundraises for future events; Records audio of concerts for archives; Negotiates compensation for performers.

2017-Present Music Director - END Ensemble

Compose original music for works; Curate existing music for new works; Perform as double bassist; Organize, set up, and run all sound equipment, if needed for performance

2018-2019 Composition Teacher - Hartford Symphony

Coordinated with the Education and Community Engagement department to teach composition and music appreciation in McDonough Middle School in Hartford, CT. Consulted students to create unique, diverse works, influenced by students' backgrounds.

Teaching Special Interests

Music Technology & Computer Music - Incorporating electronics into compositions, including a history of computer music.

Advanced Contemporary Music Analysis - Seminar on contemporary trends, including, but not limited to minimalism, spectralism, postmodernism, and new complexity.

Popular Music's Influence in Modern Classical Music - Seminar on popular music's influence on classical music, including rock, hip-hop, pop, metal, and electronica. Also study "crossover" artists who are not easily defined by either genre, and ask the question, "which elements qualify them as a 'crossover artist?'"

Composing for Dance - History of dance music, techniques, and tools for collaborating with choreographers

Music Technology Proficiency

Logic Pro X, Max/MSP, Metasynth, Finale, Digital Performer, Reason

Leadership and Administration

2017-Present Music Director, END Ensemble; Hartford, CT

2016-2018 Director, Movers and Players; Hartford, CT

2016-2017 Board Member, Dean's Student Advisory Board; The Hartt School

2016-2017 Advisor, Composition/Dance Collaboration; The Hartt School

Presentations

2017 "L'inferno Etudes: A Multimedia Journey" - Composer's Seminar, The Hartt School

2016 "Performing with Live Electronics" - Music Technology II, The Hartt School

2016 "Understand, Understand" - Graduate Research Creativity Symposium, University of Hartford

2016 "A Wired Plea: Using Morse Code as A Musical Element" - Composer's Seminar, The Hartt School

2015 "Writing for the Double Bass: Don't be Shy" - Composer's Seminar, The Hartt School

Grants and Scholarships

2019 Artist Fellowship, Connecticut Office of the Arts, Hartford, CT

2015-2017 Electronic Music Studio Fellowship, The Hartt School, University of Hartford, Hartford, CT

2016 Kountz Fund, Hartford, CT

2014 Hartford Arts and Heritage Jobs Grant, Hartford, CT

2013-2017 Talent Scholarship, The Hartt School, University of Hartford, Hartford, CT

2013-2015 Composition Department Assistant, University of Hartford, Hartford, CT

Recent Commissions

2019 Kamraton (Pittsburgh, PA) - *4 Instances of Eliot*

2018 Kyle Wernke (Rolla, MO) - *Ponderings*

2018 Anne Cubberly & Night Fall (Hartford, CT) - *Plastic Dance*

2018 Ben Stayner (Hartford, CT) - *Gone*

2017 Robert Black and the Hartt Bass Band (Hartford, CT) - *...coalescence...*

2017 Olivia Harris (Boston, MA) - *Pretty Horses* and *Hear Lullabies and Sleep Now*, 2014

2016 Iktus Percussion (New York, NY) - *AntiRhythm*

2016 Lauren Perala (Rolla, MO) - *Have it Both Ways*

2016 Michelle Cuddy (Hartford, CT) - *I Drew a Blank*

2015 David Golden (Seattle, WA) - *Autumn Waltz* (for the film *The Autumn Waltz*)

2015 Andrey Stolyarov (Avon, CT) - *Reflections on Death and Nature*

2015 Erica Nelson (Hartford, CT) - *betteryetblemished*

2014 Foot in the Door (Hartford, CT) - *It Comes in Waves*

Festivals and Competitions

SEAMUS, Boston, MA; *Empower Dance*, Boston, MA; *5x5 Dance Festival*, Hartford, CT; *Governor's Island Art Fair*, New York, NY; *New Music on the Point*, Leicester, VT; *SPLICE Institute*, Kalamazoo, MI; *Bodies and Choices Dance Festival*, Cambridge, MA; *Contemporary Columbus*, Columbus, OH; *Southeastern International Film Festival*, Nashville, TN; *Mayfair Festival*, Boston, MA; *Hartford New Music Festival*, Hartford, CT; *Verdant Vibes New Music Festival*, Finalist, Providence, RI; *Maryland International Film Festival*, Hagerstown, MD; *Garmany Concert Series*, Hartford, CT; *Border Crossings*, Seattle, WA; *New Music Now PDX*, Portland, OR; *WWU Composition Competition*, 1st Place, Bellingham, WA; *Freie Universität Berlin*, Berlin, Germany

Composition Teachers

Primary: Ken Steen, Robert Carl, David Macbride, Gilda Lyons, Roger Briggs, Brad Sherman

Festival: Amy Williams, George Lewis, Juraj Kojs, Per Bloland, Christopher Biggs, Elaine Lillios, Sam Wells, Paula Matthusen, Samuel Adler

Selected Works

- 2019 *4 Instances of Eliot* for soprano, violin, cello, flute, and clarinet (15')
- 2018 *Ponderings* for alto saxophone (6')
- 2018 *Gone* for cello and fixed media (6' 20")
- 2018 *Plastic Dance* for double bass and fixed media (3'20")
- 2018 *lifted out to float on its own* for orchestra (48')
- 2017 *...coalescence...* for double bass quartet (8')
- 2017 *L'inferno Etudes* for alto saxophone, double bass, percussion, video, and live electronics (30')
- 2017 *Shadow Temperament* for vibraphone and live electronics (8')
- 2017 *Pretty Horses* for cello (8')
- 2016 *AntiRhythm* for percussion quartet (7')
- 2016 *Ancillary Vestiges* for double bass, live electronics, and satellite pedal tones (30')
- 2016 *Understand...Understand* for double bass and live electronics (12')
- 2015 *Interlocutions* for double bass and chamber orchestra (22')
- 2015 *Reflections of Death and Nature* for baritone voice and piano (11')
- 2015 *Have it Both Ways* for viola and fixed media (7')
- 2015 *"I Drew a Blank"* for fixed media (5.1 surround) (7')
- 2015 *[needs context]* for double bass and live electronics (10')
- 2015 *Pitchforks & Crow's Feet* for flute, cello, and double bass (12')
- 2014 *A Wired Plea* for saxophone quartet (6'30")
- 2014 *betteryetblemished* for fixed media (5.1 surround) (6'45")
- 2014 *Impromptu on 'Hear Lullabies and Sleep Now'* for cello (9')
- 2014 *It Comes in Waves* for chamber orchestra (9'30")
- 2013 *Impinge* for double bass and fixed media (8'20")
- 2013 *Take/Make the Time* for 3 groups of performers (8')
- 2013 *The Darker the Night, the Brighter the Stars* for flute, clarinet, violin, cello and piano (22')
- 2012 *Telegrams: 'when the guns roar the arts die'* for string quartet (6'30")