

Luke Dahn, Composer, Music Theorist: Curriculum Vitae



1986 S 2600 E
Salt Lake City, UT 84108
319-400-3550
www.lukedahn.net
lukedahn@gmail.com

last revised November 2017

EDUCATION

2006 **Ph.D. Music Composition at the University of Iowa.** GPA 4.00. Composition studies with David Gompper. Electroacoustic music studies with Lawrence Fritts. Dissertation: *Edges* for large ensemble. Defense date: April 18, 2006. Graduation: May 2006.

2003 **Masters Degree in Music Composition at Western Michigan University.** GPA 4.00. Composition studies with C. Curtis-Smith. Additional composition studies and electroacoustic studies with Richard Adams. Thesis: *As the Ruin Falls* for full orchestra.

2000 **Bachelor of Music in Music Theory & Composition at Houston Baptist University.** GPA 3.76. Composition studies with Ann K. Gebuhr. Piano studies with John Hendrickson.

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS & EXPERIENCE

2015-present **Visiting Assistant Professor * University of Utah**

Teaching Duties: Undergraduate and graduate courses in music theory and composition.

Courses Taught: Theory I, Theory II, Theory III (chromatic harmony), Theory IV (20th/21st c. Analysis), Theory V (Form & Analysis), Composition Seminar, Private Composition, Musicianship courses, Baroque Counterpoint, Graduate Theory Review, Special Topics entitled "The Lutheran Chorale in Bach and Beyond", Instrumentation

2007-2015 **Assistant Professor & Department Chair (chair from 2011-2015) * Northwestern College (IA)**

Recipient of the 2011 Northwestern College Teaching Excellence Award

Teaching Duties: Courses in music theory (including the entire theory sequence, form and analysis, and special topics courses in theory), aural skills, private composition, orchestration, music technology and class piano. Responsibilities include organizing and teaching the music theory sequence along with the accompanying aural skills labs, managing the recording equipment and music software programs in the department, and assisting with recruitment and other departmental tasks.

Department Chair Duties: overseeing the general health of the music programs, maintaining a 20-member adjunct instructional faculty, coordinating course schedules, moderating faculty meetings, and delegating responsibilities.

2010-present **Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director * Ensemble Périphérie**

Co-founded in 2010 along with composer Joseph Dangerfield, Ensemble Périphérie's mission is to promote contemporary music by presenting stimulating and inspiring concerts of new chamber works, by commissioning new works from both emerging and established composers, and by inviting audiences to join us in recognizing great art of our time. Recent venues have included the Universities of Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin (Madison), Northern Illinois and West Virginia University. In October 2013, the ensemble made its **Carnegie Hall debut**. More information can be found at: <http://www.ensembleperipherie.com/>

2013-present **Board of Directors * League of Composers/ISCM**

Invited aboard in the spring of 2013, I currently organize the League of Composers/ISCM composition competition and attend to other various other administrative tasks. <http://leagueofcomposers.org/about/>

2006-2007 **Visiting Assistant Professor * University of Iowa**

Teaching courses in composition, music theory, and musicology. Responsibilities include organizing guest composer events, presentations and performances, serving on comprehensive examination committees for graduate students. Courses Taught: Private Composition, Composition Seminar (workshop course), Theory courses, Musicianship courses, "Great Musicians" appreciation course

ACTIVITIES, HONORS & REVIEWS

- GUEST COMPOSER: I have been invited to serve on the composition faculty at the **2018 Alba Music Festival Composition Program** in Alba, Italy from May 26 – June 4. The festival includes a commission to write a new work for the resident Soli Chamber Ensemble. <http://www.albacomposition.com/>
- PRESENTATION: Paper entitled "Situating the Fasch Manuscript among the Early Collection of Bach Chorales" was presented at a **conference in Lviv, Ukraine** entitled "Ex umbra in solem" honoring the work of Christoph Wolff, November 2-5, 2017. <http://www.hsc.lviv.ua/en/hsc/article/26/>
- WEBSITE LAUNCH: In the summer of 2017, www.bach-chorales.com was launched. This new site is intended to be a leading resource for the study of the Bach chorales. In addition to providing numerous resources, indexes and articles on the chorales, the site also features my personal Bach scholarship including my **new edition of the Bach chorales**.
- GUEST COMPOSER: Served as **guest composer at the University of Iowa** in February 2017, during which I worked with student composers and with the UI Center for New Music ensemble which premiered my new work, *Pentimenti*.
- PRESENTATION: Gave a presentation on the chorales of J.S. Bach entitled "Fifth Amendments: Parallels in the Bach Chorales and the Question of Authenticity" for University of Utah's "Fridays with Faculty" series on January 27, 2017.
- AWARD: *Hypallage* for violin, clarinet and piano named a **semi-finalist in the 2015 Rapido! Composition Contest**. The semi-final round included a premiere performance by the Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings on November 15, 2015.
- PRESENTATION: Gave a presentation on my music entitled "Casting Shadows: the Music of Luke Dahn" for University of Utah's "Fridays with Faculty" series on November 6, 2015.
- GUEST COMPOSER: Held a one-week residency as **guest composer at West Virginia University** in April 2015, during which I was able to work with student composers. *Penumbrae* and *Traces* was performed by faculty and graduate student musicians.
- AWARD: *Buffalo Dance* was named **winner of the 6th Biennial John Donald Robb International Competition 2014**. *Buffalo Dance* will be featured at the JD Robb Composers' Symposium at the University of New Mexico in March 2015.
- GRANT: Awarded a 2014 Northwestern College Scholarship Grant for my new critical edition of the Bach four-part chorales.
- REVIEW: Review of *Calder Cadence* performed by Ensemble: Périphérie in the *New York Concert Review Inc.* (October 28, 2013 by Jeffrey Williams): "I suspect Calder would have heartily approved of both the music and the exceptional performance from *EP*." <http://nyconcertreview.com/reviews/ensemble-peripherie-in-review/>
- Awarded a 2013 Northwestern College Scholarship Grant for *Ensemble: Périphérie's* Carnegie Hall Tour in October 2013. My own *Calder Cadences* will be featured on the program.
- TEACHING AWARD: Named recipient of the 2011 Northwestern Teaching Excellence Award.
- AWARD: *Penumbrae* was named winner of the 2010 League of Composers/ISCM composition competition.
- AWARD: Received the **Max DiJulio prize** at the Nevada Encounters of New Music (NEON) Festival.
- ENSEMBLE FOUNDED: Co-founded the *Ensemble: Périphérie* during the summer of 2010. Inaugural concert series occurred in April 2011. Website: www.ensembleperipherie.com
- REVIEW: Review of *Edges* by a contributor to the site [www.Sequenza21.com](http://www.sequenza21.com), calling it an "awfully good piece." (12/08) <http://www.sequenza21.com/index.php/1010>
- GRANT: Awarded a grant from Northwestern College for recording project with the Moscow Conservatory.
- REVIEW: Review of *Downward Courses* in the San Francisco Classical Voice, calling it "a moto perpetuo, full of exuberance and drive." (2/08) <http://www.sfcv.org/2008/02/05/in-the-company-of-new-music/>

CATALOGUE OF WORKS AND PERFORMANCES

- 2017 **New work** (for clarinet, violin, cello, piano) – commissioned by Soli Chamber Ensemble
(premiere set for spring 2018)
- 2017 **New work** (for piano solo) – commissioned by Ann DuHamel
(premiere set for spring 2018)
- 2017 **The Impeded Stream is the One that Sings** (for flute, cello, piano) – commissioned by the Leviathan Trio
- West Virginia State University (Institute, WV) October 28, 2017
 - Marshall University (Huntington, WV) October 29, 2017
- 2017 **Pentimenti** (for large ensemble)
- University of Iowa (Iowa City, IA), February 12, 2017
- 2016 **Threnody** (for clarinet, viola, piano)
- University of Iowa (Iowa City, IA), February 12, 2017
 - New Mexico State University (Las Cruces, NM), October 24, 2016
 - El Paso Community College (El Paso, TX), October 23, 2016
- 2016 **Five Mazurkas** (for piano solo)
- 2015 **Teal** (for two clarinets)
- 2015 **Hypallage** (for violin, clarinet and piano)
- Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church (Bloomfield, MI), November 15, 2015
 - University of Utah (Salt Lake City), November 6, 2015
- 2015 **davon kam der Tod so bald** (for fl, a sax, vc)
- Northwestern College (Orange City, IA), February 18, 2015
 - Northwestern College (Orange City, IA), February 6, 2015
- 2014 **Confessions of Saint Augustine** (version 3: for soprano, clarinet and piano)
- Northwestern College (Orange City, IA), September 26, 2014
 - MacPhail Arts Center (Minneapolis, MN), September 25, 2014
 - St. Cloud State University (Saint Cloud, MN), September 24, 2014
 - University of Minnesota – Morris (Morris, MN), September 23, 2014
- 2013 **Calder Cadences** (for fl, cl/b.cl, vn, vc, pf)
- Taipei National University of the Arts (Taipei, Taiwan), January 5, 2017
 - J.D. Robb Composers' Symposium, University of New Mexico (Albuquerque, NM), March 25, 2015
 - Carnegie Hall (New York, NY), October 26, 2013.
 - West Virginia University (Morgantown, WV), October 23, 2013.
 - Gorby's Music Store (Charleston, WV) October 22, 2013.
 - Fayetteville Baptist Church (Fayetteville, WV), October 21, 2013.
 - University of Iowa (Iowa City), March 10, 2013.
 - Coe College (Cedar Rapids, IA), March 9, 2013.
 - University of Minnesota (Minneapolis), March 8, 2013.
 - University of Wisconsin-Madison (Madison, WI), March 7, 2013.
 - Northern Illinois University (DeKalb, IL), March 6, 2013.
- 2013 **Party Pieces:** A Cage100 collaborative composition involving 100 international composers.
- Miller Theatre (New York, NY), October 17, 2013.
- 2012 **Kyrie** (for SATB a cappella choir)

- Northwestern College A cappella Choir (Orange City, IA), December 2, 2012.
 - Northwestern College A cappella Choir (Orange City, IA), December 1, 2012.
- 2012 **Confessions of Saint Augustine** (version 2: for soprano and orchestra)
- Coe College Orchestra (Cedar Rapids, IA), April 14, 2012.
- 2011 **...Like a Fantastic Ague** (for large ensemble) written for the University of Iowa Center for New Music
- The University of Iowa (Iowa City), April 17, 2011.
 - The University of Minnesota (Minneapolis, MN), April 16, 2011.
 - The University of Wisconsin (Madison), April 15, 2011.
- 2011 **Dash** (for brass quintet) written for the Boston Brass
- Boston Brass "Fanfares!" Project, Dordt College (Sioux Center, IA), April 16, 2011.
- 2009 **Traces** (for piano solo)
- University of the Pacific (Stockton, CA), March 3, 2017
 - Furman University (Greenville, SC), February 28, 2017
 - Furman University (Greenville, SC), February 17, 2016
 - SCI National Conference, University of Florida (Gainesville, FL), November 12, 2015
 - West Virginia University (Morgantown, WV), April 17, 2015
 - Composers Inc. organization (Oakland), February 26, 2012. (Lino Rivera, pf)
 - College Music Society, Southern Chapter Conference (Memphis, TN), February 27, 2011.
 - SCI National Conference, University of South Carolina (Columbus, SC) November 12, 2010.
 - Kerrytown Concert House (Ann Arbor, MI) April 5, 2010.
 - Rice University (Houston, TX) March 20, 2010.
 - Northwestern College (Orange City, IA) March 17, 2010.
 - Coe College (Cedar Rapids, IA) March 16, 2010.
 - San Francisco State University (San Francisco, CA) March 12, 2010.
 - University of California-Berkeley (Berkeley, CA) March 13, 2010.
 - Carson-Newman College (Jefferson City, TN) March 4, 2010.
- 2009 **Sul A-flat** (for violin solo)
- Dowling Music Recital Room (Houston, TX) November 13, 2010.
- 2009 **After Darkness, Light** (for symphonic band)
- Northwestern College (Orange City, IA) May 1, 2009.
- 2009 **Confessions of Saint Augustine** (version 1: sopr, pf)
- SCI Region V Conference, Augustana College (Rock Island, IL) October 1, 2010.
 - Northwestern College (Orange City, IA) November 21, 2009.
 - University of Iowa (Iowa City, IA) February 28, 2009.
- 2008 **Buffalo Dance** (for a. sax, pf) written for saxophonist Kenneth Tse
Winner of the 2014 John Donald Robb International Composition Competition
- Dustin Hunter (sax) Masters Recital, University of New Mexico (Albuquerque, NM), April 11, 2015
 - J.D. Robb Composers' Symposium, University of New Mexico (Albuquerque, NM), March 23, 2015
 - Carson-Newman College (Jefferson City, TN), February 12, 2012
 - The 14th International Saxophone Meeting (Nova Gorica, Slovenia) June 28—July 3.
 - University of Delaware (Newark, DE) April 27, 2010.
 - George Mason University (Fairfax, VA) April 26, 2010.
 - University of Iowa (Iowa City) April 19, 2010.
 - North American Saxophone Alliance (NASA) Biennial Conference (Athens, GA) March 3-6, 2010.
- 2008 **Penumbrae** (for cl, vn, va, vc, pf) written for the Moscow Conservatory Studio for New Music
Winner of the 2010 League of Composers/ISCM Competition
- University of Florida (Gainesville, FL), March 17, 2016

- West Virginia University (Morgantown, WV), April 17, 2015
- League of Composers Chamber Players (New York, NY), February 24, 2013.
- Society of Composers Reg. IV Conference, UNC-Greensboro (NC) February 4-6, 2010.
- New Music Miami ISCM Festival Series; NODUS Ensemble (Miami, FL) May 3, 2009.
- University of Nevada-Las Vegas, NEON Festival (Las Vegas) April 10, 2009.
- Moscow Conservatory, Rachmaninoff Hall, Studio New Music, May 19, 2008.

2007 **(Ex)changing (Ex)tracts** (vn, pf)

- Memorial Church, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA) October 3, 2008.
- Ohio State University (Columbus, Ohio) September 29, 2008.
- Estonia Academy of Music (Tallinn, Estonia), June 3, 2008.
- Frankfurter Künstlerclub (Frankfurt, Germany), June 1, 2008.
- Northwestern College (IA), October 26, 2007.
- Denison University (Ohio), September 19, 2007.
- University of Iowa, September 16, 2007.
- Coe College (Cedar Rapids, IA), September 15, 2007.

2007 **Games** (for two pianos) commissioned by the Iowa Music Teachers Association

- Luther College (Decorah, IA) June 4, 2007.

2006 **Downward Courses** (for solo piano)

- Society of Composers, Inc. National Conference (Atlanta, GA), Feb. 21, 2008.
- Composers Inc. organization (San Francisco), February 12, 2008. (Matthew Edwards, pf)
- Northwestern College (IA), November 16, 2007. (Stacey Barelos, pf)
- University of Iowa, November 12, 2007. (Stacey Barelos, pf)
- Coe College (Cedar Rapids, IA), October 23, 2007. (Stacey Barelos, pf)
- University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, October 18, 2007. (Stacey Barelos, pf)
- Northern Illinois University, October 12, 2007. (Stacey Barelos, pf)
- University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 5, 2007. (Stacey Barelos, pf)
- University of North Carolina, Charlotte, September 26, 2007. (Stacey Barelos)
- Piedmont Community College (Charlotte, NC), September 25, 2007. (Stacey Barelos, pf)
- Western Illinois University (Macomb, IL), March 6, 2007. (Chung-Ha Kim, pf)
- Clarke College (Dubuque, IA), February 2, 2007. (Ryan Fogg, pf)
- Samford University (Birmingham, AL), November 6, 2006. (Ryan Fogg, pf)
- Carson-Newman College (Jefferson City, TN), October 23, 2006. (Ryan Fogg)
- University of Iowa, Clapp Recital Hall, October 16, 2006. (Ryan Fogg, pf)
- University of Iowa, Clapp Recital Hall, October 15, 2006. (Ryan Fogg, pf)
- Union University (Jackson, TN), October 2, 2006. (Ryan Fogg, pf)

2006 **Edges** (for large ensemble)

- University of Wisconsin-Madison, Morphy Hall, April 17, 2006.
- University of Iowa, Clapp Hall, April 9, 2006.
- University of Minnesota, Ferguson Hall, April 1, 2006.

DISCOGRAPHY/PUBLICATIONS

- **Traces, Downward Courses**: Albany label (TROY1288); Entitled "The Fogg Project." Recorded by pianist Ryan Fogg. Released: January, 2011
- **Penumbrae**: Albany label (TROY1095); Entitled "Spirals: American Music in Moscow." Recorded by the Moscow Conservatory's Studio for New Music ensemble. Released: March, 2009
- **Downward Courses**: Albany label (TROY1069); Entitled "MAPP: Midwest American Piano Project." Recorded by pianist Stacey Barelos. Released: January, 2009
- **Edges**: Albany label (TROY956); Entitled "Into the Future." Recorded May 2006 by the University of Iowa's Center for New Music for the production of a CD commemorating the CNM's 40th anniversary. Released: 2007
- **Prolepsis**: performed by saxophonist Chris Anderson for a CD dedicated to saxophone music for distribution at the 2006 national North American Saxophone Alliance conference.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH IN MUSIC THEORY

- *A new comprehensive and critical edition of the Bach four-part chorales*
www.bach-chorales.com/DahnEdition.htm
This new critical edition is intended to serve all those who study and interact with the Bach chorales, from theorists, to historians, to choral directors, to Bach-lovers. The volume contains numerous indexes and references to serve the former and contain detailed contextual background, critical commentary and style-related statistics to serve the latter. Many of the resources are also available at my new website devoted to the Bach chorales: www.bach-chorales.com
- *“Motivational Devices in William Bolcom’s Non-Tonal Piano Works”*
The way in which musical motion, or musical dynamism, functions as a generator of pitch content and as a primary means for sustaining coherence in several of Bolcom’s *12 New Etudes*. Suggests that analytical approaches emphasizing motion (i.e. contour theory, John Roeder’s “pulse stream” theory), rather than the more taxonomic approaches (i.e. set theory), will yield far richer analyses of such music. Available at: <http://www.lukedahn.net/Bolcom.htm>
- *“Pulses and Shadows: Temporality, Physicality, and Spatiality in Harrison Birtwistle’s Pulse Shadows.”* Shows the preoccupation with the manipulation of temporal perception in Birtwistle’s work as evidenced in works such as *Triumph of Time* and *Harrison’s Clocks*, and the manifestations of these preoccupations in *Pulse Shadows*, a 18-movement song cycle created by the interspersions of two pre-existing works.

REFERENCES

- **Dr. David Gompper** Professor of Composition and Director of the Center for New Music, University of Iowa. Office: (319) 335-1626. Home: (319) 400-5839. Email: david-gompper@uiowa.edu
- **Dr. Steve Roens** Associate Professor of Composition, Music Composition and Theory Area Head, University of Utah. Office: 801-581-8420. Email: steve.roens@utah.edu
- **Dr. Miguel Chuaqui** Director of the School of Music, Professor of Composition, University of Utah. Office: (801) 581-6765. Email: m.chuaqui@utah.edu
- **Dr. Louis Karchin** Professor of Music, New York University. Office: (212) 995-4147 Email: lsk1@nyu.edu
- **Dr. Tim McGarvey** Professor of Music, Houghton College. Office (585) 567-9409 Email: timothy.mcgarvey@houghton.edu (former colleague at Northwestern College)
- **Dr. Ann Gebuhr** Professor of Music Composition and Theory, Houston Baptist University (retired). Email: akgtx@yahoo.com

AFFILIATIONS

- Society of Composers, Inc.
- Society of Music Theory
- American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP)
- The College Music Society