



School of Music, Watson Hall



In Tune

School of Music Newsletter
Fall 2009

Editorial Staff: Martha Urbanik & Katherine Taylor

How We Spent Our Summer

School of Music faculty have some interesting stories to tell about performing and travelling this past summer.

In July, **John Beck** was a featured xylophone soloist with the New Sousa Band at the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) conference at Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. The band recreates the authentic look and sound of the original Sousa Band and presented a concert and clinic on historic performance practice. Cornet soloist Jens Lindeman played the part of Herbert Clark, while Beck played the part of John Heney, allegedly the real life inspiration for Meredith Wilson's "The Music Man" after the Sousa Band stopped touring.

Violist **Sheila Browne** had a wonderfully busy summer traveling to Iraq, South Africa, Napa Valley, and Vermont. She has made history by being the first viola professor ever to teach in Kurdistan (the Kurdish region in northern Iraq), after being interviewed by the National Youth Orchestra of Iraq (NYOI) for this task. This first-ever Iraqi youth orchestra was comprised of both Kurds from Kurdistan and Arabs and Armenians from Baghdad, and Sheila will continue to work throughout the year privately with violists from Baghdad as part of the orchestra's long distance learning program. This orchestra's first year was made possible by the Iraqi Prime Minister, New York's Musicians4Harmony foundation, the British Council, and a seventeen year-old Iraqi girl whose idea it was to found the first-ever youth orchestra in her native country.

Sheila was also invited to Stellenbosch, South Africa to premiere a concerto written for her at the International Viola Congress with the Congress Festival Orchestra. She taught at California Summer Music and Kevin Lawrence's Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival. At the end of the summer she went camping in the Outer Banks where her pet mini-pig, Cosmo, got his first taste of the ocean - literally.

In June, faculty pianist **Allison Gagnon** joined colleague Paul Sharpe and his student Christian Gray in performances at the International Society of Bassists annual conference held at State College, PA. Paul and Allison were presenting the winning composition from the previous ISB conference, a sonata by Peter Fischer. Directly from the conference Allison continued on to Canada, and flew to Vancouver to participate in the first Collaborative Piano Retreat held as part of the 2009 Vancouver International Song Institute at the University of British Columbia. Among the invited professional participants were UNCSA alums Cameron Stowe, now on faculty at NEC, and Margo Garrett, now on faculty at the Juilliard School.

Faculty violin instructor **Kevin Lawrence** served as artistic director of the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival in Burlington VT, which held its fifth season from June 28 through July 25 with partial support from a grant by the National Endowment for the Arts. On August 16 he played a chamber music program on New York's Music From Salem series, and the first week in September he did a residency in San Jose, Costa Rica, which included a recital at the National Theater and master classes at the University of Costa Rica and the National Institute of Music.

Clifton Matthews conducted his annual international piano master class in August at the Tibor Varga Academy in Sion, Switzerland. School of Music students attending were **Jabari Anderson, Baron Fenwick** and **Jordan Neiman**.

New organ faculty **Timothy Olsen** was a featured recitalist and workshop presenter at the Region VII American Guild of Organists Convention in Albuquerque, NM in June.

This summer guitar faculty **Joseph Pecoraro** was named by the Suzuki Association of the Americas as a fully-credentialed, registered Teacher Trainer in guitar. This makes him the fifth such person in the Americas. This year he will be offering the Association's introductory course "Every Child Can" to interested UNCSA students during Intensive Arts, as well as integrating the SAA's Guitar Level 1 training materials into the year-long guitar pedagogy course.

Aural Skills instructor and accompanist **Robert Rocco** led NoteWorthy in a small ensemble conference for choral artists over Labor Day weekend in Columbus, OH. The conference was hosted by GALA Choruses and was attended by choral singers, directors, and composers from all over the United States and Canada. NoteWorthy performed two different 20-minute programs of American music, including recent arrangements of "Oh, Susanna," "When You Wish upon a Star," "Summertime," and "Tonight" from *West Side Story*. At the same conference Robert also accompanied Voices from the Heart, a male vocal ensemble from Wichita, KS.

The ensemble enjoyed a rare opportunity to receive two intensive coaching sessions with Dennis Coleman and Eric Lane Barnes, directors of the Seattle Men's Chorus and Seattle Women's Chorus, two highly-acclaimed large choral ensembles of national renown. NoteWorthy is a fully-auditioned eight-member male vocal ensemble that is part of Triad Pride Men's Chorus.

Voice faculty **Marilyn Taylor** spent two weeks re-vitalizing in Europe this summer, where she met with soprano Anne-Marie O'Sullivan, Director and founder of the Glashule Opera Festival in Dublin, Ireland, and Head of Vocal, Opera and Drama Studies at the Dublin Institute of Technology. During her stay, Marilyn traveled to France to visit with old friends from Winston-

Salem, the Auchinchlosses. In addition to being treated to a concert of new choral works by French composers, she found herself singing a spontaneous performance of "O mio babbino caro" for a marathon bicycling club congregated at Pontlevoy. The reward was a great deal of home-cooked French cuisine (seven courses) prepared by the 'cyclers.

Voice students were also busy this summer. **Kate Ardoin**, Fletcher mezzosoprano, performed as an Apprentice with the Young Artists of the Chautauqua Music Festival, singing recitals and covering roles (despite contracting H1N1 that trickled through the dormitories there). **Richard Ollarsaba**, a first-year Fletcher student, performed with the Music Academy of the West, singing the role of the Doctor in scenes from Barber's *Vanessa*, and performing a comprimario role on the main stage in Ambroise Thomas' *Mignon*. **Katrina Pfitzner**, junior, performed the role of Kate in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance* for the West Side Community Theater in Lewisville, NC. Basso **T.J. McNair**, sophomore, and soprano **Allison Chickering**, junior, performed as young artists with Piedmont Opera's "Opera Camp," delighting and educating children with arias, songs, and spirituals.

Fletcher baritone **Kyle Guglielmo** sang the roles of Heathcliff from Carlisle Floyd's *Wuthering Heights*, and The High Priest of Dagon in *Samson et Dalila* by Saint-Saëns at the Vocal Arts Symposium in Colorado Springs. Tenor **Joshua Collier**, junior, performed the role of Henrik in (Wilmington's) Opera House Company's Production of Steven Sondheim's *A Little Night Music*. He then traveled to Colorado Springs, where he participated in the Vocal Arts Symposium in conjunction with the Opera Theatre of the Rockies and performed in concerts and opera scenes. Upon returning to North Carolina, he sang the role of Frederic in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance* for West Side Community Theatre in Lewisville.

Also at Opera Theatre of the Rockies senior **Joshua Conyers** performed the roles of Francesco in the 2nd Act of Verdi's *I Masnadieri* and Marcello in Act IV of Puccini's *La Boheme*. He also won 3rd place in the National Negro Women's Business Association Vocal Competition, held in Buffalo, NY.

Award Winning Alum to Teach Master Class

On Monday, October 12 composer Elizabeth Myers will teach a master class in newly-renovated Hood Recital Hall. A classically trained pianist and singer Ms. Myers earned a Bachelor's Degree in Composition from UNCSA and a Master's Degree in Music from UNC Chapel Hill. She studied composition with Nadia Boulanger at the "Ecole d'arts americains" and later privately with Jacques Rouvier in Paris. On returning to the States, she was hired as the Musical Director of the Broadway show "Grease" in New York. She has also conducted members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic in original scores on numerous occasions for films and other compositions. Her original score for David Rabe's "The Orphan" was published by Samuel French. Her orchestration of the ballet "Texas Fourth" for Agnes de Mille was performed in 1976 at the Kennedy Center, where Miss DeMille was honored for her work, and in October of 2006 by the State Street Ballet in Santa Barbara.



A chance meeting in a Broadway orchestra pit with John Trivers, a musician, songwriter, and musical consultant has led to a twenty-year songwriting and composing collaboration producing gold and platinum records, iconic TV themes and award-winning scores for films and commercials. Their debut score for the film "Birch Street Gym", directed by Steven Kessler for Chanticleer Films, contributed to an Academy Award nomination in 1993 in the "Short Film" category.

Trivers/Myers won the Clio for their arrangement of Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* for United Airlines animated commercial "Interview" in 2005 and have received awards for television commercial campaigns for clients including United Airlines (whose commercials were inducted in 2005 into the Museum of Modern Art permanent collection); Chrysler (Image Campaign 1998); and Pioneer Electronics ("Bridge" Grand Clio winner, 1995). International accolades include Polaroid's "Dog & Cat," winner of the Gold Lion at the Cannes International Ad Festival, and first prize at the London Film Festival for their work with Weyerhaeuser. They continue to be successful at helping establish corporate identities for hundreds of clients such as Hyundai, Tropicana, Nissan, Verizon and Qwest, and were the composers of the Original Theme for the "CBS Evening News with Dan Rather," which ran from 1987 to 2006.

Trivers and Myers expanded their credits by creating scores for several films. The first of these full-length features was "Norma Jean, Jack & Me", directed by Cyrus Nowrasteh for New Path Pictures in 1998, followed by "Broke Even," directed by David Feldman, which won the award for Best Drama at the 2000 New York Independent Film Festival. In 2001, Trivers and Myers composed the score for the Paramount/Showtime feature film, "The Day Reagan Was Shot" an historical drama written and a directed by Cyrus Nowrasteh. The executive producer was Oliver Stone.

In 2000, Ms. Myers released a debut solo CD and Book of her songwriting entitled "Le Rendez-Vous"; three of the songs were chosen by P2 Records in France for their "Le Chill-out 2001" compilation CD.

Guest Bassoon Artists

On December 8th at 4:30 p.m. the bassoon duo Tuple will perform a recital and give a master class in Hood Recital Hall. Tuple was formed in 2006 by longtime collaborators and new music advocates Rachael Elliott and Lynn Hileman. Tuple has presented lectures, recitals, and master classes at venues across the United States, including The Stone (NYC), Eyedrum (Atlanta), Flood Gallery (Asheville, NC), Catamount Arts Center (VT), A|V Space (Rochester, NY), University of Vermont, West Virginia University, the Eastman School of Music, and at the 2008 International Double Reed Society and College Music Society conventions.

Rachael Elliott is the bassoonist/improviser with Clogs, Heliand Trio, Tuple, and the Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble. She has performed at the Sydney Festival, London Jazz Festival,



Warhol Museum, Wexner Center for the Arts, Cincinnati's MusicNOW Festival and Bang on a Can Marathon and teaches bassoon at the University of Vermont, Middlebury College and Kinhaven Music School.

Bassoonist Lynn Hileman is in demand throughout the US as a recitalist specializing in contemporary music, appearing most recently at the Washington State University Festival of Contemporary Art Music and the Florida Electroacoustic Music Festival. She is Assistant Professor of Bassoon at West Virginia University, principal bassoonist of the Binghamton Philharmonic Orchestra and a member of the Laureate Quintet.

Faculty News

As Vice President of the Percussive Arts Society **John Beck** has been part of the planning board to develop and build the "Rhythm! Discovery Center" in Indianapolis, IN. In November the 15,000 sq. ft. hands-on museum and headquarters will open to the 5000+ attendees of the PAS International Convention and the public. More information is available at <http://rhythmdiscoverycenter.org>.

This fall violist **Sheila Browne** will be recording and performing a Vivaldi Concerto (transcribed for viola) with the Viva Vivaldi! Ensemble, as well as giving a recital and master class at Duke University and at UNCSA with pianist Allison Gagnon.

Tadeu Coelho was a guest clinician for Shelly Binder's studio at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville this past September 9, 2009. Dr. Coelho has joined the contemporary ensemble SKIN, which will have its inaugural concert on September 30th at UNCG playing music of Kirk O'Riordan. In October, Dr. Coelho will be the guest artist and clinician for the Fall Flute Seminar at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, AR. He will also be the guest artist for the Hot Springs Flute Ensemble Festival in Hot Springs, AR. In November Dr. Coelho will be at the Eastman School of Music to conduct a master class and a short recital.

Composer **Lawrence Dillon** was a guest of the Ravinia Festival on September 10th, when his award-winning composition *The Better Angels of Our Nature* was performed as part of the Ruth Page Dance Festival. Choreographed by Venetia Stifler and danced by Concert Dance, Incorporated, the performance featured the Lincoln Trio with Ravinia CEO Welz Kauffman as narrator.

Clarinetist **Alexander Fiterstein** appears on the cover of the fall issue of *Muso* magazine. He tells how it feels to win this year's Avery Fisher Career Grant and why he's rooting for new music for his instrument.

This fall, faculty pianist **Allison Gagnon** joins several UNCSA colleagues in recitals around the state. With **Judith Saxton**, she performed September 9 at Fayetteville State University and September 25 at Salem College. September 26 and 27 she performed with **Janine Hawley**, as well as guests Nicholas Duchamp, flutist, and Elizabeth Anderson, cellist, in recitals for the American Music Festival in Beaufort, NC and Chamber Music Wilmington in Wilmington, NC. She will return October 23 and 25 to the same recital venues to present Schumann's *Liederkreis*, op. 39 with faculty colleague **Glenn Siebert**. On November 4 and 5 respectively, she will be

heard in recital at USC Columbia with **Paul Sharpe** and at Duke University with **Sheila Browne**.

Gerald Klickstein's book *The Musician's Way: A Guide to Practice, Performance, and Wellness* was published this fall by Oxford University Press. The 360-page text presents a comprehensive system for both singers and instrumentalists to advance their abilities and succeed as performing artists; it also employs an extensive companion website: MusiciansWay.com. Additional publications by Mr. Klickstein to appear this fall include: "Practicing Performance" in *Voice Council Magazine* (September 28), "Memories are Made of This," an article focusing on memorization strategies to be featured in the October issue of *The Strad*, and "Dealing with Errors," a 3000-word excerpt from *The Musician's Way* slated for publication in the November issue of *American String Teacher*. Earlier this year, Mr. Klickstein began a two-year term as Artist/Member-at-Large on the board of the American String Teachers Association.

This fall **Saxton Rose** will travel to Costa Rica to teach and perform a solo recital as part of a guest artist residency at the Universidad de Costa Rica. He will also perform solo recitals and teach master classes at Ball State University and the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.

Trumpet faculty **Judith Saxton** played the Shenandoah Valley Bach Festival (VA) and Eastern Music Festival (NC) following the International Trumpet Guild Conference (PA) in May. Her trumpet ensemble, Tromba Mundi, recently completed an Arizona tour celebrating the release of their CD "Tromba Mundi" on MSR Classics, performing 5 concert series programs in 6 days in Tucson, Phoenix and Flagstaff, as well as master classes at Arizona State University and Northern Arizona University.

Student News

Four members of the UNCSA Horn Studio—**Jonathan Carroll, Alex Linn, Candy Martinez, and Jennifer Weaver**—attended the Vianden International Chamber Music Festival in Vianden, Luxembourg in August, accompanied by their teacher, David Jolley. The students distinguished themselves in performances of Schubert's *Auf dem Strom*, Mozart's Quintet K.452 for Piano and Winds, Gounod's *Petite Symphonie*, and quintets by Carter, Danzi, Hindemith, and Ligeti. A particular highlight of the festival was the young hornists' performance of calls and fanfares from an open hall of the *Chateau de Vianden*, a fortress stronghold standing at the crossroads of Europe since the 12th century.

Each year the ASCAP Foundation holds a national competition for gifted Young Concert Music Composers up to thirty years of age. This competition was named in honor of the late Morton Gould, an esteemed Pulitzer Prize winning composer and former president of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP). Among the winners from the nearly 700 entries this year is School of Music composition major **Leo Hurley**. Leo is a student of Lawrence Dillon.

Abigail Payne presented a recital with baritone Daniel Bircher, a recent graduate of the Masters program at Yale University, on September 12 at the Church of the Heavenly Rest in Abilene, TX. They performed Schumann's *Liederkreis, Op.39* and Stanford's *Songs of the Sea, Op.91* and will be

performing together in North Carolina and Connecticut in the coming months. Abigail is a graduate student of Allison Gagnon in the collaborative piano program.

Trumpeters **Chris Underwood**, **Brian Menzies** and **Sumner Williams** earned placement on the Western Piedmont Symphony Orchestra substitute list starting this fall.

Second-year graduate trumpet student **Alex Rodiek** won second trumpet in the Western Piedmont Symphony Orchestra beginning this fall.

High school trumpeter **Sumner Williams** won principal in the Greensboro Youth Symphony Orchestra for the 2009-2010 season.

Fall Term Performances

***music@watson:* Judith Saxton and Allison Gagnon**

(Sat) Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall

Trumpeter Judith Saxton and pianist Allison Gagnon play music by Jean Clergue, Ennio Porrino and Jan Koetsier, all of which they will subsequently record for an upcoming CD release. Also, saxophonist Taimur Sullivan joins Saxton and Gagnon for an arrangement of Jean Rivier's *Concerto for Alto Saxophone, Trumpet and Strings*. Admission charged.

***music@watson:* Schumann Bicentennial Celebration Concert**

(Sat) Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall

Kevin Lawrence, Sheila Browne, Brooks Whitehouse and Lauren Winkelman perform Schumann's Piano Quartet in Eb Major in celebration of the great German Romantic composer Robert Schumann; additional faculty artists including Alexander Fiterstein, Allison Gagnon, Janine Hawley, David Jolley, Eric Larsen, David Winkelman and graduate student Louise Grevin will perform *Fantasiestücke*, *Frauenliebe und Leben*, and the *Andante and Variations*. School of Music students Hsin-I Huang with School of Drama student Ian Antal will also be featured in *Schön Hedwig*. Admission charged.

***music@watson:* Letters from Composers**

(Thu) Oct. 15, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall

Tenor Glenn Siebert and guitarist Gerald Klickstein perform Dominic Argento's *Letters from Composers*, a vocal setting of letters by Chopin, Mozart, Bach, Debussy, Puccini and Robert Schumann; additional UNCSA faculty artists perform pieces by these composers. Admission charged.

***emerging artist concert:* UNCSA Symphony Orchestra**

(Sat) Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m., Stevens Center

Maestro James Allbritten leads the student orchestra in concert featuring Concerto Competition winner Erica Boysen as flute soloist performing Jacques Ibert's *Concerto for Flute and Orchestra*. Admission charged.

***music@watson:* Alexander Fiterstein, Clarinet**

(Tue) Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall

Faculty Artist Alexander Fiterstein, winner of the 2009 Avery Fisher Career Grant, makes his Watson Hall recital debut. Joined by pianist Steven Beck, Fiterstein will perform music by

Johannes Brahms, Mieczyslaw Weinberg, Lawrence Dillon and Claude Debussy. Admission charged.

emerging artists concert: Trombone Choir

(Sat) Oct. 31, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall

The 2009 Brass Symposium concludes with a performance by trombone students of James Miller. FREE.

emerging artist concert: Wind Ensemble

(Thur) Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m., Crawford Hall

The student wind ensemble performs under the direction of Dr. Michael Dodds. Admission charged.

music@watson: Kevin Lawrence and Allison Gagnon

(Sat) Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall

Violinist Kevin Lawrence and pianist Allison Gagnon perform music by American composers Arthur Foote, Henry Cowell, Paul Schoenfield and the premiere of *Wave Hill* by Laura Kaminsky, commissioned by the LINKS Project of the Kenan Institute for the Arts. Admission charged.

music@watson: Taimur Sullivan, Saxophone

(Tue) Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall

Faculty Artist Taimur Sullivan in recital. Admission charged.

emerging artist concert: UNCSA Symphony Orchestra

(Sat) Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m., Crawford Hall

(Sun) Nov. 15, 2:00 p.m., Crawford Hall

Maestro Ransom Wilson conducts the orchestra in a performance of Jolivet's *Concerto for Flute and Orchestra* (featuring Concerto Competition Winner Megan Szymanski) and Saint-Saëns's *Symphony No. 3* with faculty organist Timothy Olsen. Also on the program: *The Swans at Pungo Lake* by UNCSA composer Kenneth Frazelle. Admission charged.

emerging artists concert: Jazz Ensemble

(Tue) Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m., Thrust Theater

Ron Rudkin leads the student jazz ensemble. Admission charged.

emerging artist concert: Fletcher Opera Scenes

(Fri) Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m., Thrust Theater

Fellows of the A. J. Fletcher Opera Institute perform scenes from the operatic repertoire. Steven LaCosse, stage director; James Allbritten, music director. FREE.

music@watson: Sheila Browne and Allison Gagnon

(Sat) Nov. 21, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall

Violist Sheila Browne and pianist Allison Gagnon perform Joseph Jongen's *Allegro appassionato* and Ludwig van Beethoven's *Notturmo*. Browne will also be the soloist in Ernest Bloch's *Suite Hebraique*, accompanied by the UNCSA Viola Choir. Admission charged.

music@watson: Paul Sharpe and Allison Gagnon

(Tue) Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall

Bassist Paul Sharpe and pianist Allison Gagnon perform a program featuring Frank Proto's *A Carmen Fantasy*. Also, Sharpe is joined by cellist Brooks Whitehouse in Rossini's virtuosic *Duo for Cello and Double Bass*. Admission charged.

emerging artists concert: Percussion Ensembles

(Tue) Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall

John R. Beck leads the high school, undergraduate and graduate percussion ensembles in a program featuring the premiere of a new work by high school senior Max Witt. FREE.

emerging artists concert: Guitar Class Recital

(Thur) Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m., Watson Chamber Music Hall

Students of Gerald Klickstein and Joseph Pecoraro perform. FREE.

Composer on Sabbatical



The School of Music's Composer in Residence Lawrence Dillon is on Reassigned Time for fall 2009 to work on a trilogy of orchestral pieces. Reassigned Time is UNCISA's version of a sabbatical, awarded in "consideration of the faculty member's work at UNCISA or recognition, honors, or awards received in his/her respective field."

Kenneth Frazelle is assuming Dillon's teaching responsibilities during his absence.

Fulfilling a consortium commission involving five orchestras, Dillon is at work on *The Schumann Trilogy*, three compositions (*Fractured Fantasy*, *Marriage Diary* and *Cool Night*) honoring Robert Schumann on the occasion of his bicentennial.

Fractured Fantasy uses a structure inspired by Schumann's early piano works (e.g. *Papillons*) in which a series of brief character pieces combine to form a musical narrative. "I'm fascinated by the way these tiny pieces bump up against one another," writes Dillon. "I think the cracks between them tell their own compelling story." *Fractured Fantasy* consists of a set of Schumannesque miniatures in which the "cracks" gradually expand and infiltrate the material, in much the same way as Schumann's madness gradually overran his creative work and his personal life.

For the first years of their marriage, Robert and Clara Schumann kept a marriage diary, a journal they passed back and forth to one another from one week to the next. The diary reveals the negotiations behind a situation rare in the nineteenth century, and fairly common in the twenty-first: a dual-income family balancing the responsibilities of work and home. Dillon's *Marriage Diary*, scored for tenor, mezzo and orchestra, dramatizes this arrangement, in a counterpoint between the Schumanns' words and a 1921 New York Times article describing the fates of their eight children.

Robert Schumann first came to fame as an imaginative critic and essayist. Among the most memorable characters he invented in his essays were Florestan and Eusebius, two artists who gave voice to different facets of Schumann's personality. *Cool Night* imagines these two fictitious characters at their maker's deathbed, trying to make sense of his life and their own. The piece is scored for actor, tenor, three female singers and orchestra. It concludes with a setting of Heinrich Heine's "Der Tod, das ist die kühle Nacht" in a rewritten version devised by Dillon in collaboration with UNCSA Academic faculty member Hans Gabriel.

The Schumann Trilogy will be premiered on May 8th, 2010 at REDCAT in Los Angeles, performed by the Idyllwild Symphony Orchestra, Peter Askim, Music Director.