

CHRISTOPHER PREISSING

CURRICULUM VITA

composer, improviser, sound artist, collaborator
1767 West Devon Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60660

773.418.0119 • ispr@ripco.com

EDUCATION

Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2008. Minor: Theater.
Composition studies with William Brooks; electronic/computer music with James Beauchamp, Scott Wyatt;
Theater studies with Robert Graves.
Dissertation: *Intermedial Relationships Among Component Arts in Combined Art Works*. Advisor: William Brooks.
Master of Music in Composition, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, 1989.
Composition studies with Herbert Brün, Salvatore Martirano; Musicology study with Alexander Ringer.
Bachelor of Music in Symphonic Instruments, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 1984.
Major study with Paul Boyer (flute); Minor study with Mitchell Andrews (piano).
Bachelor of Music in Music Theory and Composition, emphasis on Music Engineering Technology, Minor: Applied Physics.
Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 1984. Composition studies with David Foley, Cleve Scott, Morris Knight.
Additional Composition Study: Yuji Takahashi, George Crumb, Mario Lavista, Tania León.
Non-Degree, Indiana University South Bend, 1985-1986. Composition, Electronic Music with David Barton.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Djerassi Resident Artists Program	<i>Resident Artist</i>	2012
Virginia Center for the Creative Arts	<i>Fellow</i>	2012
Ucross Foundation	<i>Artist in Residence</i>	2011
Virginia Center for the Creative Arts	<i>Fellow</i>	2011
Ragdale Foundation	<i>Artist in Residence</i>	2010
Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts	<i>Artist in Residence</i>	2010
University of York / Orpheus Institute: <i>Research into Co-Creative Practices in Music</i>	<i>Guest Composer/Lecturer</i>	2010
lecture/presentation: "Down with 'Top-Down': Hierarchy and Fusion in Combined Art Works."		
MakeSound	<i>Curator</i>	2012-
Experimental Piano Series	<i>Curator</i>	2008-
Chicago Composers Forum	<i>Executive Director/Board President</i> <i>Board Member/Program Director</i>	2004-2010
Responsible to the Board of Directors for all management, administrative, and financial matters of the organization. Worked with the Board of Directors, membership, and volunteers to implement the mission. Collaborated with ensembles, composers, and venues as well as serving as grant writer and public face.		
Estate of Charles Steffen, Outsider Artist	<i>Manager</i>	2006-
Represent the art and estate with dealers and galleries in Chicago, New York, and Paris; catalog and photograph over 2,000 drawings; and maintain all legal, pricing, and sales records.		
John Cage's <i>Musicircus</i>	<i>Artistic Director / Producer</i>	2005, 2007
Two major productions in Chicago: Museum of Contemporary Art (2005); Chicago Cultural Center (2007)		
C.G Jung Institute of Chicago	<i>Audio-Visual Coordinator</i>	2002-2005
Audio-visual design and production for the Institute. Specific responsibilities include live recording, sound reinforcement, audio mastering and production, AV and lighting support; equipment purchasing and maintenance; design and maintenance of Institute's website; hiring and supervision of interns, publication and sales of Institute's audio programs; and budgeting, purchasing, and marketing for department.		
Atlantic Center for the Arts	<i>Associate Artist</i>	2003
selected to participate by John Zorn, master composer.		
Deloitte & Touche	<i>Senior Graphic Designer/Senior Consultant</i>	1998-2001
Responsible for concept, design and production of a wide range of marketing communications materials, provide direct support to many different internal departments and a broad range of clients and industries, manage multiple projects, communicate with project coordinators, senior managers and partners.		
Atlantic Center for the Arts	<i>Associate Artist</i>	1996
US / Japan Exchange Residency. Yuji Takahashi, master composer. collaborate with other artists, create new work, participate in classes and workshops.		

Indiana University, Conference: <i>Crossroads of Traditions</i>	Guest Composer	1996
lecture: "Intensity: Stable Versus Floating Hierarchies"; performance: <i>Susurrus</i> .		
Beloit College (Wisconsin)	Guest Composer/Composer in Residence	1996
performance: <i>from beginningless time</i> .		
lecture/demonstration: "On Electronic Music and Composition for Multiple Art Forms."		
lecture/demonstration: "The Collaborative Relationship Between Working Artists."		
Ball State University (Indiana)	Guest Composer/Performer	1995
Featured composer/performer in 25th Annual Festival of New Music.		
performance: <i>...in the pursuit of happiness, Knot of Life</i> .		
Indiana University South Bend	Associate Faculty/Visiting Lecturer	1995–1997
Taught Music Theory I, Music Theory II, Aural Skills.		
Indiana University, Conference: <i>Words and Music</i>	Guest Composer	1994
panel discussion: "New Music Theatre"; presentation on my music.		
University of Illinois (Urbana) School of Music	Graduate Assistant	1994–1995
Assisted Professor William Brooks in the preparation and notation of his music.		
Is Performance Group (South Bend, Indiana)	Artistic Director	1992–1997
Is Productions	Principle	1989–
Designed and produced marketing communication collateral and proposals, logo and corporate ID and standards, books and catalogs, web and video solutions and miscellaneous advertising materials. Responsible for billing, purchasing, marketing, and communications.		
University of Illinois (Urbana) School of Music	Research Assistant	1988–1990
Assisted Professor Salvatore Martirano in the preparation and notation of his music using Finale music notation software. Set up and administrated the Computer Assisted Music Instruction Lab (CAMIL).		
University of Illinois (Urbana) School of Music	Teaching Assistant	1987–1989
Taught first and second semester music theory and ear training, music fundamentals for non-majors.		

COMPOSITIONS

CHAMBER

<i>The Four Attic Windows</i> , piano solo	2008
<i>Conversations</i> , violin, 'cello, and piano	1993
<i>Time and Again</i> , horn and piano	1991
<i>Book of Days</i> , piano solo	1986
<i>Sonata</i> , flute and piano	1984

ACOUSMATIC AND ELECTRO-ACOUSTIC

<i>POP:weasel</i> , flute and stereo fixed media	2010
<i>Grasp</i> , vocalizing winds, fixed media	2010–
<i>BLOW</i> , vocalizing flute, stereo fixed media	2010
<i>Stroke by Stroke</i> , vocalizing string quartet, fixed media	2010–
<i>Strike</i> , vocalizing percussion quartet, fixed media	2010–
<i>FL05</i> , stereo fixed media playback for electronics and processed flute	2010
<i>Cantos of War and Peace</i> , flute, bass clarinet, violin, cello, piano, fixed media, and two 5.1 sound distribution systems (based on a text by Charon Leubbers)	2007–
<i>HARDCORE</i> , cello and stereo fixed media playback	2007
<i>Insensitive Songs</i> , stereo fixed media playback	2006
<i>Three Haiku</i> , stereo electronic playback	2005
<i>Jeu de l'oie (The Game of Goose)</i> , stereo electronic playback	1996
text, Lewis Carroll, "Jabberwocky"; voice, Charles Steffen	
<i>Toylet Music</i> , stereo electronic playback	1995
<i>Susurrus</i> , stereo electronic playback (choreographed for solo dancer, dance company)	1991
<i>Tierkreis</i> (Karlheinz Stockhausen), realization for bass and computer-generated playback	1989
<i>Space Church</i> (Ornette Coleman), arrangement for electronic playback and string bass	1989

MIXED-MEDIA / GRAPHIC SCORES

<i>Ekphrasis I</i> (graphic score for Chicago Scratch Orchestra)	2010
<i>Four Twos for Three: Cantos 1–4</i> (graphic score for flute, clarinet, piano)	2010

<i>Three Improvisations</i> (graphic score for flute, clarinet, guitar, springboard)	2009
<i>The Waking Room</i> , eight-channel live and fixed score for flute, percussion, computer (Khecari Dance)	2008–2009
<i>Night and Fog</i> , amplified bass clarinet and cello, stereo acousmatic playback, live video projections	2008
NMPP, graphic score for any number of instruments with or without electronics	2008
<i>Point Line => Space: Sticks and Stones</i> (graphic score) percussion quartet	2008
<i>...in the pursuit of happiness</i> , orator, stereo electronic playback, slides text, Antonin Artaud, “To Have Done with the Judgment of God”	1992
<i>Enigmatic Game</i> , stereo electronic playback, soprano, six dancers, visual images Christian Morgenstern, from <i>Galgenleider</i>	1990
<i>Bull</i> , stereo electronic playback, orator, dance company, two brass quartets, conga drummers	1989

CHAMBER OPERA

<i>Thunder, Perfect Mind</i> , chamber opera for soprano, 6 female voices, 6 male percussionists	1995–
<i>Knot of Life</i> , 4 actors (one plays clarinet), stereo tape, percussion, video, slides, optional dance company; text, Antonin Artaud, “Fragments of a Journal in Hell”	1993

SOUND DESIGN, SOUND TRACKS, MUSIC FOR DANCE

<i>Pales</i> , score for fixed and moving multi-channel sound distribution system and four vocalizing instrumentalists (Khecari)	2012
<i>Whence</i> , score for 20-channels of live and fixed media, vocal quartet, performance crowd (Khecari)	2011
<i>It All Comes Back</i> , sound installation (with Chicago Robotic Theater at IIT’s Crown Hall)	2011
<i>Y</i> , evening-length, six-channel score for fixed media and 8-10 vocalists (Khecari Dance)	2010-2011
<i>Trio for Train, Ceiling Fans, and Marxophone</i> (Four channel score for choreographer Jonathan Meyer)	2010
<i>More Than Clouds in the Sky</i> (sound track for Chicago Robotic Theater storefront production)	2010
<i>Lamia</i> , sound design (Opera Cabal)	2007
<i>No Sexit</i> , sound design (The Mammals)	2004
<i>Charles</i> , documentary film on Chicago outsider artist Charles Steffen	1998
<i>from beginningless time</i> (Chelonia Dance Company, Beloit College), stereo electronic playback	1996
<i>Toilet</i> , sound design for the play by Leroi Jones (MPAACT)	1990
<i>Between 2 Mons: Natyure Callz</i> , stereo electronic playback (choreographed by Sue Collins)	1990
<i>Synchronicity</i> , stereo electronic playback, (choreographed by Donald Stikeleather)	1989
<i>Strelitzia</i> , stereo electronic playback, (solo dance choreography by Hollis M. Johnson)	1988
<i>Departure and Arrival</i> , sound track for video by Charlie Simokaitis	1989
<i>Out of the Air (Again?!)</i> , brass trio, live and sampled vocal sounds	1989

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND COMMISSIONS

Djerassi Resident Artist Program, Resident Artist	2012
Columbus School for Girls Endowment (in support of VCCA residency)	2012
Illinois Arts Council: IAS Artist Project Support grant	2012
Khecari Dance, commission for score for <i>Pales</i>	2011
Ucross Foundation, Artist Residency	2011
Mamori Sound Project, invited to participate by Francisco Lopez	2011
Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Fellow	2011, 2012
CAAP (Community Arts Assistance Program) Grant, City of Chicago	2010, 2011
Prix du Concours Destellos (preselection)	2010
Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, Artist Residency	2010
Ragdale Foundation, Artist Residency	2009, 2010
Partners of the Americas Illinois - São Paulo Travel Grant	2009
<i>The Waking Room</i> commissioned by Khecari Dance Theatre	2008
Arts Work Fund for Organizational Development Grants (Chicago Composers Forum)	2007–2008
Alphawood Foundation Grant (Chicago Composers Forum)	2005–2007
Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation Grants (Chicago Composers Forum)	2005–2007
City Arts Program Grants (Chicago Composers Forum)	2005–2007
Illinois Arts Council Grants (Chicago Composers Forum)	2005–2007
Richard H Driehaus Foundation Grant (Chicago Composers Forum, for <i>Musicircus</i>)	2007
Boeing Company Grant (Chicago Composers Forum, for <i>Musicircus</i>)	2005

Illinois Arts Council, Artist Fellowship	1999
ASCAP Award, Standard Awards Panel	1998
ASCAP Special Award, Standard Awards Panel	1997
Arts Midwest, Meet the Composer/Midwest Grant Recipient (presenter)	1996
Arts Midwest, Meet the Composer/Midwest Grant Recipient	1996
Indiana University South Bend Associate Faculty Grant (fall)	1996
Indiana University South Bend Associate Faculty Grant (spring)	1996
<i>Jeu de l'oe</i> commissioned by Professor Scott Wyatt in commemoration of the University of Illinois School of Music Centennial Celebration	1995
Indiana Arts Commission 1995-96 Arts Projects and Series Grant Recipient	1995
Arts Midwest, Meet the Composer/Midwest Grant Recipient	1995
Indiana Arts Commission 1994-95 Arts Projects and Series Grant Recipient	1994
Graduate College Travel Grant, School of Music, University of Illinois	1994
American Composers Forum/Jerome Foundation commission for <i>Thunder, Perfect Mind</i>	1994
Michiana Arts and Sciences Council Emerging Artist Fellowship	1993
Commissioned by Frankie Kelly to compose woodwind quintet	1993
Commissioned by clarinetist Kal Opperman to compose work for clarinet ensemble	1992
<i>Time and Again</i> commissioned by Stewart Troyer and Ruthmere Foundation, Elkhart, IN	1991
<i>Susurrus</i> commissioned by Donald Stikeleather	1990
Sound track for <i>Toilet</i> commissioned by William Carroll	1990
Graduate College Travel Grant, School of Music, University of Illinois	1989
Arrangements of <i>Tierkreis</i> and <i>Space Church</i> commissioned by Michael Cameron	1989
<i>Between 2 Mons: When Nature Calls</i> commissioned by Sue Collins and Illinois Wesleyan University	1989

MAJOR PERFORMANCES AND RECOGNITION

<i>Whence</i> , collaboration with Jonathan Meyer and Khecar Dance (Lacuna Artist Lofts)	2011
<i>It All Comes Back</i> , collaboration with Chicago Robotic Theater (Crown Hall, IIT)	2011
<i>Trio for Train, Ceiling Fans, and Marxophone</i> , The Other Dance Festival with Jonathan Meyer	2010
<i>More Than Clouds in the Sky</i> , collaboration with Chicago Robotic Theater (Wicker Park, Chicago)	2011
<i>FL.05, 60x60</i> at ICMC	2010
<i>The Waking Room</i> , collaboration with Jonathan Meyer and Khecar Dance (Co-Prosperity Sphere)	2009
<i>Point Line => Space</i> , Third Coast Percussion, Packer Schopf Gallery, Chicago	2009
<i>The Four Attic Windows</i> , with percussion ensemble, São Paulo, Brazil	2009
NMPP, International Contemporary Ensemble, live painting by the Zhou Brothers, Columbia College Chicago	2008
Auris Trio at Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois	2008
<i>HARD CORE</i> , William Jason Raynovich, Electronic Music Midwest, Lewis University	
<i>HARD CORE</i> , William Jason Raynovich, New Music in the Gallery, Three Walls Gallery, Chicago	2008
<i>Conversations</i> , MAVERick Ensemble, Music and the Search for Meaning, St Xavier University (Chicago)	2006
<i>Conversations</i> , MAVERick Ensemble, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago	2006
<i>Jeu de l'oe</i> performed at Electronic Music Midwest, Lewis University	2006
<i>No Sexit</i> , sound design for the play produced by The Mammels, Chicago	2004
<i>Conversations</i> performed in New York City	1998
<i>Jeu de l'oe</i> at DISCOVERIES XXXI, Aberdeen, Scotland	1998
<i>Jeu de l'oe</i> performance at the Seventh Annual Florida Electroacoustic Music Festival	1998
<i>Jeu de l'oe</i> performance at the 1998 Society of Composers National Conference	1998
<i>Jeu de l'oe</i> performance at the 1998 SEAMUS National Conference	1998
<i>Jeu de l'oe</i> performance at the BONK Festival of New Music	1998
<i>Jeu de l'oe</i> presented I-Space Gallery in Chicago (Electro-Acoustic Music Week)	1997
Lecture/presentation of <i>Jeu de l'oe</i> in Urbana, Illinois for the (Electro-Acoustic Music Week)	1997
<i>Between 2 Mons: Nature Calls and Synchronicity</i> , Atlantic Center for the Arts 20th Anniversary	1997
Associate Artist, Atlantic Center for the Arts	1996
Artist in Residence, New Light Studios, Beloit Wisconsin	1996
<i>Toilet Music</i> selected for performance at the 1996 SEAMUS National Conference	1996
Guest Composer in Crossroads of Traditions Conference, Latin American Music Center at IU	1996
Fragments: Is Performance Group at Indiana Repertory Theatre, Indianapolis, Indiana	1996

Composer in Residence/Premiere of <i>from beginningless time</i> at Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin	1996
Performance with Is Performance Group at the Indianapolis Art Center	1996
<i>Synchronicity</i> selected for performance at the 1995 SEAMUS National Conference	1995
<i>Conversations</i> and <i>Synchronicity</i> finalists for the 1995 SCI National Conference	1995
<i>Susurrus</i> selected for performance at SCI Region V Conference	1994
Guest Composer in Words and Music Conference, Latin American Music Center at Indiana University	1994
Premiere of <i>Knot of Life</i> at St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana	1993
Premiere of <i>...in the pursuit of happiness</i> at Indiana University at South Bend	1992
<i>Enigmatic Game</i> performance at the 1991 SEAMUS National Conference	1991
<i>Strelitzia</i> and <i>Synchronicity</i> performed at the Festival of New Music, Ball State University, Muncie, IN	1990
<i>Out of the Air (Again?!)</i> performance at the 1989 Midwest Composer's Symposium, University of Michigan	1989
<i>Out of the Air (Again?!)</i> performance at the International Electronic Music Plus Festival, Oberlin College	1989
Electronic music compositions sent to Japan for study, University of Chicago/Yamaha Corporation	1989
<i>Out of the Air (Again?!)</i> performance on the "Hear and Now" Concert Series, Urbana, IL	1989
<i>Strelitzia</i> performed by Hollis Johnson in Lima, Peru	1988

IMPROVISATION

CHICAGO SCRATCH ORCHESTRA: flutes / voices, founding member	2010–
LULA: flute, with Guillermo Gregorio, clarinet; Frank Abbinanti, piano; Brian Labycz, electronics; Anton Hatwich, bass	2010–2011
AURIS: flutes / voices, with Julia Miller, guitars / electronics; Eric Leonardson, springboard	2007–

IMPROVISATION PERFORMANCES (partial list)

The OTHER Dance Festival, with Jonathan Meyer, dancer	2011
Green Mill, Auris/LULA with Gino Robair	October 24, 2010
Enemy, Auris with Gino Robair	October 22, 2010
Heaven Gallery, Protest Heaven Series, LULA	September 25, 2010
Myopic Books, performance with Brian Labycz and Andrew Royal	September 20, 2010
Loft Concert, with LULA (Guillermo Gregorio, Frank Abbinanti, Brian Labycz)	September 19, 2010
The OTHER Dance Festival, Jonathan Meyer	September 16-17, 2010
Opera by Elbio Barilari	July 22, 2010
Loft Concert, with Guillermo Gregorio, Frank Abbinanti (LULA)	May 21, 2010
Loft Concert with Guillermo Gregorio, Frank Abbinanti (LULA)	May 7, 2010
Enemy, performance with Auris + WUMIN	March 6, 2010
Three Walls Gallery, Chicago Phonographers, live film score	February 26, 2010
Loud Library, performance with Chicago Phonographers	February 25, 2010
Hotti Biscotti, performance with Greg O'Drobinak and Eric Leonardson	January 30, 2010
Elastic, performance with Auris	January 19, 2010
Enemy, Drone Event	January 1, 2010
Experimental Piano Series @ PianoForte Chicago, with Steve Cohn, Guillermo Gregorio, and Dan Godston	
Myopic Books, performance with Guillermo Gregorio and Brian Labycz	December 14, 2009
Jennifer Norback Fine Art, The Deserted Room is Overinhabited yet Silent w/Guillermo Gregorio and Josh Manchester	
November 21, 2009	
Green Mill, Auris	June 14, 2009
Green Mill, Auris	January 18, 2009
Elastic, Auris	November 14, 2008
Enemy, Auris	October 12, 2008
Music Institute of Chicago, Auris	June 22, 2008
Brown Rice, Auris	April 11, 2008
Krannert Art Museum, Auris	January 31, 2008

RECORDINGS

LULA, Christopher Preissing, flutes; Guillermo Gregorio, clarinet; Frank Abbinanti, piano; Brian Labycz, electronics; Anton Hatwich, bass	forthcoming
---	-------------

<i>Auris</i> , Christopher Preissing, flutes; Julia Miller, guitars; Eric Leonardson, springboard	2009
<i>Jeu de l'oe</i> on the CD, "waveFORMation" EMS 9700 Experimental Music Studios of the University of Illinois	1997
Excerpts from <i>Enigmatic Game</i> on the CD, "New Graduate Works from the University of Illinois Experimental Music Studios"	1991
<i>Bull</i> on the album "New Electronic Works from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign"	1989

INTERVIEWS/REVIEWS/PREVIEW

Zachary Whittenburg, TimeOut Chicago, preview, <i>Whence</i>	2011
Olivia Jones-Hernandez, fnewsmagazine.com, review, <i>Whence</i>	2011
Sid Smith, Chicago Tribune, review, <i>Whence</i>	2011
Sid Smith, See Chicago Dance, preview, <i>Whence</i>	2011
Lucia Mauro, Eight Forty-Eight, WBEZ, <i>A Preview of the OTHER Dance Festival</i>	2010
Gabriel Spitzer, <i>Clever Apes: A mechanical fable of truth-to-power</i> (Chicago Robotic Theater)	2010
Sid Smith, Chicago Tribune, review, <i>The Waking Room</i>	2009
Laura Molzahn, See Chicago Dance, review, <i>The Waking Room</i>	2009
Zachary Wittenburg, Trilerpilot, review, <i>The Waking Room</i>	2009
Journal SEAMUS, 1996 SEAMUS National Conference (April 18-20, 1996, Birmingham, Alabama)	1996
The Muncie Star and Ball State Daily News on <i>Fragments: A Cyber Opera</i> (June 13-15, 1996, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Indianapolis)	1996
New Art Examiner, <i>Perspectives: South Bend</i> , Is Performance Group at the Indianapolis Art Center	1996
Beloit Daily News, <i>Chelonia Offers Chance to Meet the Composer</i>	1996
South Bend Tribune, <i>Indy Art Center Focuses on South Bend</i>	1996
WVPE radio, on Is Performance Group	1994
South Bend Tribune, <i>Techno Sounds Inspire</i> (review)	1994
South Bend Tribune, <i>Performers to Debut Collaborative Theatrics</i> (IsPG preview)	1993

LECTURES AND OTHER PRESENTATIONS

University of York/Orpheus Institute	"Research into the Co-Creative Process"	2010
BONK Festival of New Music, Florida	"Why Compose Music?"	1998
Electro-Acoustic Music Week, U of I	"On <i>Jeu de l'oe</i> "	1997
Atlantic Center for the Arts, Florida	Presentation on my music	1996
Indiana Repertory Theatre	"On Composition for Multiple Art Forms"	1996
Crossroads of Traditions Conference	"Intensity: Stable Versus Floating Hierarchies"	1996
Beloit College (Meet the Composer)	"On Electronic Music & Composition for Multiple Art Forms"	1996
	"The Collaborative Relationship Between Working Artists"	1996
St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind.	"On My Electronic Music"	1995
Words and Music Conference (IU)	Panel Discussion: "New Music Theatre"	1994

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Composers Forum	American Music Center
Chicago Composers Forum	Society of Composers, Inc. (SCI)
Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States (SEAMUS)	