

Maxwell Miller

Curriculum Vitae

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// Education

Masters in Music Composition (August 2022 - Present)

- Western Michigan University, Anticipated graduation May 2024
- Studying composition with Christopher Biggs and Lisa Coons.
- Thesis focused on exploring my identity, utilizing SuperCollider and Processing, with myself performing on electric guitar.
- Thesis advisor: Lisa Coons

Bachelors of Music Composition (September 2018 - June 2022)

- Central Washington University, graduated magna cum laude.
- Minor in Business
- Studied composition with Jiyoun Chung and Martin Kennedy

Associate of Arts and Sciences (September 2013 - June 2015)

- Wenatchee Valley College, June 2015
- Completed general education requirements with focuses in Math and computer science.

// Teaching Experience

Western Michigan University (August 2022 - Present)

As a Graduate Assistant:

- Multimedia Arts Technology Studio Maintenance
 - Setting up and engineering live sound for student recitals.
 - Updating and maintaining software on music production stations.
 - Inventory and organization of equipment.
- Composition for the Concert Hall (MUS 2620/2625)
 - Teaching composition lessons to ~20 students.
- Intro to Audio Technology (MUS 1940)
 - Developing curriculum to teach live sound reinforcement.
 - Meeting with students weekly to practice setting up and using live sound equipment.
- Basic Music I (MUS 1600)
 - Tutoring students who need additional help with material.
 - Grading homework assignments and exams.

Central Washington University (November 2019 - March 2021)

As a Volunteer Tutor:

- Bassoon Studio Theory Tutor (September 2020 - March 2021)
 - Met weekly to answer questions about homework or provide additional instruction on the material.
 - Quickly composed and played dictations for aural skills training.
- CWU Music Production Basics Workshop (October 2021)

- Gave a brief overview of the different Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) softwares available.
- Explained differences in MIDI vs. audio as well as how to use VST plugins.
- Discussed general guidelines for audio mixing and mastering.
- CWU Audio Recording Workshop (November 2019)
 - Discussed how analog recording works as well as how the analog/digital conversion stage works.
 - Taught the different types of microphones and pickup patterns.
 - Imparted the concept of gain staging and general good recording practices.

Independent (November 2022 - Present)

As a composition instructor:

- Met biweekly with a young composer, offering critique and guidance.
 - Have focused teaching toward helping the student reach their personal goals while building unfamiliar skills.
 - Assisted in editing parts for performance by the student's school wind ensemble.
 - Have connected the student to resources both within and outside the university.

// Work Experience

SPLICE Institute - Kalamazoo, MI

As Program Coordinator (January 2023 - Present):

- Tracking admissions data.
- Answering questions of admitted composers/performers.
- Assisting with invoicing and tracking payments.

As a Live Sound Engineer (June 2022 & June 2023):

- Moved and collected equipment to be set up in different rehearsal and performance spaces.
- Assisted with nightly concert setup.
- Ran sound checks and mixed concerts.

Central Washington University - Ellensburg, WA

As a Live Sound Engineer (September 2019 - March 2020)

- Affiliated with the Marching Band, Basketball Band, and Wind Ensemble.
- Live mixing of performances using Yamaha TF-3 and TF-1 mixers.
- Responsible for managing and transporting equipment for rehearsals/performances.

Independent

As a Live Sound Engineer (June 2021 - Present)

- Coordinating live sound reinforcement for various concerts.
- Recording, mixing, and mastering performances.

- Familiar with a range of microphones, PA equipment, and mixers.

// Conference Selections and Programs

As an artist having work presented/performed:

- SPLICE Institute: 2023
- Performing Media Festival: 2023

As a participant:

- SPLICE Institute: 2022
- Chamber Music America Virtual Conference: 2022

// List of Works

Audio-Visual

Internal Monologue with a Captive Audience (2023)

- For 7-String Electric Guitar, Live Electronics, and Video
- ~15'30" duration.

Apical Meristem (2023)

- For Flute, Live Electronics, and Interactive Video
- Written for Robin Meiksins
- ~6' duration.
- Performed by Sierra Staman for the WSCA Composer's Concert, November 2023
- Premiered by Robin Meiksins at SPLICE Institute, July 2023

Flight Manifest (2023)

- For Performer, Floor Lamps, Live Electronics, and Interactive Video
- 7' 30" duration.

Danaus Plexippus (2022)

- For Tenor Saxophone, Live Electronics, and Interactive Video
- Written for Nathaniel Sandell
- ~5' duration.
- Premiered by Jacob DeWitt at the Student Composer Showcase, November 2023
- Presented at Performing Media Festival, March 2023

Replaced (2022)

- For Flute, Clarinet, Violin, Cello, Piano, and Interactive Video
- Written for SENSE
- ~6' 30" duration.
- Premiered by SENSE at the SENSE Concert Experience, June 2022

Ember Moths (2022)

- For Flute, Clarinet, Violin, Cello, Piano, and Interactive Video
- Written for SENSE
- ~7' duration.
- Premiered by SENSE at the SENSE Concert Experience, June 2022

microPlastics (2022)

- For Laptop and Interactive Video
- 6' duration.
- Premiered at the SENSE Concert Experience, June 2022

Writer's Block (2022)

- For Bassoon, Looper, and Interactive Video
- ~9'30" duration.
- Performed at the WSCA Composer's Concert, November 2022
- Premiered at the SENSE Concert Experience, June 2022

Electro-Acoustic/Fixed Media

breaking/building (2023)

- For Clarinet, Oboe, Trombone, Timpani, 2 Violins, Viola, Cello, and Electronics.
- Written for the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra Artist-In-Residence Ensemble
- ~10' duration.
- Premiered at the KSO AIR Collaboration Concert, March 2023

Gears (2022)

- For Bassoon and Fixed Media.
- ~5'30" duration.

Intermission (2022)

- For Fixed Media.
- ~4' duration.
- Presented at the SENSE Concert Experience, June 2022

Canyon Run (2021)

- For Single Channel Video.
- Video recorded by Norman Wallen.
- Music composed by Maxwell Miller.
- 3'55" duration.

Through Time (2021)

- For Fixed Media.
- 5'25" duration.

Sunk (2021)

- For Bassoon and Fixed Media.
- ~4' duration.
- Premiered at Maxwell Miller's Junior Bassoon Recital, March 2022

Phase (2021)

- For Fixed Media.
- 2'44" duration.

oRing (2020)

- For Bassoon and Fixed Media.
- 2'25" duration.

Entropy (2020)

- For Euphonium and Fixed Media.
- Written for Grant Ingalls
- ~3'30" duration.

Small Ensemble and Solo Repertoire

Elegy for a Friend (2020)

- For Cello and Piano.
- ~3' duration.
- Premiered by Francis Fay and Leora Allen at the CWU Composer's Concert, November 2021

Grass (2020)

- For Solo Piano
- ~ 3' duration.

Scherzo (2019)

- For 2 Violas.
- ~2'30" duration.

Windstruck (2019)

- For Piano, Violin, and Cello.
- ~4' duration.
- Premiered by Tomás Estigarribia, Jay Woolsey, and Cade O'Haver at the CWU Composer's Concert, November 2019

Formicidae Fantasie (2019)

- For Solo Flute.
- ~2' duration.

Chamber Ensemble

Intersect (2023)

- For Saxophone Quartet.
- Written for a reading opportunity with Nois.
- ~7' duration.

On Becoming Self Aware (2021)

- For Wind Quintet (also arranged for modified Pierrot Ensemble).
- ~6' duration.
- Premiered by SENSE at the SENSE Concert Experience, June 2022

Railroad Crossing (2020)

- For Piccolo, Flute, Alto Flute, Bass Flute, and Contrabass Flute.
- ~7' duration.

Goodfellow's Carnival (2020)

- For Bassoon Ensemble (also arranged for Viola Ensemble).
- ~4' duration.
- Performed by CWU Viola Ensemble as part of CWU's Viola Day, November 2022
- Premiered by CWU Bassoon Studio at the CWU Bassoon Studio Recital, February 2020

Tango D'Martillo (2019)

- For Flute, Accordion, Piano, Violin, and Bass.
- ~3' duration.

Moonlight (2019)

- For Bassoon, Harp, and String Orchestra.
- ~3' duration.

Title (2018)

- For Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Violin, Viola, Cello, and Bass.
- ~2'30" duration.

Choral and Vocal

Three Short Poems (2021)

- For SATB Choir.
- ~3' duration.

Rider's Song (2020)

- For Mezzo-Soprano and Piano
- ~4' duration.
- Premiered by Taylor Zickefoose and Leora Allen at the CWU Composer's Concert, November 2021

Commissioned Works for Film and Video

Pumpkin Guts Original Soundtrack (2023)

- For the short film *Pumpkin Guts*.
- ~12' of experimental electronic music.
- Commissioned by Jack Collier and Kendall Yoder.

Entropy (2020)

- Commissioned for Grant Ingalls to play at Junior Recital.
- ~3' music for euphonium and tape.

Waiting and Delivery (2020)

- For the short film *Night Watch*.
- ~8' of music in a Jazz Noir style.
- Commissioned by Ethan Christensen.

Zenergy (2019)

- Commissioned by Keith Alholm.
- Zenergy: ~2' in a Pop Music style.

Newsound (2019)

- Commissioned by Kieth Alholm.
- Newsound: ~2' in an Industrial Rock style.

The Black Box Theme (2019)

- Commissioned by Toxic Chainsaw Films.
- Theme music for a series of Youtube videos titled *Tales from the Black Box*.
- ~1' duration.

Apostle (2019)

- Commissioned by Toxic Chainsaw Films.
- Written for the short film *Zealot*.
- ~1' 30" duration.

I Hate You Dad Original Soundtrack (2019)

- Commissioned by Toxic Chainsaw Films
- Two showcase songs, *Days Past* and *Tango D' Martillo*.
- ~18' duration.

// Performance Experience

Solo Performances of Original Works:

- Improvised performance, Modular Synthesizer and Computer, Kalamazoo, MI, November 2022
- *Writer's Block*, Bassoon and Electronics, Kalamazoo, MI, November 2022
- *Writer's Block*, Bassoon and Electronics, Ellensburg, WA, June 2022
- *microPlastics*, Laptop, Ellensburg, WA, June 2022
- *Sunk*, Bassoon and Fixed Media, Ellensburg, WA, March 2022
- Improvised performance, Electric Bassoon and Modular Synthesizer, Ellensburg, WA, January 2020

Large Ensemble Performances:

As Principal Bassoon:

- Central Washington University Wind Ensemble
 - Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Concert Hall, Ellensburg, WA, March 2022
 - Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Concert Hall, Ellensburg, WA, December 2021
- Central Washington University Symphonic Winds
 - Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Concert Hall, Ellensburg, WA, June 2021

As Second Bassoon:

- Central Washington University Symphony Orchestra
 - Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Concert Hall, Ellensburg, WA, March 2022
 - Midwest Clinic, December 2021

Chamber Ensemble Performances:

As Conductor/Director:

- Sensory Environment and New Sound Ensemble, Conductor
 - Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Recital Hall, Ellensburg, WA, June 2022

As a Performer:

- The Of, Electric Bassoon
 - Marko's Place, Roslyn, WA, May 2021
 - Bearded Monkey Music, Yakima, WA, April 2021
 - Marko's Place, Roslyn, WA, December 2019
- Central Washington University Bassoon Ensemble, Bassoon

- Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Concert Hall, Ellensburg, WA, February 2022
- Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Concert Hall, Ellensburg, WA, February 2020
- Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Concert Hall, Ellensburg, WA, February 2019
- Central Washington University Bassoon Ensemble, Contrabassoon
 - Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Concert Hall, Ellensburg, WA, February 2021
- Woodwind Trio, Bassoon
 - Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Recital Hall, Ellensburg, WA, March 2022
- Wind Quintet, Bassoon
 - Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Recital Hall, Ellensburg, WA, November 2021

// **Discography**

- *Occult Octopus*, April 2021 (Self Released)
- *ISOLATE*, March 2020 (Self Released)
- *Passing Stranger*, September 2019 (Self Released)
- *I Hate You Dad OST*, June 2019 (Self Released)
- *The Cave (Part 1)*, October 2018 (Self Released)
- *Moving Forward, Looking Back*, May 2018 (Self Released)

// **Grants and Scholarships**

WMU Graduate Research Grant (2023)

- Awarded for equipment for research into photosonic composition.
- Culminated in the writing of *Flight Manifest*.

CWU Performance Scholarship (2021)

- Awarded for continued excellence in bassoon performance.

// **Service Positions and Professional Affiliations**

Vice President, CWU Music Industry Club (September 2021 - June 2022)

Vice President, CWU Composition Studio (September 2021 - June 2022)

Member, ASCAP (2021 - Present)

Member, The College Music Society (2021 - Present)

Member, Society for Composers, Inc. (2021 - Present)

Member, International Double Reed Society (2021 - Present)

Member, Chamber Music America (2021 - Present)

// Skills

Software:

- SuperCollider
- Processing
- Max/MSP
- JavaScript
- Ableton
- Cubase
- Logic
- Dorico
- Finale

Hardware:

- Analog and Digital Mixers
- Modular Synthesizers
- Microphones
- PA speakers and equipment
- Audio interfaces
- Effects pedals
- MIDI peripherals
- Soldering

// References

[Contact information available upon request]

Christopher Biggs

Associate Professor, Composition
Western Michigan University

Lisa Coons

Associate Professor, Composition
Western Michigan University

Carter Rice

Assistant Professor, Multimedia Arts Technology
Western Michigan University