

# BRIEN HENDERSON, PHD

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## EDUCATION

PhD, music composition, University at Buffalo  
September 2019

- Principal faculty: David Felder, Jeffrey Stadelman
- Additional faculty: Jonathan Golove, Evan Johnson

Master of Arts, music composition, San Francisco State University  
May 2013

- Principal faculty: Richard Festinger, Benjamin Sabey

Bachelor of Music, composition, San Francisco State University  
December 2010

- Principal faculty: Richard Festinger, Christopher Jones

European American Musical Alliance  
July 2008

- Summer courses. Studied composition with Robert Beaser, keyboard harmony with Mark Shapiro, solfège with Teddy Niedermaier, and counterpoint with Benjamin C.S. Boyle, Lane Harder, Phillip Lasser.

City College San Francisco, general education  
2005-2006

Fullerton College, general education  
2000-2005, Music major path  
1995-1998, English major path

### Master Classes

Hans Abrahamsen	Joshua Fineberg	Augusta Read Thomas
Aaron Cassidy	Josh Levine	Chinary Ung
Raphaël Cendo	Eric Moe	Yehudi Wyner
Hanna Eimermacher	Hilda Paredes	Anna Clyne
Brian Ferneyhough	Bernard Rands	Lei Lang

## TEACHING

## Teaching Assistant, University at Buffalo

2015-2019

- MUS 109: Master Composer - Johan Sebastian Bach Fall 2019
  - Online, undergraduate general education course, fulfilling Arts requirement.
  - Listening and research/writing assignments, exams on listening identification and term definition.
  - Texts: Wolff, Christoph. *Johan Sebastian Bach: The Learned Musician*; Boyd, Malcom. *Bach*; Gardiner, John Eliot. *Bach: Music in the Castle of Heaven*
  
- MUS 116: Theory of Music for Nonmajors Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016
  - Undergraduate general education course, fulfilling Arts requirement.
  - Elements of writing music; melody, rhythm, intervals, chords, harmony, tone color, and styles of musical expression. Music signs and symbols; traditional language of tonal music, with examples drawn from popular and classical music.
  - Text: Straus, Joseph. *Elements of Music*.
  
- MUS 400: Composition Seminar Fall 2017
  - Undergraduate course in composition, open to music majors only.
  - Introduces issues of free composition within the twentieth-century art music tradition. Investigates relevant literatures and musical techniques. Students receive critical feedback on individual composition projects, working toward the goal of a concert of student works. Explores related issues such as notation, instrumentation, orchestration, and aesthetics.
  
- MUS 114: Genres of Music: Bob Dylan Summer 2016
  - Online, undergraduate general education course, fulfilling Arts requirement.
  - Readings on the cultural legacy of Bob Dylan. Comparative listening to studio albums and live recordings. Online discussion forums, quizzes on reading and listening.
  - Text: Dettmar, Kevin H. *The Cambridge Companion to Bob Dylan*.
  
- MUS 114: Genres of music: Music of the Roman Mass Fall 2015
  - Undergraduate general education course, fulfilling Arts requirement.
  - The Mass from the Middle Ages through the 20th Century. Study of the mass as a musical genre, charting its history from its origins as a form of collective worship to a platform for singular artistic expression. The influence of other genres throughout history on the evolving musical style of the mass will also be examined. No previous musical experience required.

*(TEACHING cont).*

**Substitute Instructor, San Francisco State University** **Fall 2013**

- MUS 233: Chromatic Analysis and Synthesis
  - For undergraduate music majors only.
  - Text: Kostka, Stefan and Dorothy Payne. *Tonal Harmony*.
- MUS 231: Contrapuntal Analysis and Synthesis
  - For undergraduate music majors only.
  - Text: Salzer, Felix and Carl Schachter. *Counterpoint in Composition*.

**Lecturer, San Francisco State University** **Fall 2013**

- MUS 353: Saxophone (private instruction)

**Teaching Associate, San Francisco State University** **Fall 2012**

- MUS 501: Music, the Listener's Art
  - Undergraduate general education course to fulfill Arts requirement
  - Music literature in historical/cultural contexts. Skills and techniques of analytical listening and the reading of simple scores.
  - Text: Kerman, Joseph, Vivian Kerman, and Gary Tomlinson. *Listen*.
  - *Served as graduate assistant for the same course in Spring 2013*

**Graduate Assistant, San Francisco State University** **2011-2013**

- MUS: 405: Tonal Counterpoint
  - Contrapuntal practices of the 18th century through written exercises in two- and three-parts based on analysis of examples from the literature.
  - Text: Kennan, Kent. *Counterpoint*
- MUS 420: 20th Century Techniques
  - Compositional procedures and musical structures of the 20th century through studies of the literature and composition.
  - Text: Roig-Francoli, Miguel A. *Understanding post-tonal music*

**Teaching Assistant, San Francisco State University** **2009-2010**

- MUS 231: Contrapuntal Analysis and Synthesis
  - Contrapuntal practices of the 16th century through written exercises in two-part species and free counterpoint.
  - Text: Salzer, Felix, and Carl Schachter. *Counterpoint in Composition*
- MUS 232: Diatonic Harmony and MUS 233: Chromatic Harmony
  - Common practice harmonic and formal procedures through written exercises, analysis, and composition.
  - Text: Kostka, Stefan M. and Dorothy Payne. *Tonal Harmony*

## COMPOSITION

## Festivals

June in Buffalo, 2019

- Premiere of *Missa Trencadís* by Slee Sinfonietta and Sotto Voce Vocal Collective, under the original title, *Missa Brevis*.

June in Buffalo, 2016

- Premiere of *Studies in Polyphony* by Ensemble Dal Niente.

June in Buffalo, 2013

- Premiere of *Fragments of Lost Words* by Ensemble Signal.

## Commissions

- A Body of Broken Bones for piano. Commissioned by Jade Conlee, 2018
- Confession for double bass. Commissioned by Megan McDevitt, 2016.

## List of Works

Scores and recordings available at [www.briehenderson.net](http://www.briehenderson.net)

*Missa Trencadís (2018-19)* for SATB choir, ensemble.

Premiere: Slee Sinfonietta and Sotto Voce Vocal Collective, June in Buffalo 2019.

Duration: 14:00.

*A Body of Broken Bones (2018)* for piano.

Premiere date not yet set. Duration: 5:00.

*Noli esse vana (2018)* for SAATB choir.

Premiere: Sotto Voce Vocal Collective, May 2018, Oberlin College. Duration: 3:00.

*Study in Trencadís (2017)* for flute, clarinet, percussion, violin, violoncello, double bass.

Premiere: November 2017, Baird Hall, Buffalo. Duration: 4:00.

*Confession for double bass (2016)*

Premiere: Megan McDevitt, February 2017, University of Michigan. Duration, 10:00.

*Studies in Polyphony (2016)* for flute, clarinet, piano, violin, violoncello.

Premiere: Ensemble Dal Niente, June in Buffalo 2016. Duration, 7:00.

*Obscured In The Light of Time* (2015) for flute/piccolo, clarinet, piano, percussion, violin, viola, violoncello.

Premiere: Ensemble Linea, May 2016, Baird Hall, Buffalo. Duration: 11:00.

*Fragments of Lost Words* (2013) for flute, oboe, bassoon, violin, viola, violoncello.

Premiere: Ensemble Signal, June in Buffalo 2013. Duration: 16:00.

*Studies in Prolation Canon* (2012) for two violas

Premiere: December, 2012, Knuth Hall, San Francisco. Duration: 9:00.

## PERFORMANCE

### BASS VOICE

Sotto Voce Vocal Collective

2017-2018

Vocal ensemble specializing in music of living composers

Selected Repertoire

- Beglarian, Eve. *Armon*
- Beuger, Antoine. *Meditations poétiques sur "quelque chose d'autre"*
- Henderson, Brien. *Noli esse vana*
- Huddleston, Alex. *The Sonnets* (commissioned by Sotto Voce)
- Kim, Sylvia. *Paper Wings*
- Ligeti, György. *Ket Kanon: Pletykázó asszonyok*
- Oliveros, Pauline. *Out of The Dark, Lullaby for Daisy Pauline*
- Sampson, Jamie-Leigh. *Dite Me* (commissioned by Sotto Voce)

Parish of St. Katharine Drexel Choir, Buffalo NY

2016-2017

- Bass section leader

Ut Re Mi

2013-2015

Chamber vocal ensemble specializing in Renaissance vocal music

Selected Repertoire

- Animuccia, Giovanni. *Magnificat primi toni*
- Desprez, Josquin. *Milles regretz*
- Festa, Costanzo. *Ah che vuoi più cruciar m'amor; Ecce iste venit; Lamentations of Jeremiah*

- Mouton, Jean. *Quaeramus cum pastoribus; Salva nos, Domine*
- Morales, Cristóbal de. *Missa Quaeramus cum pastoribus*
- Praetorius, Michael.
  - *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland a 6*
  - *Es is ein Ros' entsprungen*
  - *In natali Domini*
- Tallis, Thomas. *Videte miraculum; O nata lux*
- Tomkins, Thomas. *Woe is Me*
- Walter, Johann. *Joseph lider; Joseph mein; Nu bitter weir; In dulci jubilo*

San Francisco State University Chamber Singers

Spring 2010

SAXOPHONE Principal Instructor: Andrew Speight, San Francisco State University

Solo and accompanied repertoire

- Bach, Johann Sebastian. Selections from *Cello Suite No. 2* (arr. J. Michael Leonard)
- Berio, Luciano. *Sequenza VIIb* for oboe (arr. for soprano sax., Claude Delangle)
- Ferneyhough, Brian. *Coloratura* for oboe, piano (arr. for sop. sax., Brien Henderson)
- Desenclos, Alfred. *Prélude, Cadence, et Finale*
- Glazunov, Alexander. *Saxophone Concerto*
- Hindemith, Paul. *Sonata for Alto Saxophone*
- Ibert, Jacques. *Concertino Da Camera*
- Stockhausen, Karlheinz. *In Friendship*

Mission Saxophone Quartet: Soprano saxophone and founder, 2010-2012.

Founded within the Chamber Music course at San Francisco State University. Received regular coaching from the Alexander String Quartet, principally Sandy Wilson and Zakarias Grafilo.

Master Classes

- New Century Saxophone Quartet, 2011.

Selected Repertoire

- Singlée, Jean-Baptiste. *Quartet for Saxophones No. 1, Op. 53*
- Desenclos, Alfred. *Quatour pour Saxaphones*
- Bach, Johann Sebastian. *Art of the Fugue: Contrapunctus IX*
- Lang, David. *Revolutionary Etudes*
- Dubois, Pierre Max. *Quatour pour Saxophones*

- Radiohead. “Paranoid Android” (arr. Brien Henderson)

San Francisco State University Wind Ensemble. First Alto, 2007-2008

Quixote — Latin jazz fusion quartet. 2007-2008.

Her Grace The Duchess — Soul/Funk band. Horn section leader, 2005-2007.

The Elusive Cool (founder) — Jazz/electronic fusion group. Active 2004-05.

Fullerton College Jazz Lab Band. First Alto, 2004-2005

Fullerton College Jazz Combo, 2003-2004

Frank Falupa (formerly The Frank Falupa Trio) — Neo-psychedelic Post-rock band.

Contributing songwriter. Active 1999-2001.

### ADMINISTRATION

University at Buffalo, Music Graduate Student Association (MuGSA). President 2018-19;

Treasurer 2017-18

*2019 Graduate Conference in Music*. Lead organizer.

University at Buffalo, Mark Diamond Research Fund Review Council. Applicant reviewer

October 2018.

Sotto Voce Vocal Collective. Box Office Manager, Personnel Manager. 2017-2018.

*Unaccompanied: The Art of Solo Performance*. Chief organizer and artistic director of a concert focused on 20th and 21st Century works for unaccompanied instruments. Center for New Music, San Francisco, August 12, 2014. <https://centerfornewmusic.com/calendar/unaccompanied-the-art-of-solo-performance/>

Student Composer Concert. Project manager, May 2009.

### HONORS, AWARDS and GRANTS

Full Tuition Scholarship, University at Buffalo

2015-2019

Presidential Fellowship, College of Arts and Sciences, University at Buffalo

2015-2019