

Artistic CV: William Appleton

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

William Appleton is a Mellon Foundation Grant recipient and winner of numerous academic prizes. Major performed compositions include an hour-long chamber work for quartet (*4,3,2,1 and Back*), a work for large orchestra (*Expanding Grounds*), and a commission for *Celliola* from Thomas Flaherty and Cynthia Fogg (*One through Twelve*). He was selected as a participant for the Atlantic Music Festival in 2017 and the Walden School Creative Musicians Retreat in 2016. He is interested in the junction of cultural theory, politics, and music. His compositions frequently explore the idea of ‘objective,’ or impersonal music, as pioneered by Cage, Boulez, and Reich. As a pianist he is an avid player of 20th century and contemporary works. He has performed a solo recital of the full cycle of *Time Curve Preludes* (1978) by William Duckworth and premiered numerous new compositions, both his own and those of fellow composers.

EDUCATION

Pomona College, Claremont, CA

B.A. Music Major – Composition Concentration, Sociology Minor, Cum Laude, May, 2014

Major GPA: 3.99, Overall GPA: 3.85

Awards:

- Distinction in the Senior Exercise, May 2014
- “Pomona College Scholar,” Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2014
- Gordon A. Hogan Memorial Prize, May 2014 – “in recognition of your achievements as a composer, pianist, member of the gamelan, and student of music at Pomona College”
- William G. Blanchard Memorial Prize, May 2014 – For “outstanding student musician”
- Summer Experience in the Arts Grant, May-August 2013 – Stipend from the Mellon Foundation to research 20th Century Music Theory and compose a work for orchestra
- William G. Blanchard Memorial Prize, May 2013 – For “outstanding student musician”
- William F. Russell Prize, May 2012 – For “significant promise in the study of music”

Musical Education and Experience

- 13 years of piano lessons, including study with Chongyo Shin (Piano Instructor at Amherst College), Genevieve Lee (Professor of Piano at Pomona College), and Ming Tsu (Professor of Piano at California Institute of the Arts)
 - Recent repertoire includes Bach’s Prelude and Fugue in C# Major, Beethoven’s Sonata No. 30 in E Major, Op. 109, Schumann’s *Fantasiestücke*, Bartók’s *Out of Doors*, Copland’s *Piano Variations*, Dallapiccola’s *Quaderno Musicale di Annalibera*, and Adam’s *Phrygian Gates*

- Presented a Junior Piano Recital on March 8th, 2013 performing the hour-long *The Time Curve Preludes* (1977-78) by William Duckworth
- 4 years of Composition lessons, including study with Walter Frank, Howard Frazin, and Thomas Flaherty (Professor of Composition at Pomona College)
 - Presented a Junior Composition Recital on April 12th, 2013 of a six-movement piano trio, entitled *Combinations* (2012)
 - Presented a Senior Composition Recital on April 4th, 2014 of the piece *4,3,2,1 and Back* (2014), which consisted of eight movements played without pause, totaling exactly an hour of music. It was scored for oboe, violin, cello, and piano. The work was presented in fulfillment of the senior exercise for the completion of the Music Major, and earned the honor of “distinction in the senior exercise”
- Pomona College Music Department Liaison 2012-2014
- Participated in the Walden Summer School’s Creative Musicians Retreat as a composer, Summer 2016 – Composer in Residence: Michael Dougherty
- Participated in the Atlantic Music Festival as a composer, Summer 2017 – Composition faculty included Ken Ueno, Hannah Lash, George Tsontakis and David Ludwig
- MAPS Composer Collective member (Cambridge, MA) 2015-2016
- 3 years of Balinese Gamelan: *Giri Kusuma* (Pomona College), *Burat Wangi* (Cal Arts), and Evan Ziporyn’s group *Galak Tika* (MIT)
- 6 Years of violoncello lessons
- Involvement in numerous chamber groups, choirs, bands, and orchestras over 15 years

Compositional Output

- *Collage for Machines* for Pierrot Ensemble (2017), 9 minutes – Premiere July 8th, 2017: Jairan Hasan – flute, Luke Ellard – clarinet, Tyler Cunningham – percussion, Huizi Zhang – piano, Ludek Wojtkowski – violin, Diana Chiknaikin – cello
- *Sonata for Cello and Drones* for Cello, Piano, and Organ (2017), 12 minutes
- *Ten Microludes* for piano, 2 minutes (2017)
- *Fale Kosmiczne* for piano eight hands (2016), 3 minutes – Premiere June 27th, 2016: Tyler Kemp, Meade Bernard, Dale Osterman, William Appleton – piano
- *And to Be That I Have* for SATB Choir (2016), 3 minutes
- *Dogma* for Piano (2015, rev. 2017), 12 minutes – Premiere August 11th, 2015: William Appleton – piano
- *120 Notes* for Violin, Horn, and Piano (2015), 1 minute
- *Hyper-Construct 3* for Piano Quartet (2015), 6 minutes – Premiere June 24th, 2016: Hanna Hurwitz – violin, Victor Lowrie – viola, Mariel Roberts – cello, Steven Beck – piano
- *One Through Twelve* for viola and cello (2014), 8 minutes – Premiere September 14th, 2014: Cynthia Fogg – viola, Thomas Flaherty – cello
- *Time Takes its Toll...* for clarinet, soprano, percussion and marimba (2014), 4 minutes

- *4,3,2,1 and Back* for piano, cello, violin, and oboe (2014), 60 minutes – Premiere April 4th, 2014: Alma Zook – oboe, Zachary Schwartz – violin, Alice Chung – cello, William Appleton – piano
- *Expanding Grounds* for orchestra (2013), 7 minutes – Premiere February 28th, 2014: Pomona College Orchestra, Eric Lindholm – conductor
- *Four Cycles* for string quartet (2013), 18 minutes – Premiere May 7th, 2013: Ryan Luo – violin, Zachary Schwartz – violin, Jedrick Chao – viola, Richard Sayanagi – cello
- *Counterfeit Poetry* for soprano and piano (2013), 3 minutes – Premiere April 30th, 2013: William Appleton – piano, Katherine Bent – soprano
- *Combinations* for piano trio (2012), 24 minutes – Premiere April 12th, 2013: Anne-Marie Guica – piano, Albert Chang – violin, Audrey Dunne – cello
- *Inverse Sequences* for piano (2012), 8 minutes – Premiere May 2nd, 2012: Roger Sheu – piano

WORK EXPERIENCE

Monadnock Developmental Services

Administrative Assistant

September 2017-

- Process forms generated by social service professionals working with the developmentally disabled

Keene State College – Mason Library

Library Circulation Assistant

September 2015-

- Supervise the library and perform all duties of circulation. Direct 20+ student employees

Harvard Co-Operative – Trade Books Department

Bookseller

April 2015-August 2015

- Assist customers in locating books and keep shelves in order

Boston University Graduate Admissions GRS

Application Processor

November 2014-February 2015

- Process paper and electronic admissions material during a high volume period

Pomona College Music Department

Library Assistant

June 2014-August 2014

- Catalogue CD collection. Edit AV material