

John W. Rot

composer, teacher, conductor, pianist

rot.johnw@gmail.com • 847-280-1288 • www.johnrot.net

Education

Columbia University

Doctor of Musical Arts, Composition, June 2021

Dissertation: *Waking Up Into the Moment: Temporal Awareness as a Primary Composable Parameter of Music*

Dissertation advisor: Georg Friedrich Haas

Master of Arts, Composition, May 2015

Principal teachers: Fred Lerdahl, Georg Friedrich Haas, George Lewis

Oberlin Conservatory of Music

Bachelor of Music, Composition, May 2012

Principal teachers: Lewis Nielson, Josh Levine

Teaching Experience

Lamont School of Music, University of Denver - Visiting Assistant Professor, Composition Department Chair | 2019 - 2020

Private Composition Lessons

Orchestration | Fall 2019

Model Composition | Winter 2020

Advanced Composition | Spring 2020

Contemporary Music Ensemble Coaching | Winter, Spring 2020

"Technology for Composers" hands-on workshop series

Montclair State University - Adjunct Professor | 2017-2018

Music in Time, Place, and Ideas: 1890 to Present | Fall 2017, Fall 2018 (3 sections total)

Columbia University - Teaching Fellow | 2015-2018

Masterpieces of Western Music (Core Curriculum Course, required of all undergraduates) |
Fall 2015 – Summer 2018 (6 sections total)

Columbia University - Teaching Assistant | 2014-2019

Undergraduate Composition | Spring 2019

Music Theory I | Fall 2018

Masterpieces of Western Music | Fall 2014 – Spring 2015

Freelance Private Composition Instruction

December 2017 – Present

Aid private students in developing compositional technique and experience while assembling portfolios for successful application for university study of composition

Hamilton Wings SCORE! (Students Creating Opera to Reinforce Education) - Elgin, Illinois

Music Director | July 2008 – July 2018

Lead music production for annual program in which students age 9-13 create and perform original opera, including arranging and orchestrating students' compositions, providing vocal and stage coaching, and conducting rehearsals and performances

Oberlin Conservatory

Secondary Composition Private Teacher | September 2011 – May 2012

Give weekly private lessons to studio of eight to ten college students, organize and conduct semesterly public performances of student works

Summer Composition Workshop Private Teacher | June 2011, 2012

Teach daily private lessons to studio of six high school students, oversee rehearsal and conduct performance of student works

Presentations / Lectures

“Waking up from one moment into another’: What am I trying to *do* when I compose?”

Columbia University | March 2019

New England Conservatory | June 2019

“Narrative, Sonic, and Poetic Balance in *Steep or Deep*”

Manhattan School of Music | February 2018

“The country I grew up in doesn’t exist anymore’: Development and memory in Reiko Fütting’s *Weg, Lied der Schwäne*”

Columbia University, Doctor of Musical Arts Qualifying Exam | April 2017

“Duration as a primary compositional parameter in *glide idly by*”

University of Louisville | March 2016

Sabina Universitas, Rieti, Italy | Composit Music Festival | July 2017

“Dissonance, Rubato, and Antecedent-Consequent Ambiguity in Chopin’s *Mazurka, Op. 63 No. 2*”

Columbia University, Master of Arts Qualifying Exam | May 2015

“Threes all the way down: A study of rhythmic division in Beethoven’s Op. 111, Movement ii”

Columbia University | March 2015

“Memory, temporality, and the ‘Anthropological Gesture’: analyzing *Omaggio a Burri* and the music of Salvatore Sciarrino”

Columbia University | April 2014

“Pixelated Synthesis: Recreating Ablinger’s ‘Talking Piano’ in Python and Max/MSP”

Columbia University Computer Music Center | December 2013

“From Ideals to Obsessions: Janáček, Speech Melody, and the Second String Quartet”

Columbia University | October 2013

Awards / Fellowships

Composition

Inga Maren Otto Prize in Music Composition, American Academy in Berlin, *Nominee* | 2016

Frank Robert Abell Competition for New Chamber Music, *Winner* | 2015

MATA Festival Commission, *Finalist* | 2012

Oberlin Conservatory Walter E. Aschaffenburg Prize for Outstanding Music Composition | 2012

String quartet performed at Midwest Graduate Music Consortium (only undergraduate selected) | 2012

String quartet selected for performance by Oberlin Contemporary Music Ensemble | 2012

MIVOS Quartet Kanter Prize, *Finalist* | 2011

BMI Student Composer Competition, *Honorable Mention* | 2011

ANALOG Arts Iron Composer National Competition, *Finalist* | 2009

Trio selected to represent Oberlin Composition Department in institution-wide Orientation Recital | 2009

Piano Performance

Elgin Symphony Orchestra Children’s Concert Series, *Concerto Soloist* | 2008

Walgreens National Concerto Competition Open Senior Division, *Winner* | 2007

Oberlin International Piano Competition, *Semifinalist* | 2007

Aberdeen International Youth Festival Gala Concert, *Concerto Soloist* | 2006

Chicago Symphony Orchestra Youth Concerto Competition, *Finalist* | 2006

Residencies / Festival Participation

SICPP, New Works Program Fellow | Boston, Massachusetts | 2019

Composit New Music Festival, Composition Fellow | Rieti, Italy | 2017

Composer residency at University of Louisville | Louisville, Kentucky | 2016

June in Buffalo Fellow | Buffalo, New York | 2014

Midwest Graduate Music Consortium (only undergraduate selected) at Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois | 2012

Oberlin Contemporary Music Division Sonic Exposures DVD Recording Project | Oberlin, Ohio | 2011

JACK Quartet intensive string quartet composition workshop | Oberlin, Ohio | 2011
Artist Residency at Banff Centre | Banff, Alberta, Canada | 2010

Service

Columbia Composers - New York, NY

Board Member | April 2014 – June 2016

Curate four concerts per year, seek out and secure funding, manage ~\$50,000 annual budget, hire professional ensembles, locate and rent performance spaces in New York City, manage performance materials, set up and run electronics, organize rehearsals, staff concerts

Face the Music, Kaufman Music Center - New York, NY

Guest Artist/Educator | October 2017

Design and lead group composition workshop with young musicians ages 8-15, focusing on extended techniques, timbral classification/development, structural considerations in a *musique concrète* style, and awakening creativity in exploration of non-traditional musical sounds

Non-Teaching Professional Experience

Oberlin Conservatory Library

Weekend Supervisor | August 2012 – March 2013

Oversee all library staff and activity during Friday, Saturday, and Sunday hours, co-develop training procedures for new and returning student staff, assist with information management, including fully updating and editing 54,000-entry song anthology database and cataloging collection of 50,000 historical LPs

Reference Assistant | December 2008 – May 2012

Staff reference desk, assisting students and faculty with identification, location, and use of musical reference materials and other scholarly resources, develop and write Library Reference Test for Music History 101, required of all conservatory students

Selected Scholarly Writing

“Threes all the way down: A study of rhythmic division in Beethoven’s Op. 111, Movement ii” | (in progress)

“Dancing in shadows and moonlight: Awareness and agency in Lachenmann’s Ein Kinderspiel” | 2014

“Awareness of Time in Music: Anticipation and Recollection” | 2011

“Repetition as distortion //// Distortion as repetition: The music of Stockhausen and Mann” | 2010

Professional Skills / Affiliations

Languages: English (native), German (proficient), Spanish (beginner)
Performance: conducting, piano, voice (semi-professional) | percussion, bassoon, clarinet (amateur)
Sound and Music Software: Max MSP, Logic Pro X, SPEAR, Finale, Python
Other Media: Adobe Illustrator, personal website design/maintenance
Professional Membership: ASCAP

List of Works with Commissioners and Performances

In Progress / Upcoming

New Work - for flute solo (staged)

New Work - for piano and live electronics

2019 *on Intimations* | string quartet | 20'

Written for JACK Quartet

JACK Quartet | DiMenna Center for Classical Music | New York, NY | February 2019

2018 *be created or* | baritone saxophone, violin, viola, contrabass, piano, percussion, electronics | 22'

Written for International Contemporary Ensemble

SICPP Ensemble | New England Conservatory of Music | Boston, MA | June 2019

International Contemporary Ensemble | OpenIce Series | Abrons Arts Center |
New York, NY | April 2018

2017 *in due time* | flute, clarinet, percussion, electric guitar, piano, violin, cello | 4'

Commissioned by the Composit Festival of Contemporary Music

Composit Ensemble | Rieti, Italy | July 2017

steep or deep | ensemble (twelve players), electronics | 22'

Talea Ensemble | DiMenna Center for Classical Music | New York, NY | May 2017

Hypotrochoid | for trombone, electronics | 13'

Commissioned by Mark Broschinsky for the Ensemble Mise-En ACOUSTIC+ Series

Mark Broschinsky | Solo Recital | Mise-En Place | Brooklyn, NY | January 2019

Mark Broschinsky | Mise-En Place | Brooklyn, NY | February 2018

2016 *merely to open her mouth* | soprano, flute, clarinet, violin, percussion | 12'

Commissioned by TAK Ensemble, with support from The League of Composers and ISCM

TAK Ensemble | Tenri Cultural Institute | New York, NY | February 2020

TAK Ensemble | DiMenna Center for Classical Music | New York, NY | January 2017

bar und reinlich da | baritone voice, bass clarinet, trumpet, trombone, string quartet | 14'

loadbang and Mivos Quartet | Symphony Space | New York, NY | April 2016

- 2015 *glide idly by* | string octet | 14'
Talea Ensemble | Louisville, KY | March 2016
JACK and Mivos Quartets | DiMenna Center for Classical Music |
New York, NY | January 2015
- 2014 *in what remains behind;* | violin, viola | 18'
Commissioned by andPlay
andPlay | Firehouse Space | Brooklyn, NY | May 2014
- 2013 *Local Time* | flute, clarinet, violoncello | 11'
Manhattan School of Music trio (composer conducting) | New York, NY | March 2017
Ensemble Court-circuit | June in Buffalo Festival | Buffalo, NY | June 2014
Talea Ensemble | The Italian Academy at Columbia University |
New York, NY | January 2014
- 2012 *[duo]* | viola, piano (three players on piano) | 13'
Oberlin Conservatory quartet | Oberlin, OH | November 2012
Oberlin Conservatory quartet | Oberlin, OH | May 2012
- of narrowing perspectives* | piccolo, violin | 5'
- the construction thereof,* | orchestra | 9'
- 2011 *toward a terminating congruence.* | string quartet | 18'
Oberlin Conservatory quartet (composer conducting) | Oberlin, OH | May 2012
Oberlin Contemporary Music Ensemble | Oberlin, OH | April 2012
Kaia String Quartet | Midwest Graduate Music Consortium, Northwestern University |
Evanston, IL | March 2012
JACK Quartet | Oberlin, OH | January 2011
- when, their efforts combined* | ensemble (nine players) | 14'
Oberlin Contemporary Music Division Sonic Exposures DVD Recording Project |
Oberlin, OH | February 2011
Oberlin Conservatory ensemble | Oberlin, OH | December 2010
- 2010 *and beneath the mechanism, dis—Integrated, were the individuals themselves* |
bass flute, horn, violoncello, piano | 9'
- 2009 *realizing, in retrospect, that perhaps it shouldn't have occurred at all.* |
flute, baritone saxophone | 5'
and the girl jumped out | two trumpets, two pianos, percussion | 5'
Navigating the Space Between Your Ears | eight-channel playback | 7'
The Gravity of the Situation | oboe, violin, viola | 3'
Latency of Influence | flute, violin, piano | 6'

- 2008 *Synchronized Swimming (Bearing In Mind)* | stereo playback | 5'
Canon Indie | flute, oboe | 5'
The Importance of Communication Within a Sustained Relationship | two violins, viola | 5'
Intensional Deflation | stereo playback | 4'
Gib uns vier Jahre | alto saxophone | 4'
-

Selected Performances

Conductor

- John Rot (orch.) | Five original operas by students in Hamilton Wings SCORE!: Students Creating Opera to Reinforce Education program | 2012 – 2016
Yuxin Ouyang | *Time* for two percussionists | 2012
Yuxin Ouyang | *String Quartet* | 2012
Samuel Phillips-Corwin | *Organic by Design / Complex Machine* for saxophone quartet | 2012
Mohet Dubey | *Conversational Trio* for flute, violin, violoncello | 2012
Eric Mikalaskas | *Trio* for flute, clarinet, violin | 2012
Julian Lovas | *New Work* for flute, clarinet, violin | 2012
Daniel Laufer | *Septet* | 2012
Ryan Bridge | *ave maria* for chamber choir | 2011
John Kearin | *String Quintet* | 2011
John Burnett | *Sisyphian Shade* for flute, clarinet, violin | 2011

Performer

- Alex Niederberger | *Three Pleas* for piano | 2019
Zosha Di Castri | *La Forma Dello Spazio* for quintet (piano) | 2017
Kevin Dee | *Surface Music* for piano | 2012
Kate Ettinger | *Missa Conjuncta* for choir, soloists, percussion, harp (alto) | 2011
Ryan Lester | *Reflections Through Shattered Glass* for ensemble (piano) | 2011
Julian Cartwright | *Cadences* for piano | 2010
Jacob Market | *Mass* for choir, organ (bass) | 2010
Jacob Market | *Piano Quintet* | 2009