

Samuel H. Stokes
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Education

Louisiana State University, Ph.D., Music Composition, 2013. Dissertation: "Symphony No. 1, 'Eustace the Monk'" and monograph, "Compositional Techniques Used to Elicit Musical Humor."
Advisor: Dr. Dinos Constantinides.

The Florida State University, M.M., Music Theory, 2006. Advisors: Dr. Nancy Rogers, Dr. Evan Jones
University Fellowship Recipient.

University of Central Missouri, M.A., Music Theory and Composition, 2005. Thesis:
"Dracula: A Musical Analysis." Advisor: Dr. David Aaberg

University of Central Missouri, B.M., Jazz-Commercial Music, 2002. *Summa cum laude*.

Teaching Experience

Northwestern State University – Natchitoches, LA 2014-present
Music Composition I & II (MUS 4070, 4080), Instrumental Arranging (MUS 4050),
Choral Arranging (MUS 4040)

Currently teaching these upper-level undergraduate courses designed to train students in orchestration, counterpoint, arranging, and compositional procedures.

Northwestern State University Lab Schools – Natchitoches, LA 2013-present
Music instructor for the Talented Music program for students from 2nd-12th grade. Designed performance technique and theory exercises and arranged more than a hundred pieces for use in performance and recording projects. Composed, arranged, wrote, and directed plays as the NSU Middle Lab drama club sponsor.

Louisiana State University – Baton Rouge, LA 2012-2013
Rudiments of Music (MUS 1799), Instructor of Record.
Taught two sections of a course of music theory fundamentals designed for non-music majors. Created the syllabus, lessons, assignments, and exams for a total of 78 students in two sections.

Louisiana State University – Baton Rouge, LA 2010-2012
Music Theory I, II, III, IV (MUS 2731/33, 2732/34, 3731/33, 3732/34), Graduate Teaching Assistant.
Taught two aural skills labs. Tutored students privately and evaluate keyboard skills and sight singing recitations. Created portfolio of rhythm reading and sight singing exercises to focus on the development of specific aural and vocal execution skills.
Supervisor: Dr. Robert Peck.

Meyer Music – Blue Springs, MO 2007-2008
Private percussion instructor – developed sight reading and technique exercises.

Pyramid Studios, Inc. – Tallahassee, FL 2006-2007
 Taught the following courses at a day program for adults with developmental disabilities:
 Rhythmic Study and Performance
 Folk Music History and Performance
 Music of the World's Cultures
 Jazz and Musical Theatre Listening and Performance Skills
 Classical Music Listening and Performance Skills

Thomasville Road Academy of the Arts – Tallahassee, FL 2006-2007
 Private piano instructor
 Private percussion instructor – developed sight reading and technique exercises.

Warrensburg High School – Warrensburg, MO 2003-2005
 Taught music theory and composition component of vocal music classes.

Central Band and Piano, LLC – Warrensburg, MO 2002-2005
 Private piano instructor – developed jazz piano technique exercises.
 Private percussion instructor – developed sight reading and technique exercises.
 Private music theory and composition instructor

Instrumental Influence, Inc. – Sedalia, MO 1998-2002
 Private piano instructor
 Private percussion instructor

Other Positions Held

Composer, J.W. Pepper (564 compositions/arrangements) 2019-present
 Composer, SheetMusicPlus.com (1781 compositions/arrangements) 2015-present
 Audio Curator and Contributing Artist, hitRECORD.org LLC 2015-present
 Editorial Assistant, *KC Stage* magazine, Kansas City, MO. 2012-2013
 Contributing Writer, *DIG* magazine, Baton Rouge, LA. 2010-2011
 Program Coordinator, Rainbow Center for Communicative Disorders,
 Blue Springs, MO. 2008-2010
 Vocal Accompanist, Warrensburg High School, Warrensburg, MO. 2003-2005
 Music Director, Central Missouri Repertory Company, Warrensburg, MO. 2001-2005

Presentations

Northwestern State University Research Day – March 5, 2015
 “Less is More: Audio-Visual Art in Under Six Seconds” with Prof. Matt DeFord

Northwestern State University Research Day – March 13, 2014
 “A Verbal Semantic Approach to Musical Humor”

Northeast Music Cognition Group (Boston University) – November 17, 2012
 "Seeing Music: Using Technology to Assist Visual Learners in Aural Training"

Graduate Student Workshop in Harmony and Voice-Leading in Rock Music (New Orleans, LA) –
 November 2, 2012
 "'No Sugar Tonight/New Mother Nature' – The Artful Blending of Two Songs"

LSU Composers Forum – October 1, 2012

"Comedy in Music: Compositional Elements of Musical Humor"

6th Biennial New Orleans Musicology/Theory Colloquium (Loyola University) – May 14, 2012
 "Cultural/Geographic Signification: Semiotic Analysis of Borrowed Musical Clichés"

LSU Composers Forum – March 5, 2012

"A Year of Song: An Experiment in Online Musical Sharing and Collaboration"

LSU Composers Forum – March 14, 2011

"Strategies for Melodic Construction in Musical Theatre"

Publications

"Tips for Tin Ears." *KC Stage*, Vol. 13, No. 7 (2011): 2, 11.

"Learning to Enjoy Classical Music." *KC Stage*, Vol. 13, No. 6 (2011): 5, 14-15.

"The Future of Performing Arts Education." *KC Stage*, Vol. 13, No. 5 (2011): 3, 14.

"The Dream Role." *KC Stage*, Vol. 12, No. 9 (2010): 12.

"Promote Your Art Effectively With Your Website." *KC Stage*, Vol. 12, No. 7 (2010): 3, 16.

"Book-in-Hand: *101 Songwriting Wrongs and How to Right Them*." *KC Stage*,
 Vol. 12, No. 2 (2009): 4, 16.

"Steve and Kathy Reinventing Faith Based TV." *KC Stage*, Vol. 12, No. 1 (2009): 3, 5.

"Coffee Shop Performing." *KC Stage*, Vol. 11, No. 9 (2009): 3, 9.

"What to Learn Before You Burn." *KC Stage*, Vol. 11, No. 8 (2009): 2, 15.

"Preparing for a Musical Audition." *KC Stage*, Vol. 11, No. 7 (2009): 3, 15.

"Learning to Stand Up." *KC Stage*, Vol. 11, No. 5 (2009): 3, 16.

"CounterClockwise Roasts Cinema." *KC Stage*, Vol. 11, No. 3 (2009): 2, 14-15.

Selected List of Performances of Music Compositions

EBENEZER: A Musical in One Act premiered by the Music Studio of Warrensburg on December 1, 2018 in Warrensburg, MO.

Mythos for bass/cello duo premiered as part of the Nachtmusik series by Paul Christopher and Josue Ramirez on October 4, 2016 in Alexandria, LA.

Rondeau for solo piano commissioned by the Louisiana Music Teachers Association, performed by the composer at the annual LMTA meeting in Lafayette, LA on October 2, 2015.

"Zydeco World" - composed and recorded this piece, which was selected as part of the 60x60 Louisiana Mix with a dance choreographed and performed by the dance department of the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts on April 10-11, 2015 in Natchitoches, LA.

"Caer Cadarn" for 8-part French Horn Choir performed by the Northwestern State University Horn Choir at the Southeast Horn Workshop on March 7, 2015 in Baton Rouge, LA.

"Neanderthals of the Future," a virtuosic piece for solo flute, premiered by Robert Dick in New York City on January 25, 2015.

"Carriage Ride in Central Park" for solo oboe premiered by Robert Botti in New York City on August 6, 2014.

"Dance of the Revolving Gears" for solo piano premiered by Juan Maria Solare at the University of Bremen in Bremen, Germany on June 24, 2014.

"Zydeco Zebra" for clarinet, horn, and bassoon, premiered by the West Winds in Tulsa, OK on May 29, 2014.

"The Gospel According to Mammon" for spoken voice premiered by Viola Yip in New York City on May 11, 2014.

"Scion of Eisenach" for solo cello premiered by Maksim Velichkin in Los Angeles, CA on May 4, 2014.

- "Gauntlet Down" for fixed media and "The Relentless Stowaway" for violin, cello, and drumset will be presented at the spring dance concert *Still/Moving* with choreography by Professor Ashley Miller on April 24-26, 2014.
- "Edo" performed on the Fifteen-Minutes-of-Fame: Japan Perspective concert with Thomas Piercy, clarinet & Vilian Ivantchev, guitar, in New York City on April 13, 2014.
- Beau the Blue Mouse*, an original children's musical premiered by the Northwestern State University Middle Lab School on April 24, 2014.
- "Whales Weep Not" premiered in New York City by Shannon Roberts, soprano & Yumi Suehiro, piano, on March 30, with a follow-up performance on April 6, 2014.
- Theme music for documentary series *Capitolized* will premiere on the campus network at the University of Central Missouri in Spring 2014.
- "Crystal Caverns" and "Golgothan Fanfare" – two six-second works performed by the Vine Orchestra of the University of Texas at Austin on December 1, 2013, under the direction of Michael Mikulka. These short pieces were composed for the Vine video sharing app, which features looping videos with a six second maximum length.
- "Mein Merveilleux Salvador" – piano trio premiered by the Hong Kong New Music Ensemble on November 28, 2013 in Aberdeen, Hong Kong. Sophia Yan, piano; William Lane, viola; and Izumi Nikaido, flute.
- "Blue Pinnacles" – composed the piece and designed the light sensor instrument using an Arduino Uno and Max 6.0. Premiered at the LSU Experimental Music and Digital Media concert on May 2, 2013.
- "Sigh No More Ladies" – a fixed media setting of a text by William Shakespeare. Featured on the LSU High Voltage Concert for experimental music and digital media on April 29, 2013.
- "The Cliffs of Moher" – a piece for French horn and piano premiered at the LSU Composition Recital on April 15, 2013.
- "Real Hot Night" – a jazz combo piece in a blues style that was premiered on the LSU Composition Recital on April 15, 2013.
- Symphony No. 1, "Eustace the Monk" – Two movements of Symphony No. 1 were premiered by the LSU Symphony Orchestra on March 27, 2013. Symphony No. 1 is based on the medieval legendary tales surrounding the historical figure Eustace Buset.
- "The Tide Rises, The Tide Falls" – setting of the Henry Wadsworth Longfellow poem for baritone voice and piano. This piece was premiered on the LSU Composition Recital on March 4, 2013.
- "Opaque" – a jazz combo piece in samba style that was premiered at the LSU Composition Recital on March 4, 2013.
- "Musings" – a solo piano piece that was premiered at the LSU Composition Recital on March 4, 2013.
- "Pallindrome" – Composed this electronic composition and designed musical instruments using Max 6.0 in collaboration with two other composers. Performed at LSU on February 21, 2013.
- "I Have a Bad Feeling About This" – Fixed media piece that employs audio and visual clips from the *Star Wars* films and arrangements of several songs from Disney films. Featured on the LSU High Voltage Concert for experimental music and digital media on November 30, 2012.
- "Psalm 16" – SATB choral setting of Psalm 16 with piano and violin accompaniment. Premiered by the Trinity Lutheran Choir in Baton Rouge on June 3, 2012 under the direction of Kathi Calamari.
- "Bathsheba's Song" – fixed media setting of the George Peele poem. Featured on the LSU High Voltage Concert for experimental music and digital media on April 30, 2012.
- Macbeth* – composed more than twenty original music cues for the State Fair Community College theatre production in Sedalia, MO, April 14-18, 2010.
- "Lithology" and "Bombshell" – two jazz/rock combo compositions performed by Bryan Savage and band on the regional Emmy award winning television program, *The Steve and Kathy Show*, on episodes 3-21 "TV Relationships" (original airdate: August 23, 2009) and 3-22 "World of Religion" (original airdate: August 30, 2009).

- A Tale of Two Heroes* - Playwright, composer, and lyricist for this musical that was pronounced Winner of National Playwriting for Young Audiences Competition at University of Central Missouri; Performed by UCM Theatre Department on November 2, 2006 as part of the 2006-2007 Performing Arts Series.
- Prelude No. 2 for Piano - Performed as part of the 2006 Society of Composers, Inc. concert at Florida State University.
- The Humpty Dumpty Mystery* – Playwright, composer, and lyricist for this musical for young audiences performed in spring 2005 at the Center Stage Academy of the Arts in Warrensburg, MO and in November 2005 at State Fair Community College in Sedalia, MO.
- In the Yose: Tales of Japan* – A musical for young audiences. Composed incidental music (overture, underscoring, and transitions). Commissioned for a November 5, 2004 performance by the theatre department of the University of Central Missouri.
- The Grapes of Wrath* – Vocal and instrumental arrangement and composition for the University of Central Missouri Theatre Department production in October 2003. Received American College Theatre Festival Award of Commendation for music arrangement and direction.
- Dracula* – an original musical in collaboration with playwright Richard Herman, chair of University of Central Missouri Theatre Department. *Dracula* was premiered by the Central Missouri Repertory Company in July 2003, and it became the subject for the thesis "Dracula: a Musical Analysis," under the advisement of Dr. David Aaberg.
- Bird Millman* – an original musical in collaboration with playwright August Mergelman that was premiered by the Fremont Civic Theatre in Cañon City, Colorado in spring 2002.
- "Telepathy" – A full jazz ensemble piece premiered on April 13, 2003 by the University Jazz Ensemble at the University of Central Missouri under the direction of Dr. David Aaberg.
- Hansel and Gretel* – a ballet in collaboration with choreographer Cheryl Morris based on the traditional story. Premiered as a black box production in the University of Central Missouri Theatre Department in spring 2003 and produced by the Center Stage Academy of the Performing Arts in fall 2003.
- Tangent – Composed seven original pieces in a jazz/rock style for the combo Tangent in 2001-2002, which consisted of the rhythm section and horn section leaders from the University Jazz Ensemble, the top auditioned jazz ensemble at the University of Central Missouri.
- "Clockwork" – a piece for xylophone soloist and concert band, composed for appearance as guest soloist with the Warrensburg Community Band in summer 2002 in Warrensburg, Missouri.
- "A Starry Night Sonata" – This piano solo piece depicts Van Gogh's painting, *A Starry Night*. It was presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium at the University of Central Missouri on September 11, 2001.
- "Solus" – Marching band piece featuring percussion. Premiered by the University of Central Missouri Marching Band as part of the field show on November 11, 2000.
- "ASG Live" – This piece was written as a "stomp" percussion piece for a performance by the after-school group at the Sterling Elementary School in Warrensburg, Missouri in the fall of 2000. Its purpose was to teach a variety of rhythms and dynamics as well as to be entertaining for the student performers and audience members.
- The Egyptian* – This seven-movement piece for percussion ensemble is based on the novel *The Egyptian* by Mika Waltari. This work was premiered by the University of Central Missouri percussion ensemble on March 4, 2000.
- Revenge of the Space Pandas* – Composed music for the University of Central Missouri Theatre Department production of this play for young audiences in fall 1999. Received American College Theatre Festival award of commendation for music composition.
- "Majestic Rhapsody" – a piece for percussion ensemble that was a Finalist in the Claude T. Smith Composition Contest and was premiered by the Missouri State University percussion ensemble in spring 1998.

Selected List of Audio/Video Works

- Beyond Good and Evil 2* – included in seven songs as a percussionist and back-up vocalist on the soundtrack to the Ubisoft video game, which is anticipated for a FY21 release.
- Watch Dogs: Legion* – recorded back-up vocals for three songs for the soundtrack of the Ubisoft video game, which is anticipated for release in FY21.
- HitRECORD Shorts Showcase* – contributed writing, music composition, and sound design used in a short film showcase hosted by Joseph Gordon-Levitt at the New Orleans Film Festival on October 20, 2018.
- Wag!* – the mobile app “Wag!,” which matches pet owners with care-takers, released four ads on various social media platforms with music composed by Stokes in December 2017.
- “Everyday, Spectacular” – arranged xylophone part and made audio and visual recordings used in the LG V20 television ad campaign. Audio elements were included in both the :30 and :60 versions, and video elements were also included in the :60 version. The commercials were produced by hitRECORD.org LLC, under the direction of Joseph Gordon-Levitt. The first version of the advertisement appeared on US television on October 29, 2016.
- “Modern Major Park Ranger” – made audio and visual recordings of both xylophone and vocal performances used in this music video, created by hitRECORD.org LLC in partnership with the US National Park Service. The video premiered online on October 13, 2016.
- “Ode to Spot” – composed the setting of the text of a poem recited by the character of Data on an episode of *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Sequenced the instrumental track using a Roland XV-5080 sound module and performed the vocal part. This song was featured on the *Dr. Demento Show* on September 15, 2012. It was also played on the September 29, 2012 show as number 10 in the Top Ten.
- “Hoopy Frood” – composed the music and text for this song based on *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams. Performed and recorded all keyboard, percussion, and vocal parts. This song was featured on the *Dr. Demento Show* on April 28, 2012. It was also played on the May 26, 2012 show as number 8 in the Top Ten.
- “Jolly Old St. Nicholas – Change Your Ways!” – Wrote the text, arranged the music, performed vocals, guitar, and percussion, and engineered the recording of this parody of the traditional Christmas carol. This song was aired on the *Dr. Demento Show* on November 25, 2007.

Selected List of Performances of Music Arrangements

- Special K* – commissioned to write over 80 vocal and pit orchestra arrangements of songs in various styles for the Kellogg School of Business annual recruitment production known as *Special K* - 2003-2019.
- The Harmony Singers – commissioned to arrange six popular songs for this pops choir in Hoogeveen, Holland during the 2005-2009 seasons.
- “The Greatest Sacrifice” – a piece for solo marimba, commissioned by the Phoenix First Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona in 2007.
- Xylopraise* – a set of ten hymn arrangements for solo xylophone with piano accompaniment. Composed for use in services at the Thomasville Road Baptist Church in Tallahassee, Florida in 2006-2007.
- Soundwave and Prism – arranged fourteen songs performed by the mixed show choir *Soundwave* and the girls show choir *Prism* at Warrensburg High School in Warrensburg, Missouri, that were used in the 2003-2004 competition season. The performance of the arrangement of “Boogie Nights” received the Award for Best Show Opener at the Urbandale Regional Show Choir Competition.
- Tangent – Arranged twenty-six pieces for the jazz/rock combo *Tangent* in 2001-2002, which consisted of the rhythm section and horn section leaders from the University Jazz Ensemble, the top auditioned jazz ensemble at the University of Central Missouri.

What a Horrible Night to Have a Curse – arranged four pieces and co-designed a gym show with a Dracula theme for the University of Central Missouri drumline for the Winter Guard International competition - 2001.

UCM University Jazz Ensemble – arranged nine pieces for the University Jazz Ensemble at the University of Central Missouri. These arrangements were performed at various concerts during the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 academic years.

UCM Marching Band – commissioned to arrange drumline and pit percussion parts for twelve pieces for the Marching Band at University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg for the 2000-2003 and 2012 seasons.

Conducting/Directing Experience

Title of Work	Performing Group	Year
<i>EBENEZER: A Musical in One Act</i>	NSU Middle Lab School Theatre – Natchitoches, LA	Fall 2018
<i>A Tale of Two Heroes</i>	NSU Middle Lab School Theatre – Natchitoches, LA	Spring 2015
<i>Beau the Blue Mouse</i>	NSU Middle Lab School Theatre – Natchitoches, LA	Spring 2014
"Dona Nobis Pacem"	NSU Middle Lab Choir/Orchestra – Natchitoches, LA	Fall 2013
"Real Hot Night"	Real Hot Jazz Combo - Baton Rouge, LA	Spring 2013
"Opaque"	Real Hot Jazz Combo - Baton Rouge, LA	Spring 2013
<i>You Can't Take it With You</i>	The Barn Players - Parkville, MO	Summer 2010
<i>Dodge City Disco</i>	Pyramid Studios - Tallahassee, FL	Summer 2007
<i>Amadeus</i>	Florida State University Theatre - Tallahassee, FL	Spring 2006
<i>Marat/Sade</i>	Florida State University Theatre – Tallahassee, FL	Fall 2005
<i>The Wizard of Oz</i>	Central Missouri Repertory Co. - Warrensburg, MO	Summer 2005
<i>42nd Street</i>	Warrensburg High School – Warrensburg, MO	Fall 2004
<i>Nunsense</i>	Central Missouri Repertory Co. - Warrensburg, MO	Summer 2004
<i>Free to Be, You and Me</i>	Central Missouri Repertory Co. - Warrensburg, MO	Summer 2004
<i>The Philadelphia Story</i>	University of Central Missouri Theatre - Warrensburg, MO	Fall 2003
<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>	University of Central Missouri Theatre - Warrensburg, MO	Fall 2003
<i>Dracula</i>	Central Missouri Repertory Co. - Warrensburg, MO	Summer 2003
<i>Tales with Tails</i>	University of Central Missouri Theatre - Warrensburg, MO	Fall 2002
<i>Footloose</i>	Warrensburg High School – Warrensburg, MO	Fall 2002
<i>Carousel</i>	Central Missouri Repertory Co. - Warrensburg, MO	Summer 2002
<i>Tom Sawyer's Morning</i>	Central Missouri Repertory Co. - Warrensburg, MO	Summer 2002
<i>The Trojan Women</i>	University of Central Missouri Theatre - Warrensburg, MO	Fall 2001
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	University of Central Missouri Theatre - Warrensburg, MO	Fall 2001
<i>Monsters and Me</i>	University of Central Missouri Theatre - Warrensburg, MO	Fall 2001
<i>Annie</i>	Central Missouri Repertory Co. - Warrensburg, MO	Summer 2001
<i>The Dancing Donkey</i>	Central Missouri Repertory Co. - Warrensburg, MO	Summer 2001
Multiple pieces	Tangent, jazz/rock combo – Warrensburg, MO	Spring 2001-Fall 2002
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	University of Central Missouri Theatre- Warrensburg, MO	Spring 2001
<i>What a Horrible Night to have a Curse</i>	UCM Winter Drumline - Warrensburg, MO	Spring 2001
<i>Jo Nell Johnson and Ruthie Mapes</i>	University of Central Missouri Theatre - Warrensburg, MO	Fall 2000
After school music program	Sterling Elementary School - Warrensburg, MO	Fall 2000
<i>The Egyptian Suite</i>	UCM Percussion Ensemble - Warrensburg, MO	Spring 2000
<i>Oedipus the King</i>	University of Central Missouri Theatre - Warrensburg, MO	Spring 2000
"Calm Before the Storm"	UCM Percussion Ensemble - Warrensburg, MO	Spring 1999
Multiple pieces	UCM Marching Band Front Ensemble - Warrensburg, MO	Fall 1999, Fall 2000
<i>Revenge of the Space Pandas</i>	University of Central Missouri Theatre - Warrensburg, MO	Fall 1999
"The Lamb"	Smith-Cotton HS New Score Singers - Sedalia, MO	Spring 1998
Multiple pieces	Smith-Cotton HS Percussion Ensemble - Sedalia, MO	Fall 1997-Spring 1998

Professional References

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