

## **CHARLES GRIFFIN**

1787 Madison Ave. #315 • New York, NY 10035

or 27-32 Meža iela • Liepāja, Latvia

+1.347.408.1275

email: charlesgriffin@earthlink.net • web: <http://charlesgriffin.net>

### **EDUCATION**

**University of Minnesota, School of Music**, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Ph.D., Music Composition, 1995

Composition studies under Dominick Argento, Judith Lang-Zaimont and Stephen Paulus

**Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College, City University of New York**

M.A., Music Composition, 1992. B.A., Music, 1990

Composition studies under Bruce Saylor

### **WORKSHOPS / MASTERCLASSES**

**L'École Normale de Musique de Paris**, Paris, France

European American Musical Alliance summer program, concentration in conducting, 2007

**Tanglewood Music Center**, Lenox, Massachusetts

Masterclasses with Henri Dutilleux and John Williams, 1998

**New Dramatists Composer-Librettist Studio**, New York, NY

Intensive workshop in collaboration between composers and lyricists, Ben Krywosz, director, 1997

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Hofstra University**, Hempstead, New York

Adjunct Associate Professor, September 1999 – May 2005

Delivered courses on all levels of ear training and first-semester theory for music majors

Delivered courses on music rudiments to non-music majors

Promotion in rank from Assistant to Associate, 2005

**Nassau Community College, State University of New York**, Garden City, New York

Adjunct Assistant Professor, September 2002 - May 2005

Delivered courses on the social history of rock music, beginning class guitar, and beginning class piano to non-music majors

**Teachers College at Columbia University**, New York, New York

Adjunct Assistant Professor, January - September 2004

Delivered independent studies in composition, comprehensive musicianship and special projects to graduate music education majors

**New Jersey City University**, New Jersey City, New Jersey

Adjunct Assistant Professor, September 1998 – May 1999

Delivered a course on orchestration, coached a saxophone quartet and provided individual instruction in composition to undergraduate music majors

**University of Minnesota, School of Music**, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Teaching Assistant/Lecturer. September 1993 – May 1995

Assisted with courses on 20<sup>th</sup> Century theory and ear-training, analysis of 20<sup>th</sup> Century music, and orchestration for undergraduate and graduate music majors

Delivered courses on music theory, counterpoint and ear-training to undergraduate music majors

## TEACHING COMPETENCIES / INTERESTS

Composition  
Orchestration  
Aural Skills / Musicianship  
Music Theory / Analysis

Counterpoint  
20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> Century Music  
Popular / Rock Music  
World Music

## SELECTED GRANTS

- Commission from the City of Liepāja, for *Die Freudenkrone*, a new work for Organ, Timpani and Choir to premiere during the VI International Organ Music Festival in Liepāja, Latvia, 2007
- Two commissions from the Manhattan Choral Ensemble (Tom Cunningham, Director), the second being the result of a competition following the premiere of the first work. June 2007 and June 2008.
- Selected for Faith Partners, an Inter-faith residency funded by the Wolfensohn Family Foundation, for four new choral works shared by major houses of worship in New York City, 2003
- Grants from Queens Council on the Arts, 2003, 2002 & 2000
- Meet the Composer/Commissioning Music USA, 2001
- Selected for Dale Warland Singer's New Choral Music Commissioning Program
- Grant from the Greenwall Foundation for *Shifting Coastlines*, a 30-minute multimedia collaboration with painter Karen Fitzgerald, 2000
- ASCAP Foundation Grant to Young Composers, 1994

## SELECTED PERFORMANCE VENUES

Regent Hall (London, England), 2007  
Goethe Institute (Rome, Italy), 2007  
Rigas Jaunais Teatris (Riga, Latvia), 2007, 2006  
I Virtuosi IX Festival (Recife, Brazil), 2006  
Instituto Internacional (Madrid, Spain), 2006  
National Flute Association Annual Convention, 2006  
Percussive Arts Society International Convention, 2006, 2005, 2003  
International Cervantino Festival (Guanajuato, Mexico), 2006, 2001  
Série Hespérides de Música das Américas (São Paulo, Brazil), 2005  
YMS Arts Centre (Singapore), 2005  
*Dances With Films* (Los Angeles) and *Dahlongega* (Atlanta) Film Festivals, 2004  
Weill Recital Hall (NY), 2004, 2001, 2000  
American Choral Directors Association Western Regional Convention, 2002  
Santa Cruz New Music Festival (California), 2001  
Spoleto Festival (Charleston, South Carolina), 2001  
XVI Festival de la Habana (Havana, Cuba), 2001  
World Piano Pedagogy Conference (Nevada), 2001  
Aspen Music Festival, 2001  
Kennedy Center (Washington, DC), 2000  
International Choral Olympics (Linz, Austria), 2000

## RECORDINGS

Ana Cervantes, *Rumor De Páramo* (2006)  
Peninsula Women's Chorus, *Winter Patterns* (2006)  
Joseph Gramley, *Global Percussion* (2005)  
Goldspiel-Provost Classical Guitar Duo, *From The Faraway Nearby* (2002)  
Teresa McCollough, *New American Piano Music* (2001, Innova)  
Ethos Percussion Group, *The Persistence of Past Chemistries* (1999)  
Piedmont Choirs, *Hear Through the Ages* (1999)  
Tomoko Deguchi, *Syncopated Lady* (1999, Capstone)

## **RELATED EXPERIENCE**

**New York Virtuosi Chamber Symphony**, Program Annotator, 1995-2005  
Researched and generated program annotations for one to four concert programs per season

**Stonybrook Taiko Ensemble**, Percussionist, 2000-01

**Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts**, Researcher/Writer, 2000  
Prepared an essay surveying and exploring the perception of creative ownership among collaborators working with music. Interviewed on the telephone or in person, 35 composers, songwriters, musicians, and producers working in a variety of styles and genres to discover their perceptions of authorship and what constitutes authorship

**American Composers Forum**, Director, New York Chapter, 1998-2000  
Raised funds, produced concerts in several New York City venues, facilitated collaborations between composers and artists in other disciplines by producing networking meetings and panel discussions with sister arts organizations such as Poets House, Association for Independent Video & Film, and Dance Theater Workshop

**Holy Family Catholic Church**, Vocalist, 1997-2000

**Music Copyist, Orchestrator and Arranger**, 1993 – 2000  
Clients have included Phillips Classics, Jessye Norman, Hugh Downs, Yo Yo Ma, and President Clinton's Inauguration

## **SOFTWARE KNOWLEDGE**

Expertise with CODA Technology's FINALE software  
Familiarity with Pro-Tools, MAX/MSP, and Apple's Soundtrack and Garage Band

## **PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES**

**Rīgās Tehniskā Universitāte**, Rīga, Latvia.  
Delivered a series of interactive workshops on rhythmic organization in various world musics, courtesy of The Latvian Culture Capital Fund, 2007

**International Music Camp for Latvian Musicians**, Ogre, Latvia  
Composer-in-Residence  
Delivered lectures on American music, analytical presentations on selected 20<sup>th</sup> Century compositions, and provided individual instruction in composition to students aged 18-25, 2004, 2006

**Music Library Association**, 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention, New York, NY  
Panelist  
Presented the composers perspective on publishing, marketing and score preparation, 2001

## **SERVICE TO THE FIELD**

Faculty Advisor to the Hofstra University World Music Club, 2004-05  
Adjunct Representative to the Hofstra University Personnel Committee, 2003-04  
Member of Board of Directors, Long Island Composers Alliance, 1996-2005

## **AFFILIATIONS**

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers  
Long Island Composers Alliance  
Latvian Composers Union

**LIST OF COMMISSIONED WORKS (Full list of works available on request)**

**At the Dome of the Sky** (2002, rev. 2005) 7'30"

Texts by Rumi, for SATB and percussion

Commissioned by the NYC Dept of Cultural Affairs, through Queens Council on the Arts

**Cambiando Paisajes (Shifting Landscapes)** (2003, rev. 2005) 8+'

Piano Trio – Vln, Vlc, Piano

Commissioned for pianist Teresa McCollough by Santa Clara University

**Concerto for Chamber Orchestra** (2008) in progress

Chamber Orchestra

Consortium commission from Westchester Chamber Orchestra (NY, Barry Hoffman, Director),

Western Piedmont Symphony (NC, John Gordon Ross, Director) and San José Chamber Orchestra

(CA, Barbara Day Turner, Director)

**El Paso de la Siguriya** (2007) ca. 7'

Text by Federico Garcia Lorca, for SSAA and mezzo soprano soloist

Commissioned by the Latvian Culture Capital Fund for Putni, Antra Drege, director

**For the straight way was lost** (2002) 8'

Duet for Clarinet, or Alto Sax or Bass Clarinet with Viola or Cello

Commissioned by The Darkwood Consort, Boise, Idaho

**Die Freudenkrone: Ehrerbietung zu J.S. Bach** (2007) 11'

Organ, Timpani and SATB Choir.

Commissioned by the City of Liepāja for their VI International Organ Music Festival, 2007

**Hashkivenu** (2003) 3'20

A setting in Hebrew and English for SATB, a cappella

Faith Partners commission for Temple Emanu-el, Hunter Tillman, Senior Organist

**How Do I Love Thee?** (2000) 4'30"

Text by Elizabeth Barrett Browning, for High Voice, Clarinet or Violin & Piano

A co-commission by The Lark Ascending, Nancy Bogen, director, and The Lyric Arts Trio

**In After Time** (2003) 3'30"

Text by Richard Eberhart, for SATB a cappella

Faith Partners commission for St. Bartholomew's Church, Wm. Trafka, Music Director

**Kusanganisa** (2003) 7'

Flute, Marimba 4-hands

Commissioned by Queens Council on the Arts for Percussia

**Lines for Winter** (2001, rev. 2005) 5'30"

Text by Mark Strand, for SATB with piano

Commissioned as part of the Dale Warland Singers' New Choral Music Commissioning Program

**Murmuring in Comala** (2006) 4'

Piano

Commissioned by Ana Cervantes

**Out of nothingness...** (2003) 3'30"

Text by various Sufi mystic poets for SATB, with organ and percussion accompaniment  
Faith Partners commission for St. Ignatius Loyola, Kent Tritle, Music Director

**The Persistence of Past Chemistries** (1998) 9'15"

Percussion Quartet

Commissioned by Ethos Percussion Group under the auspices of the Jerome Foundation

**Shifting Coastlines** (2000) 30'

Texts by Charles Simic; John Sokol; Ralph Burns; Howard Nemerov; Albert Goldbarth; Ronald Wallace, for Medium Voice, Flute/Alto Flute, Violin, Cello, Piano & Percussion

Commissioned by Goliard Concerts with funding from the Greenwall Foundation and the Queens Council on the Arts, for their annual concert series and Southeastern Festival Tour

**So, We'll Go No More A-Roving** (1999) 3'30"

Text by Lord Byron, for High Voice & Piano (w or w/out Clarinet).

Commissioned by The Lark Ascending, Nancy Bogen, director

**Tongue Twisters** (2002) 3'30"

Two-part children's choir with soloists, a cappella

Commissioned for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Piedmont Choirs, Robert Geary, Director

**Twisting Magnetic Spins** (2005) 7'

Percussion Ensemble – 7 players

Commissioned by the University of North Texas Percussion Ensemble, Mark Ford, Director

**Visitations** (2002) 12'

Solo multi-percussion (Marimba, Vibraphone, Crotales, Cymbal, Tam-tam, Bass Drum)

Commissioned through Meet the Composer's Commissioning Music/USA program

**who knows if the moon's a balloon** (1999) 3'

Text by e.e. cummings, for SSAA with piano

Commissioned by the Piedmont Choirs for use in the International Choral Olympics in Linz, Austria, July, 2000

**The Whole World Was Listening** (2007) 6'30"

Text by Carl Sandburg, for SATB, soprano solo, tenor solo and off-stage SATB quartet

Commissioned by The Manhattan Choral Ensemble

**REFERENCES**

**Dr. Katie Embree**

Assistant Dean  
Teachers College Columbia University  
525 West 120<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10027  
(212)678-3991  
cme11@columbia.edu

**Dr. Chandler Carter**

Associate Professor of Music  
Hofstra University  
Hempstead, NY 11549-1000  
(516) 463-4932  
lcc2@earthlink.net

**Dr. David Fryling**

Director of Choral Studies  
Hofstra University  
Hempstead, NY 11549-1000  
(516)463-5497  
dfryling@mac.com

**Dr. Bruce Saylor**

Professor of Composition  
Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College  
65-30 Kissena Blvd.  
Flushing, NY 11367  
(718)997-3800  
BruceSaylor@aol.com