



Called "alluring" and "wildly inventive" by *The New York Times*, the music of **VIET CUONG** (b. 1990) has been performed on six continents by Sō Percussion, Eighth Blackbird, Alarm Will Sound, Sandbox Percussion, PRISM Quartet, JACK Quartet, Albany Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Dallas Winds, and Jacksonville Symphony in venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, Library of Congress, among many others. Additionally, his works for wind ensemble have received hundreds of performances worldwide, including at Midwest, CBDNA, and WASBE conferences.

EDUCATION

- Princeton University**, Roger Sessions & Naumburg Fellowships..... 2012-2017
M.F.A in Music Composition (2014). Ph.D. in Music Composition (expected May 2020).
• Studies with Donnacha Dennehy (advisor), Steve Mackey, Paul Lansky, Dan Trueman, Dmitri Tymoczko, Juri Seo, Barbara White, & Louis Andriessen.
Curtis Institute of Music, Daniel W. Dietrich II Composition Fellowship 2017-2019
Artist Diploma in Music Composition (2019).
• Studies with Jennifer Higdon, David Ludwig, & Richard Danielpour.
Peabody Conservatory, Valedictorian (4.0 GPA), Pi Kappa Lambda..... 2008-2012
B.M. in Music Composition (2011). M.M. in Music Composition (2012).
• Studies with Kevin Puts (2008-2011) and Oscar Bettison (2011-2012).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Curtis Institute Young Artist Summer Program, Artist Teacher of Musical Studies** ... Summer 2017
Taught hour-long lectures three times a week for young musicians aged 14-22. Lectures contributed to a historical timeline and taught analytical skills by pairing Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, and Romantic pieces with twentieth and twenty-first century works.
Princeton University, Preceptor of Music Theory..... 2014-2017
Preceptors lead hour-long "precepts" (groups of 10) twice a week that supplement and reinforce lecture material, as well as tutor students individually and conduct grading.
• **MUS 105: Music Theory Through Performance and Composition**..... Fall 2014
Assisted Dr. Dmitri Tymoczko. A comprehensive introduction to music theory, covering the basic principles of a wide range of Western musical styles, including medieval music, Renaissance music, classical music, jazz, and rock.
• **MUS 205: Species Counterpoint** Fall 2015
Assisted Dr. Juri Seo. A study of species counterpoint, laying the foundations for a thorough understanding of the principles of linear structure and voice-leading. Twice-weekly assignments lead to a complete four or five voice mass movement final project.
• **MUS 206: Tonal Syntax and 18th Century Counterpoint** Spring 2016
Assisted Dr. Juri Seo. The linear techniques of MUS 205 are merged with tonal syntax. Students compose music in the style of J.S. Bach and Corelli, writing works for keyboards and strings (inventions, trio sonatas, suites, and fugues).
• **MUS 105: Music Theory Through Performance and Composition**..... Fall 2016
Assisted Dr. Barbara White. A comprehensive introduction to music theory. Emphasis on the theoretical principles of four-part harmony as exemplified in Western art music; areas of inquiry include rhythmic materials, melodic patterning, and formal design.
• **MUS 106: Music Theory Through Performance and Composition**..... Spring 2017
Assisted Dr. Barbara White. A continuation of Music 105. Emphasis is placed on the analysis and composition of music with chromatic harmony, mode mixture, modulation. Various forms, notably sonata form, are introduced and analyzed.
Princeton University, Instructor of Undergraduate Composers 2016-17

NOTABLE COMMISSIONS, WORK, & PERFORMANCES (complete works on pg. 7)

- [upcoming] **Hammerspace** commissioned by Eighth Blackbird & the United States Navy Band.. 2020
- Extra(ordinarily) Fancy** commissioned by the Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra 2019
- Bullish** written for the Orchestra of St. Luke’s DeGaetano Institute (chamber orchestra, 7’)..... 2019
- Explain Yourself** commissioned by the Barlow Endowment (ob, cl, bsn, pno, 10’) 2019
- Fine Lines** for the Music from Copland House Harvest Commission (fl, cl, vln, vcl, pno, 15’)..... 2019
- Well-Groomed** commissioned by the Modern Snare Drum Competition (solo snare drum, 8’) 2019
- Cymbalisms** commissioned by the Interlochen Center for the Arts (perc 4tet, 8’) 2018
- Re(new)al** commissioned by the Albany Symphony Orchestra (perc 4tet + full orchestra*, 16’) ... 2018
 Premiered by Sandbox Percussion and the Albany Symphony, David Alan Miller, conductor.
 *Additional wind ensemble version commissioned by a consortium of 10 wind ensembles in 2019
- Moxie** written for the Curtis Symphony Orchestra (orchestra, 8’)..... 2018
 Performed at the 2019 Minnesota Composers Institute by the Minnesota Orchestra
- Electric Aroma** arranged for Eighth Blackbird (fl, cl, perc, pno, 8’)..... 2018
 Toured extensively by Eighth Blackbird during their 2018-19 season.
- Electric Aroma (a most disagreeable noise)** written for Alarm Will Sound (sinfonietta, 8’) 2018
 Performed at the Library of Congress by Alarm Will Sound.
- Thu Diệu** commissioned by P.Q. Phan for VASCAM (soprano, fl, cl, bsn, harp, string 4tet, 5’)..... 2017
 Premiered at the 2018 Vietnamese American Society for Creative Arts and Music Exhibition.
- Apparition** commissioned by Gregory Oakes (solo clarinet, 7’) 2017
 Premiered at the New Music Gathering by Gregory Oakes.
- Extra Fancy** commissioned by the Experiential Orchestra (2 ob, EH, 2 bsn, contrabsn, 8’)..... 2017
- Scribbles and Riddles** written for the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra (orchestra, 7’) 2016
- Neon** commissioned by the New York Youth Symphony (large orchestra, 12’) 2016
 Premiered at Carnegie Hall by the New York Youth Symphony.
- The Wild Woods** commissioned by the Winston-Salem Symphony (narrator + orchestra, 13’)..... 2016
 Performed by the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra.
- Commitment Bed** written for the JACK Quartet (string 4tet, 10’)..... 2016
- Water, Wine, Brandy, Brine** written for Sō Percussion (percussion 4tet, 13’) 2015
 Performed at Lincoln Center’s Mostly Mozart Festival by Sō Percussion.
 Performed at the Kennedy Center’s DIRECT CURRENT Festival by Sō Percussion.
- Prized Possessions** written for the PRISM Quartet (sax 4tet, 12’) 2015

ADDITIONAL STUDIES & FESTIVALS

- Orchestra of St. Luke’s DeGaetano Composers Institute**, studies with Anna Clyne. 2019
- Minnesota Orchestra Composers Institute**, studies with Kevin Puts..... 2019
- Mizzou International Composers Festival**, studies with Alex Mincek & Robert Morris 2018
- Eighth Blackbird Creative Lab**, studies with Jennifer Higdon & Ted Hearne 2017
- Cabrillo Festival Composers Workshop**, studies with Kevin Puts..... 2016
- Cortona Sessions for New Music (Italy)**, studies with David Rakowski & Beth Weimann..... 2016
- Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival**, composer seminar with David Ludwig..... 2015
- RED NOTE New Music Festival Composition Workshop**, studies with Steven Stucky..... 2015
- Copland House CULTIVATE Composers Institute Fellowship**, studies with Derek Bermel 2014
- Bowdoin International Music Festival**, studies with Derek Bermel & Robert Beaser 2011
- Aspen Music Festival and School**, Individual Studies Program with Sydney Hodkinson 2010

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

- Dumbarton Oaks**, Early Career Musician-in-Residence January-August 2020
Fellowship in Washington, D.C. that provides housing, monthly stipend, music studio, and office.
- Copland House Residency Award**, Residency at Aaron Copland's estate.....January-February 2016
- Atlantic Center for the Arts**, Associate Artist under Christopher Theofanidis..... July 2014
- Yaddo**, recipient of the David del Tredici Residency. Saratoga Springs, NY August 2013
- Ucross Foundation**, Artist-in-Residence. Ucross, WY June 2013
- Atlantic Center for the Arts**, Associate Artist under Melinda Wagner..... July 2012

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS, HONORS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

- New Music USA Project Grants** in support of works for the Albany Symphony2019, '17
- Barlow Endowment General Commission** for *Explain Yourself* for the Poulenc Trio 2019
- Minnesota Orchestra Composers Institute** performance of *Moxie*..... 2018
- Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra International Call for Scores (Winner)** for *Re(new)al* 2017
- nief-norf Summer Festival Call for Scores (Winner)** for *Water, Wine, Brandy, Brine*..... 2017
- New York Youth Symphony First Music Commission (Winner)** for *Neon* 2016
- Cortona Prize (Winner)** from the Cortona Sessions for New Music (Italy) for *Wax and Wire* 2016
- Suzanne & Lee Ettelson Composers Award (Winner)** from Composers, Inc. for *Wax and Wire*. 2015
- Boston GuitarFest Composition Competition (First Prize)** for *Obsession* 2014
- Sally Mead Hands Foundation Scholarship** to attend the Atlantic Center for the Arts2014, '12
- ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Award (Winner)** for *Suite* 2013
- Dolce Suono Ensemble Young Composers Competition (Winner)** for *Lacquer and Grit* 2013
- Harvey Gaul Composition Competition from PNME (Hon. Mention)** for *Pulse Train* 2013
- Atlantic Coast Conference Band Directors Association Grant (Winner)** 2013
- Walter Beeler Memorial Prize from Ithaca College (Winner)** for *Sound and Smoke*..... 2012
- ASCAP/CBDNA Frederick Fennell Prize (Hon. Mention)** for *Sound and Smoke*..... 2012
- Louis and Anne J. Bachrach Memorial Gift** to attend the Bowdoin Music Festival 2011
- Prix d'Été Composition Competition (Second Place)** for *Pulse Train* 2011
- ASCAP/CBDNA Frederick Fennell Prize (Hon. Mention)** for *Ziggurat* 2010
- Susan and Ford Schumann Merit Scholarship** to attend the Aspen Music Festival 2010
- National Band Association Young Composer's Mentor Project (First Place)** for *Ziggurat* 2010
- Trio La Milpa Composition Competition (First Place)** for *Suite*..... 2010
- Finalist in the **2016 Lake George Composition Competition** (for *Wax and Wire*), **2013 Utah Arts Festival Commission** (for *Pulse Train*), and **2013 & 2009 BMI Student Composer Awards** (for *Lacquer and Grit & Tourbillon*).

ACADEMIC AWARDS, HONORS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

- Daniel W. Dietrich II Composition Fellowship (Curtis Institute)** - Full scholarship 2017-2019
- Roger Sessions Fellowship (Princeton University)** - Doctoral fellowship in music..... 2012-2016
- Naumburg Fellowship (Princeton University)** - Doctoral fellowship in music 2012-2016
- Gustav Klemm Award (Peabody Institute)** - For excellence in composition..... 2012
- Peabody Alumni Award (Peabody Institute)** - Valedictorian honor (4.0 GPA)..... 2011
- Theodore Presser Scholar Award (Peabody Institute)** - Awarded annually to one undergrad ... 2011
- Pi Kappa Lambda Inductee (Peabody Institute)** 2011
- Peabody Career Development Grant (Peabody Institute)** - For self-publishing tools 2010
- Evergreen House Foundation Scholarship (Peabody Institute)** - Undergrad scholarship . 2008-2012

INVITED GUEST RESIDENCIES & LECTURES

Kennesaw State University , performances of works, masterclass, guest speaker	April 2020
Texas Tech University , performances of works, masterclass, guest speaker	November 2019
University of Kansas , performances of works, masterclass, guest speaker	October 2019
NYU Sandbox Percussion Seminar , performances of works, masterclass, guest speaker	July 2019
University of Texas at Austin , performances of works, masterclass, guest speaker	May 2019
Purdue University Fort Wayne , performances of works, lessons, guest speaker.....	December 2018
Rowan University , performances of works, guest speaker.....	December 2018
Michigan State University , performances of works, guest speaker.....	November 2018
Stephen F. Austin State University , performances of works, guest speaker, lessons	October 2018
University of Tennessee at Martin , portrait concert, guest speaker, lessons	November 2017
Sonoma State University , performances of work, guest speaker.....	March 2014
Auburn University , performances of work, guest speaker.....	February 2014
The College of New Jersey , performances of work, guest speaker.....	April 2013
Ithaca College , performances of work, guest speaker	March 2013

DISCOGRAPHY

Latitude 49: "Wax and Wire" featuring <i>Wax and Wire</i> . New Amsterdam Records.	2020
PRISM Saxophone Quartet: "Surfaces and Essences" featuring <i>Prized Possessions</i> . XAS Records.	2019
UNT Wind Symphony: "Taylor Made" featuring <i>Moth</i> . GIA Publications.....	2017
Poulenc Trio: "Trains of Thought" featuring <i>Trains of Thought</i> . Delos Music.....	2017
West Chester University Wind Ensemble: "Like a Moth to a Flame" featuring <i>Moth</i> . Mark Records, Clarence, N.Y.	2016
Ohio University Wind Symphony: "The Color + The Light" featuring <i>Sound and Smoke</i> . Mark Records, Clarence, N.Y.	2016
Krystin O'Mara: "OBSESSION" featuring <i>OBSESSION</i> . Self-release, Atlanta, GA	2013
Hikarigaoka Girls' High School: "Paganini Lost in Wind" featuring <i>Sound and Smoke</i> . CAFUA Records Inc., Japan	2013
Gleb Kanasevich: "Refractions" featuring <i>Zanelle</i> . Self-release, New Haven, CT.	2012

PRESS & MEDIA COVERAGE

"Cuong created a brilliant and darkly humorous work."

June 12, 2019. *I Care if You Listen*, "'Sing Out! New York:' Albany Symphony's American Music Festival 2019" by Alyssa Kayser-Hirsh

"[A] pop-y, charming, laughing score."

June 3, 2019. *The Daily Gazette*, "Albany Symphony delivers pair of cutting-edge programs" by Geraldine Freedman

"His charming tribute to Stonewall...was high spirited and orchestrated with a transparent and glowing whimsy. Colors, shapes and forms were his toolbox. Isn't that all a good composer really needs?"

June 1, 2019. *Times Union*, "Message, music balance well in Dogs of Desire" by Joseph Dalton

VIET CUONG, composer

"...eerie and ethereal sounds created on 14 wine glasses of different shapes and sizes"

May 22, 2019. *The Guardian UK*, "Sandbox Percussion / Astrid review – virtuosos bring the fun of the fairground" by Rian Evans

"A whole series of extraordinary effects...oddly hypnotic."

May 20, 2019. *Seen and Heard International (UK)*, "Vale of Glamorgan Festival Continues in Cardiff" by Paul Corfield Godfrey

"The evening's break out hit was a new piece by composer Viet Cuong...[who] managed to deliver in brilliant fashion...it was just about all anyone could talk about."

October 14, 2018. *Times Union*, "Review: Albany Symphony Orchestra at Palace Theatre, 10/13/18" by Joseph Dalton

"The ingenious central movement used choreography inspired by wind turbines...Leaving aside the clever visuals, the music was snappy and intricate and easily held its own."

December 27, 2017. *Times Union*, "Capital Region's top art, cultural experiences of 2017" by Joseph Dalton

"So Percussion reassembled at the Kaplan Penthouse..., presenting an engrossing and entertaining program of wildly inventive pieces by John Cage, Caroline Shaw and Viet Cuong."

August 20, 2017. *The New York Times*, "Critic's Notebook: Encouraging Signs of Freshness at the Mostly Mozart Festival" by Anthony Tommasini

"Viet Cuong's alluring 'Water, Wine Brandy, Brine' used water-filled wineglasses to create spiraling flights and (by sliding wet fingers over rims) ethereal sustained harmonies."

August 4, 2017. *The New York Times*, "Wine Bottles, Twigs and Trash Cans Join the Mostly Mozart Orchestra" by Anthony Tommasini

"'Re(new)al,' was...an absolute highlight of this year's American Music Festival from the ASO. It was tough for anything else on the Dogs' program to compete...[with] Cuong's knockout piece."

June 8, 2017. *Times Union*, "Albany Symphony's American Music Festival a mixed bag" by Joseph Dalton

"Theatrical and wonderfully structured...infectious beats against a captivating fairyland of instrumental sound."

June 4, 2017. *The Daily Gazette*, "American Music Festival shows future of classical in capable, inventive hands" by Geraldine Freedman

"...Viet Cuong used nothing but Ikea stemware to create a charmingly cohesive piece...reminiscent of moaning surf, creaking piers and keening gulls."

February 3, 2016. *Vancouver Observer*, "Redshift brings edgy quartet to Waterfall atrium" by Lincoln Kaye

"Viet Cuong's jazzy mélange of styles in 'Wax and Wire'...brilliantly described the feelings evoked by a piece of museum sculpture."

October 20, 2015. *Cihan/Today's Zaman*, "SONIC Festival's Sounds Of A New Century Enthrall New York" by Alexandria Ivanoff

"If the swinging chase-scene music of 'Beggar's Lace,' the second movement of Viet Cuong's Prized Possessions, left you breathless, it spoke in a way for an entire concert that functioned as a happily chaotic report from the compositional front."

May 27, 2015. *Philadelphia Inquirer*, "Review: Prism offers a festival of premieres" by Peter Dobrin

"A rare example of a newly-minted contemporary heavyweight that hits the spot on the first hearing."

April 7, 2015. *Classical Guitar Magazine*, "Krystin O'Mara's 'Obsession' is an Impressive Offering of New and Known Pieces" by Paul Fowles

"Obsession, by Viet Cuong (1990) is a gem."

June 7, 2014. *Cleveland Classical* "CD Review: Obsession — Krystin O'Mara, classical guitar" by Mike Telin

"An exciting virtuoso flute display for Mimi Stillman, combined with lively music that would have been enjoyable even if you didn't know the composer had placed the flutist on a high wire without a net."

May 21, 2013. *Broad Street Review*, "Dolce Suono's Debussy farewell: Debussy and his putative successors" by Tom Purdom

"Cuong's 'Zanelle' for unaccompanied clarinet provided Kanasevich a great curtain-raiser for the afternoon. It's a jaunty, jazzy score with concise melodic riffs that provide abundant material to develop."

January 18, 2011. *Baltimore Sun*, "Music in the Great Hall spotlights promising clarinetist Gleb Kanasevich" by Tim Smith

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Composers Forum – Member.

Asia/America New Music Institute – Affiliated artist.

Blue Dot Composers Collective – Founding member [website: www.bluedotcollective.com]

Broadcast Music Incorporated (BMI) – Member.

College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA) – Member.

Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society – Member.

Vietnamese American Society for the Creative Arts and Music (VASCAM) – Affiliated artist.

SOFTWARE PROFICIENCY

Music Notation: Dorico, Finale, Sibelius.

Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs): Audacity, Pro Tools, Logic.

Visual Editing: Final Cut Pro X, Adobe Acrobat, Photoshop.

Interactive Music Performance: Ableton Live, Max/MSP.

REFERENCES (Listed alphabetically. Contact information available upon request.)

Donnacha Dennehy

Professor of Music, Princeton University.

Jennifer Higdon

Milton L. Rock Chair in Composition Studies, Curtis Institute of Music.

David Ludwig

Chair of Composition Studies, Curtis Institute of Music.

Kevin Puts

Composition Professor, Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University.

Dmitri Tymoczko

Professor of Music and Director of Graduate Studies, Princeton University.