Eugene Alexander Birman

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Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

University of Oxford, Christ Church, Oxford, UK
D.Phil in Music Composition, August 2015

The Juilliard School, New York, NY
M.M. in Music Composition, May 2010

Columbia University, New York, NY
B.A. in Economics, May 2009
Honors: Dean's List, 2006, 2008

Accademia Musicale Chigiana, Siena, Italy
"Diploma di Merito" in Film Music Composition, August 2007
"Attestato di Frequenza" in Music Composition, August 2007

TEACHERS

Martyn Harry and Robert Saxton, University of Oxford	2012-2015
Toivo Tulev, Fulbright Research grant advisor	2010-2011
Christopher Rouse, The Juilliard School	2008-2010
Luis Bacalov, Accademia Musicale Chigiana	2007
Azio Corghi, Accademia Musicale Chigiana	2007
Samuel Adler, The Juilliard School	2004-2008
David Conte, San Francisco Conservatory of Music	2001-2005
John Adams, private study	1999-2002

AWARDS/RESIDENCIES
2017 Royal Philharmonic Society Composition Prize
2017 ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composers Awards
2017 Trauma&Revival Residency and Commission, sponsored by the European Union and kim? Contemporary Art Centre, Riga, Latvia (May-October 2017)
2017 Francis Chagrin Award, Sound and Music
2017 Bogliasco Fellowship
2016 Ucross Residency
2015 Estonian-American Innovation Award, presented by the Baltic-American Freedom Foundation
1st prize, Frank Robert Abell Young Composers Competition (University of Louisville)
2013 John Lowell Osgood Memorial Prize (University of Oxford)
2013 Young Composers Award, the European network for professional chamber choirs - TENSO
2013 Banco Santander Academic Travel Award
Composer-in-Residence, Visby International Centre for Composers, Visby, Sweden (April 2013)
Halstead Award, University of Oxford, Christ Church (2012)
2010-2011 Fulbright Research Full Grant to Estonia (studies in Composition and Medieval Polyphony at Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre with Toivo Tulev)
Composer in Residence, Visby International Centre for Composers, Visby, Sweden (Feb-Mar 2009)
2009 A. Ellstein Memorial Scholarship and 2010 Rodgers and Hammerstein Scholarship, The Juilliard School
Juilliard Orchestra Competition (2009)
Gretchaninoff Memorial Prize (2008, 2009)
1st prize Concorso Internazionale di Composizione "Lavagnino 2007"
2007 Full Merit Scholarship – Accademia Musicale Chigiana
2005 Collage New Music Young Composers Competition
2005 ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composers Awards
2005 National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts (NFAA) ARTS Award
2005 SCI/ASCAP Student Composition Commission (Region 8)
2004 SCI/ASCAP Student Composition Commission (Region 8)
2003 Interlochen Arts Camp High School Composers Award
2001 Merit Scholarship – Vancouver Academy of Music

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NOTABLE PERFORMANCES AND PERFORMERS

• "Nostra Culpa," a cantata dubbed "Financial Opera" by the world media, commissioned by Estonian Music Days for Tallinn Chamber Orchestra with soloist Iris Oja on an original libretto by Scott Diel, has been featured in practically every major publication in Europe and the US, including BBC World TV, NY Times, Wall Street Journal, LA Times, Le Figaro, The Telegraph, Süddeutsche Zeitung, and countless others.

• Nationally televised performances in Turkey in four cities over a period of ten days, attended by mayors, governors, leading representatives from Turkish orchestras and conservatories, featuring Turkish and Western musicians. Coverage in ZAMAN Newspaper, on Samanyolu TV, and Cihan News Network.

• Performances by the London Philharmonic, Minnesota Orchestra, BBC Singers, Latvian Radio Choir, Eric Ericsons Kammarkör, Juilliard Symphony, Royal Northern Sinfonia, Avanti! Chamber Orchestra, Sinfonietta Riga, Tallinn Chamber Orchestra, Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra, Helsinki Chamber Choir, Estonian National Male Choir, Orchestre Symphonique Ose!, the World Youth Symphony Orchestra, Divertimento Ensemble, Ensemble U:, Resonabilis, the Cavaleri, Ligeti, Piatti, and Villiers Quartets, Quartetto Prometeo, PUBLIQuartet, members of the Deutsches Oper, the Accademia Musicale Chigiana, and the Milan Conservatory, as well as by soloists Maxim Vengerov, Maurizio Ben Omar, Joby Burgess, Oren Marshall, and Iris Oja, in eight US states, Argentina, Belgium, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

• Upcoming performances and premieres with Philharmonia Orchestra, Ensemble YXUS, Ruthless Jabiru, saxophone virtuoso Guido de Flaviis, and numerous others, performances in Estonia, Finland, Greece, and the UK.

• Participant in numerous international music festivals (Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, Lucerne Festival, Tenso Days, Nordic Music Days, Arena New Music Festival, Milan: Cinque Giornate per la Nuova Musica, Estonian Music Days, Bowdoin International Music Festival, Chigiana Festival,) residencies with the Minnesota Orchestra, London Philharmonic, London Sinfonietta, among others. Performances at leading concert halls such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Orchestra Hall with Minnesota Orchestra (USA), Teatro dei Rozzi, Alhambra (CH), Palazzo Litta (IT), Trinity Wall Street (USA), Estonia Concert Hall (EE), Southbank Centre (UK), the Sheldonian Theatre (UK), St. Rumbold's Cathedral (BE), Mona Bismarck Gallery (FR), and above the Arctic Circle in Finland (Rovaniemi and Ivalo with the Helsinki Chamber Choir and Arctic Chamber Orchestra.)

• Discography includes North Wind, South Wind, released September 2012 concurrently with ERP, Naxos, and Abeille Musique, featuring "Defixio2" (2010/rev. 2011), performed by Resonabilis, Next Wave, released November 2014 by NMC Records, featuring "The winter desert of my silences" (2014), performed by Oren Marshall and Sound Intermedia, and PUBLIQuartet's debut album under the Concert Artists Guild label.

• Appearances on RTS Radio Télévision Suisse, yle (Finnish National Radio), Danish Broadcasting Corporation, BBC World TV, Deutsche Welle, Latvian National Radio, CBC-Radio Canada, Sveriges Radio, CNN, BBC Nightwaves, Bloomberg TV, Radio France, NPR's "All Things Considered" with Robert Siegel, Radio Classica, Good Morning America, ERR Klassikaraadio, and Sky Classica, which aired on over a dozen dates an interview and recorded broadcast of "Mi Vedi" (2012) from the Teatro dei Rozzi, Siena, Italy.

SELECTED PRESS

"A piece of high drama, soaring vocals, and intense emotion." - Tim Bowler, **BBC News**

"Wonderfully enlivened…what results is a work of simple command and clean execution…It's subtle, but it's all there." - Samuel Breen, **The Independent**

"Electrifying and earth-shaking." *- translated from the original Estonian* – Saale Kareda**, Eesti Kultuurileht "SIRP" (Estonian Cultural Journal)**

"Epitomizes sublime form…It is a clearly contemporary, aggressive, fresh, modern piece." *- translated from the original Portuguese -* João Lopes Marques, **Jornal de Noticias (Journal News)**

"His work is, at once, ingenious, hypnotic, brave, and beautiful" - **Festival Internazionale A.F. Lavagnino**

"A rich imagination, bravura, and sense of esthetics. The career of…Eugene Birman is booming." - Susanne Vermeulen- **Festival van Vlaanderen**

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TEACHING/RESIDENCIES

September 2017 – present
- Research Assistant Professor, Department of Music, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, HKSAR

May 2017 – October 2017
- Composer-in-residence, Trauma&Revival, European Union National Institutes of Culture and kim? Contemporary Art Centre, Riga, Latvia

March 2017 – April 2017
- Fellow, Bogliasco Foundation

October 2013 – February 2017
- Tutor, Music Faculty, University of Oxford. Oxford, UK

Subjects: Composition, Twentieth-century opera libretto, Techniques of Composition, Film Music, 20th/21st century music analysis, 19th century music history

March 2016 – April 2016
- Composer-in-residence, Ucross Foundation

September 2014 – February 2016
- Composer-in-residence, Joby Burgess, elected by Sound & Music

January 2014 – November 2014
- Composer-in-residence, Oren Marshall/Sound Intermedia, Higher Education Programme, elected by Sound & Music

September 2013 –May 2014
- Composer-in-residence, Ruthless Jabiru, Portfolio programme, elected by Sound & Music

January 2013 – March 2014
- Tutor, OPUS Programme, Christ Church, University of Oxford. Oxford, UK

Subjects: International trade and finance, Entrepreneurial strategy

November – December 2013
- Acting Head of Composition, Estonian Academy of Music & Theatre. Tallinn, Estonia

Subjects: Composition, Career development

September – December 2013
- Visiting scholar, Estonian Academy of Music & Theatre. Tallinn, Estonia

Subjects: Composition, Estonian musical sociology

April 2013
- Composer-in-residence, Visby International Centre for Composers. Visby, Sweden

April 2012
- Composer-in-Residence, Nordplus IP Academy, Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre. Vilnius, Lithuania

February – March 2009
- Composer-in-residence, Visby International Centre for Composers. Visby, Sweden

Additional master classes/presentations at Columbia University, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, the Juilliard School, the Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, Hungary, the Tenso Days 2013 music festival/conference in Marseille, France, and as the keynote speaker at the Tenso 2014 Professionals Meeting in Berlin, Germany. Also, keynote speaker at the 2013 Pärnu Leadership Conference in Pärnu, Estonia – the Baltic States' largest leadership conference for business professionals.

LIST OF WORKS

Orchestral	**Come tu non sapessi, che l'amore è un respiro lievitato** (2016) – 4' 30"
	Manifesto (2013/r. 2014) – 9' 30"
	Imago Dei (2013) – 6'
	Nostra Culpa (2013) - dramatic voice, string orchestra - 14' 30"
	Violin Concerto (2011) - 9' 45"
	Tomorrow, At Dawn (2008) - 6'
Stage Works	**Hiroshima** (2015) – 9' 45" – chamber orchestra, vocal effects
	Mi vedi (2012) - soprano, baritone, actress, bass cl, pno, perc, vln, vc - 5' 30"
Choral	**Lamentations** (2012-2016) – 14'
	State of the Union (2015-2016) – 37' 45"
	Stabat Mater (2015) – 7'

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	Field of the Dead (2014) - 12’
	289 (2014) - 8’ 15”
	Ah, libertà (2013) - 4’ 30”
	La rosa rosa (2012) - 4’ 30”
Large ensemble	**Addío** (2014) - fl, ob, cl, pno, vln, vc - 6’ 15”
	Red Desert (2011) - pic/fl, cl, pno, perc, vln, vc - 9’
	Music of Rain (2008) - mezzo soprano, ney, kanun, fl, bass cl/cl, perc - 4’
Small ensemble	**Pensées** (2017) - dramatic voice, pic/fl/bass fl, pno, vc, cb + live electronics - 37’
	RUMOR (2016) – vc, pno – 7’ 30”
	Erlkönig (2014) - tenor, pno - 6’ 45”
	ad Mortem (2014) - dramatic voice, bass fl, kannel, vc - 9’ 45”
	String Quartet (2013) - 7’ 15”
	Violin Sonata no. 2 (2012) - 10’ 15”
	I awoke and there were no walls to shield me from the moonlight (2011) - dramatic voice, bass fl, kannel, vc - 9’ 30”
	Defixio2 (2010/r. 2011) - dramatic voice, fl, kannel, vc - 5’
	Silence.scape (2010) - perc trio - 10’ 15”
	Seasons of Pasternak (2005) - mezzo-soprano, cl, vl, vc, pno - 21’ 15”
	Violin Sonata no. 1 (2003) - 19’ 45”
Solo	**D Major Preludes** (2015) – pno – 15’
	We are not alone (2015) - percussion + live electronics - 6’
	The winter desert of my silences (2014) - tuba + live electronics - 10’
	NOX (2012) - pno - 6’ 30”
	One Sun, 1 Moon (2012) - soprano saxophone - 20’ 30”
	The devil in the street, in the middle of the whirlwind (2011) - pno - 6’
	The limit in the black ink of the pear tree (2011) - cl - 8’ 15”
	You faced the waves (2011) - pno - 14’ 15”
	Contemplations (2005) - pno - 14’ 15”