

Conner Simmons

Double Bassist & Composer

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Education

2023 - CURRENT

MM PERFORMER-COMPOSER, THE NEW SCHOOL (IN PROGRESS)

GPA: 4.0

Composition and Computer Music Studies with Ross Wightman, Levy Lorenzo, Joan La Barbra, Nate Wooley

Double Bass Studies with Lizzie Burns, Luke Stewart, Brandon Lopez

2017-2022

BM IN COMPOSITION & DOUBLE BASS PERFORMANCE, THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

GPA: 3.8

Composition Studies with Drew Schnurr, Andrew May, Sungji Hong, David Stout, Jacob Thiede, Louise Fristensky

Double Bass Studies with Jeffery Bradetich, Gudrun Raschen, Elizabeth McNutt, Andrew Olguin, Josh Lambert

President's List Honoree

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION AND MASTERCLASSES:

Martín Concierto no. 1, Solo Double Bass Masterclass with Andrew Olguin, March 22, 2022

Music for Visual Media Masterclass with Stefan Swanson, March 22, 2022

Sciarrino Due Smarrimenti, Chamber Music Masterclass with Spektral Quartet, UNT, Denton, Texas; March 4, 2020

Film Composition Lessons with Bruce Broughton, UNT, Denton, Texas; February 21, 2019, April 24, 2019,

October 9, 2019, October 11, 2019, January 29, 2020, February 23, 2022

Notable Skills

- Composition in various styles and media
- Double bass performance in various styles, with concentration in contemporary music
- Audio recording, engineering, and editing in Logic Pro X, with add'l. experience in ProTools and Audition
- Digital audio and video synthesis and experimental composition in Max MSP/TouchDesigner
- Video capture and editing in Adobe Premiere
- Digital/MIDI Orchestration/Programming
- Intermedia Collaboration, with regards to both commercial film and experimental areas

Leadership Positions

UNT COMPOSERS FORUM

- Undergraduate Vice President, 2021-2022

- Board member, 2020-2021

UNT CONCERT ORCHESTRA

- Co-Principal, 2021-2022

List of Works Composed:

ELECTRONIC:

2023 *Improvisations for Bass and Electronics* — double bass and live electronics (with Zachary Pinson), 46'

Baetylus — two double basses, no-input mixer, sine tones (with Kory Reeder, for *Miezzma*), 56'

2022 *MT-8X Studies* — no-input mixer, 32'

2021 *Portraits/Landscapes* — 5 channel video, ambisonic audio, 1 hour

2020 *Music for Sitting 03b* — generative video and audio, duration variable

& — fixed media, 3'30"

- 2019 **Music for Sitting 04** — fixed media, 5'
Music for Sitting 03 — fixed media, 7'
Music for Sitting 02 — fixed media, 6'
Music for Sitting 01 — fixed media, 5' 30"
2018 **Guymon, Oklahoma** — fixed media, 44'

INTERMEDIA WORKS

- 2024 **pulse/dot (sacred museum)** — installation, live electronic sound, interactive programming, open duration (collaboration with Krish Munde, Miranda DeRossi, Cherilyn Tan)
2022 **With One Another (September)** — Single-channel video, oil on paper; field recordings, 20', (collaboration with Beronica Gonzales)
Event Horizon — Single-channel video; stereo audio, 3' (collaboration with Diana Rojas)
Query — 360° video; two double basses and electronics, 40' (collaboration by Diana Rojas and Miezzma)
XOPOΣ — 2 projectors, found digital video, found objects, live controlled lighting environment, scrim; 3 improvisors, celeste, gamba, double bass, flute, percussion, live ambisonic electronics, 15' (collaboration with Jonathan Snead and Marcel Castro-Lima for the performance of *found///lost in transit*)
Where Were We Again? — 3 cassette players, found cassettes, 3 performers, 3 channel video, 6' (collaboration with Heather Pryse and Emmeri Bock for the performance of *found///lost in transit*)
2021 **If the Thought Evaporates** — 2 double basses, laptop, amplification, single channel generative video, lights, 20' (collaboration with Dianna Rojas + Miezzma)
Harbinger — Single channel video, stereo audio, 5', (collaboration with Diana Rojas)
I'll Be With You in a Moment — Web-based virtual reality, duration variable (collaboration with Diana Rojas and Gavin Santopetro)
The Always Girls and Forever Boys — Video, narration, dancers, two amplified double basses, 12' (collaboration with Sean Lopez and Kory Reeder)
Leisure Colors — Video, fixed media, 5', (collaboration with Sean Lopez)
2020 **Genesis** — Audio-reactive/generative video, theremin; improvised double bass, duration variable (collaboration with Diana Rojas)

SOLO:

- 2020 **repeating myself** — solo double bass, 7'

CHAMBER ENSEMBLE:

- 2024 **everywhere all soaring** — voice, electronics, and sustaining instruments, 5-7'
2022 **Music for Sitting 03c** — for 9 players, instrumentation and duration variable
2019 **Lure** — for female voice, string quartet, and electronics, 4' 30"
2018 **The Voyager** — for alto saxophone, three cymbals, and electronics, 8' 30"
Changes and Repetition — for violin, guitar, piano, bass guitar, and drum set, 5'

LARGE ENSEMBLE:

- 2021 **Christian Service Songs (Faith of our Fathers)** — String Orchestra, 4' 30"
Christian Service Songs (My Redeemer) — Wind Orchestra, 4'
Christian Service Songs (Are Ye Able?) — Full Orchestra, 3' 30"

WORKS FOR FILM/COMMERCIAL MEDIA

- 2023 **J+S** — Drama, short film dir. Ben Escobar
2022 **Where To? Soundtrack** — Drama, short film dir. Brian Thompson
2020 **MindBody Poetics Soundtrack** — Web-based meditation platform by MindBody LA, created under the direction of Padric Payton and Dr. Drew Schnurr
2019 **Fairview Chronicles (pilot)** — Sci-Fi television series, Dir. Jonathan Paul (collaboration with Dr. Drew Schnurr and Victor Granados)
The Class of 2018 B.C. — Indie feature film, dir. Ben Escobar
Hotwire — Comedic indie short film, dir. Andrew Valentine
A Cat With Nine Lives Always Dies... Again — Indie horror trailer

COLLABORATIVE IMPROVISATION PROJECTS

Miezzma — Drone/doom metal duo with Kory Reeder (two double basses, no-input mixer, sine tones), 2021-present

Spirit Battery — Occult-oriented music + performance art duo with Reivin Alexandria, 2022-present

New Religion — Ambient noise duo with Zachary Pinson (double bass, computer), 2021-present

Performances of Works Composed

2024 **Notes After NYC — February 26**, Francis Kite Club, New York, NY, USA

Performance of *everywhere all soaring*

2023 **FILE Festival — August**, Fiesta Cultural Center, Avenida Paulista, Sao Paulo, Brazil

Screening of *Event Horizon*

The Wild Detectives — July 17, The Wild Detectives, Dallas, TX, USA

Spirit Batter performance

Run with Scissors — July 6, Pegasus City Brewery, Dallas, TX

Spirit Batter performance

Experimental Music Night at Hopkins — June 23, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, USA

Miezzma performance

Experimental Music Night at Zeitgeist — June 22, Zeitgeist, New Orleans, LA

Miezzma performance

Molten Plains XII — June 21, Rubber Gloves Rehearsal Studios, Denton, TX

Miezzma performance

GI Film Festival — May 19, San Diego, CA, USA

Screening of *Where To?*

Sonoren Trio Record Release — May 14, Top Ten Records, Dallas, TX

Improvisational solo double bass performance

Khon's Experimental Music Night — February 28, Khon's, Houston, TX

Miezzma performance

2022 **Off Canvas — October 17 - November 16**, Lakeview Gallery, Tarrant County College, Ft. Worth, TX, USA

Installation of *With One Another (September)*

The Occult Revue - October 8, Texas Theatre, Dallas, TX, USA

Spirit Battery performance

Molten Plains IV — August 10, Rubber Gloves Rehearsal Studios, Denton, TX, USA

Spirit Battery Performance

Query — June 24, Sky Theatre, University of North Texas, Denton, TX, USA

Performance of *Query*

New Religion — June 8, Rubber Gloves Rehearsal Studios, Denton, TX

New Religion performance

Molten Plains I — May 11, Rubber Gloves Rehearsal Studios, Denton, TX

Miezzma performance

Third Floor Window — May 6-7, Third Floor Window Video Art Window, Pittsburgh, PA

Public screening of *Event Horizon*

found///lost in transit — April 18, Merrill Ellis Intermedia Theater, UNT, Denton, TX

Performance of *XOPOS* and *Where were we again?* as part of *found///lost in transit*, a collaborative intermedia performance created by the UNT Intermedia Class under Prof. David Stout

Video Art Nights — April 1, West End Square, Dallas, TX

Public screening of *Music for Sitting 01* and *Event Horizon*, organized by Dallas Aurora

Snow Screening Film Festival — April 1, 2022, Blow Me Down Trails, Newfoundland, Canada

Public screening of *Event Horizon* on the side of a snow bank, organized by The Cloud Factory ARC

Spectrum II — March 21, Recital Hall, UNT, Denton, TX

Performance of *Music for Sitting 03c*

UNT Composers Forum @ Rubber Gloves — March 10, Rubber Gloves Rehearsal Studios, Denton, TX

Performance of *quilts* from *Portraits/Landscapes*

MUSIC NOW — February 28, Merrill Ellis Intermedia Theater, UNT, Denton, TX

Screening of *Music for Sitting 01* as part of the UNT Composition Departmental Meeting.

2021 **Hailey's Fan Club — December 16**, Rubber Gloves Rehearsal Studios, Denton, TX

Miezzma performance

If the Thought Evaporates — December 3, The Alcove, UNT, Denton, TX

Intermedia performance by Diana Rojas + Miezzma

HARBINGER — November 30-December 9, Cora Stafford Gallery, UNT, Denton, TX

Installation of *Harbinger* as part of a group show

Portraits/Landscapes - November 20, Merrill Ellis Intermedia Theater, UNT, Denton, TX

Screening of *Portraits/Landscapes* in fulfillment of senior composition recital degree requirement

Cryptic Tryptic - September 21-27, The Alcove, College of Visual Arts and Design, UNT, Denton, TX

Screening of *Music for Sitting 01*, organized by the New Media Cooperative

Labirinto Urbano - September 20, Cappella Santa Maria dei Carcerati, Bologna, Italy

Screening of *Harbinger* as part of the *Labirinto Urbano* exhibition, organized by Mock Jungle

The Always Girls and Forever Boys - April 17/18, Sweetpass Sculpture Park, Dallas, TX

Performance of *Leisure Colors* and *The Always Girls and Forever Boys*

Press <g> to Fly - April 12, MEIT (live streamed performance), UNT, Denton, TX

Performance of *I'll Be With You in a Moment*

Conner Simmons: Double Bass Recital - April 7, MEIT (live streamed performance), UNT, Denton, TX

Performance of *repeating myself*

Rising Eyes of Texas - March 5, Rockport Center for the Arts, Rockport, TX

Screening of *Genesis*

Spectrum II - February 17, MEIT (live streamed performance), UNT, Denton, TX

Performance of *repeating myself*

2020 Sonic Murals - November 7, Music Building, UNT, Denton, TX

Performance of *Music for Sitting 03b*

2019 Music Now - October 5, MEIT, UNT, Denton, TX

Performance of *Changes and Repetition*

2018 Music at Noon - March 2, Music Commons, UNT, Denton, TX

Performance of *Nonsense*

Teaching Experience

PRIVATE STUDIO

Maintain a studio of approximately 15 students of various ages and skill levels. Topics include double bass, piano, and electronic music composition/music production.

2016-present.

FILM SCORING CONSULTATION

Provided guidance, feedback and insight for student work on the score to the 2022 UNT Media Series Class Pilot. Fall 2022.

ARTIST TALK - OFF CANVAS

Interview and artist talk on the opening night of *Off Canvas*, a group show featuring new media and sound artists.

TCC Northwest Lakeview Gallery, Fort Worth, TX. November 2, 2022

INHOME MUSIC TEACHERS

Weekly piano and music theory lessons for 5 students of various ages and abilities. Lessons organized and facilitated by InHome Music Lessons Inc.

2022

Ensemble Membership

ORCHESTRA/LARGE ENSEMBLE

Mannes Orchestra, Co-principal, 2023-current

Doctor's Orchestral Society of New York, section member, 2023

Shreveport Symphony Orchestra, Section substitute, 2022 - 2023
South Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, Section member, 2022 - 2023
UNT Concert Orchestra, Co-principal, 2021-2022
UNT Wind Symphony, Co-principal, 2019-2020
UNT Symphonic Band, Co-principal, 2017-2019

CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

UNT NOVA Contemporary Music Ensemble, 2018-2022
UNT Free Improvisation Ensemble, 2018-present
UNT Chinese Ensemble, Daruan, 2017

COLLABORATIVE IMPROVISATION PROJECTS

MIEZZMA — Drone/doom metal duo with Kory Reeder, 2021-present
Spirit Battery — Occult-oriented music + performance art duo with Reivin Alexandria, 2022
New Religion — Ambient/noise duo with Zachary Pinson, 2021-present

Performances

on double bass, unless otherwise noted. does not include performance of my own works.

CHAMBER/SOLO

- 2023** **John Cage: Song Books (dir. Joan LaBarbara)** — **December 12**, The Stone, The New School, New York, NY
- John Cage, *Song Books*
co-director of sound and electronics design and performance
Laptop Ensemble (dir. Levy Lorenzo) — **December 11**, Jazz Performance Space, TNS, New York, NY
four improvisations, performed on laptop
NYC Composers Ensemble (dir. Nir Felder and Mary Halvorson) — **November 30**, Jazz Performance Space, TNS, New York, NY
- Walter Smith II, *Foretold You*
- David Binney, *Rome*
- Terri Lynn Carrington, *Now & Before*
- Liberty Ellman - *Aestivation*
- Ari Hoenig - *Arrows and Loops*
Notes After NYC — **September 27**, Francis Kite Club, New York, NY
- Sathvi Ramaseshan, *Thapas*
Molten Plains XIV — **July 19**, Rubber Gloves Rehearsal Studios, Denton, TX
Improv Lottery performance
- 2022** **Spectrum III** — **November 28**, Voertman Hall, The University of North Texas, Denton, TX
- Louise Fristensky, *the emergency alert system is on alert and will be with you shortly* (world premiere)
Molten Plains IV — **August 10**, Rubber Gloves Rehearsal Studios, Denton, TX
- Performance as part of the improvisation lottery
Six Foot Love Series — **September 22**, The Wild Detectives, Dallas, TX
- Improvisational performance by Miezzma
Query — **June 24**, Sky Theatre, UNT
- Miezzma + Diana Rojas, *Query*
New Religion — **June 8**, Rubber Gloves Rehearsal Studios
- Improvisational performance by New Religion
Molten Plains I — **May 11**, Rubber Gloves Rehearsal Studios
- Improvisational performance by Miezzma
Senior Double Bass Recital, April 24, Merrill Ellis Intermedia Theatre, UNT
- J.S. Bach, from *Suite No. 4 in E-flat Major, V. Bourée 1 & 2*
- J. Andrew Smith, *Perseverances* (double bass + live electronics, world premiere, commission)
- Andrés Martín, from *Concierto No. 1, I. Tangueramente & II. Nocturno*
- Ernest Bloch, *Méditation Hébraïque*
found///lost in transit — **April 18**, Merrill Ellis Intermedia Theater, UNT
- Conner Simmons, Marcel Castro-Lima, Jonathan Snead, *XOPOΣ*
Sonic Ecosystem (Garrison Gerard PHD Recital) — **April 9**, Music Building Courtyard, UNT

- Garrison Gerard, *Les Vents* (world premiere)
- Nova Concert — April 4**, Voertman Hall
- Haubenstock-Ramati, *Multiple 6*
- Codex Symphonia, March 1**, Voertman Hall
- Kory Reeder, *Codex Symphonia* (world premiere)

- 2021 Nova Concert — November 22**, Voertman Hall
- György Ligeti, *Aventures*
 - Arvo Pärt, *Von Angesicht zu Angesicht*
 - Junior Double Bass Recital — April 7**, MEIT
 - Luciano Berio - *Psy*
 - Teppo Hauta-Aho - *Kadenza*
 - Tyson Davis - *Tableau No. V*
 - Francois Rabbath - *Poucha Dass*
 - Kory Reeder - *This Day Yawns Like a Caesura* (world premiere, commission)
 - Conner Simmons - *repeating myself*
 - Nova Concert — April 8**, Voertman Hall
 - Christine Burke, *AT A STEADY CONSISTENT RATE*, electric bass
 - Frederic Rzewski, *Coming Together*, electric bass
 - Will Martin Senior Recital — March 19**, MEIT
 - Will Martin, *La Tortue Obèse* (world premiere)
 - Spectrum I — February 22**, MEIT
 - Conner Simmons, *repeating myself* (world premiere)
 - Rachel Whelan, *My Brother/Me* (world premiere)

- 2020 Nova Concert — November 16**, Voertman Hall
- Christian Wolff, *For Five or Ten People*
 - Julius Eastman, *Joy Boy*
 - Spectrum II — February 17**, MEIT
 - Rachel Whelan, *Long Distance pt. II* and *Excess* (world premieres)
 - Kory Reeder PHD Recital — February 16**, Voertman Hall.
 - Kory Reeder, *Flute Concerto* and *How Little is Within* (world premieres)
- 2019 Nova Concert — November 11**, Voertman Hall
- Christian Wolff, *For 1, 2, or 3 Players*
 - Ivo Petrić, *Trio Sonata*

SELECTED ORCHESTRAL PERFORMANCES

- 2024 Mannes Opera — March 8, 9**, Gerard W. Lynch Theater, New York, NY
- Mark Adamo, *Lysistrata*
(principal bass)
- 2023 Doctor's Orchestral Society of New York Fall Concert — December 7th**, Chelsea Fashion High School, New York, NY
- Sergei Prokofiev, *Lt. Kije Suite*
 - Gustav Mahler, *Symphony no. 1*
(principal bass)
 - Mannes American Composer Ensemble: Sufjan Stevens — October 18**, Tishman Auditorium, New York, NY
 - Sufjan Stevens, *Enjoy Your Rabbit* (arr. string orchestra) (world premiere)
 - Sufjan Stevens, *The BQE*
(principal bass)
- 2022 Shreveport Symphony Orchestra: Master Works 3 — November 19**, Riverview Theatre, Shreveport, LA
- Maurice Ravel, *Bolero*
 - Astor Piazzola, *Oblivion*
 - James Eakin III, *Cloud Scraper* (world premiere)
 - Aldo Lopez-Galvan, *Emporium*
 - South Arkansas Symphony, Inaugural Season Concert — Sept. 10**, El Dorado Auditorium, El Dorado, AR
 - Selected film scores and soundtracks
 - UNT Opera — March 3, 4, 5, & 6**, Winspear Hall, UNT
 - Gaetano Donizetti, *L'Elisir d'Amore*
 - UNT Concert Orchestra, Semester Concert III — April 20**, Winspear Hall

- Ludwig V. Beethoven, *Violin Concerto in D Major*

- Modest Mussorgsky, *Pictures at an Exhibition*

2020 Kory Reeder PHD Recital – February 16, Voertman Hall, UNT

- Kory Reeder, *Flute Concerto* and *How Little is Within* (World Premieres)

Recordings - Double Bass

2024 Kory Reeder, *If the Thought Evaporates*

Full-length work for improvising ensemble and live electronics. Released via Full Spectrum Records.

Julius Eastman, *Symphony No. II, (The Faithful Friend: The Lover Friend's Love for the Beloved)*

World premiere recording by Mannes Orchestra. Scheduled for release in 2025.

2023 Jennifer Higdon, *The Light We Can Hear*

Concerto for flute and orchestra, recorded by Mannes orchestra and Valerie Coleman. Scheduled for release in 2025.

(principal bass)

Christopher Poovey, *Vessels*

VR Micro-Opera, dissertation work by Dr. Christopher Poovey. Released via Sawyer Editions.

2022 Rachel Whelan, *Stateside*

Micro-Opera, dissertation work by Dr. Rachel Whelan. Self released. ([Link](#))

2021 Kory Reeder, *A Timeshare*

9 hour durational, open form work for 5 performers. Self-released. ([Link](#))

Gabrielle Cerberville, *Quantum*

(vlc) Improvisational graphic score duo. Released on the album [*reckless invention*] via Sawyer Editions. ([Link](#))

The Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States - 2021 Conference

Chin Ting Chan, *Fuse II*

Kory Reeder, *if the thought evaporates*

2021