

JIM LAHTI

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EDUCATION

1979-1980 NEW SCHOOL, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY New York City
- Studied film composition with Leonard Rosenmann.
1975-1977 MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC, New York City
- Piano major. Studied with Robert Helps.
1973-1975 CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SONOMA, Rohnert Park, California
- Music major. Studied piano with Dale Cutler and Julie Steinberg, composition with Will Johnson and conducting with David Sloss. Assistant conductor of college orchestra and college chorus from 1974 to 1975.
1973-1975 Private chamber music coachings from violinist Anne Crowden and cellist Colin Hampton.

WORK SUMMARY

- 2019 Premiere of *Piano Trio No.2* with **di.vi.sion** in the Cutting Edge Concert Series, Symphony Space.
- 2018 Premiere of song cycle, *Of Death and the Planets* for soprano, tenor, flute, oboe, violin, viola, 'cello, and piano at Symphony Space with **di.vi.sion** and soloists Timothy Maureen Cole, soprano and Rufus Müller, tenor.
- 2016-present Commissioned projects for Young Virtuosi (London): transcriptions for chamber ensemble of various orchestral works which are then performed at a yearly festival in the south of France.
- 2003-2013 Music Director/Arranger/Co-writer for award-winning cabaret show *A Kid Again*, as well as various other cabaret shows during this time period with performances at Danny's Skylight Room, The Duplex, the Metropolitan Room, Don't Tell Mama, amongst other venues.
- 2011- 2013 BROADWAY SINGS FOR PRIDE – musical director/arranger/co-roducer and co-founder/writer
- 2007-2008 Engaged as composer/arranger for new musical, *Glamorous Nights*, about the life and music of Ivor Novello. Collaborated with co-writers on script and participated in a concert reading (2007) and a workshop production (2008), both in Los Angeles.
- 2001-2007 OMNI ENSEMBLE, New York City. Pianist and member.
- June 2006 THE SUPPER CLUB, New York City. Brooklyn Conservatory of Music Gala Awards show (honoring composer David Amram) — performed at the request of David Amram.
- Sept. 2004 MERKIN CONCERT HALL, New York City. Performed in premiere of my *Piano Trio* with violinist Sylvia D'Avanzo and cellist Deborah Sepe.
- Fall 2002 CONNECTICUT GRAND OPERA, Stamford, Connecticut. Performed with Renée Fleming at gala benefit concert.
- 1999-2000 RIGHT— a short independent film by Renee Humphrey. Helped develop script, wrote score, and performed on soundtrack with Nadya Tichman, concertmaster of San Francisco Symphony.
- Fall 1998 42nd STREET MOON, San Francisco. Music Director/Arranger for *A Tree Grows In Brooklyn*.
- Aug. 1998 PRESIDIO CHAPEL, San Francisco. Performed in the world premiere of my song cycle, *after the end* — *Seven Poems of Robert Mitchell* with Susan Powers, soprano in a contemporary music concert sponsored by the San Francisco Concerto Orchestra and the Presidio Chapel Concert Series.
- Dec. 1997 FREMONT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, Fremont, California World premiere of my *Three Christmas Sketches*. David Sloss, conductor.
- Winter 1996 AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER, San Francisco. Music Director for *A Christmas Carol*, Candace Barrett, stage director. Also wrote additional vocal music for this production.
- Dec. 1995 AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER, San Francisco. Music Director for *Tell Me On A Sunday* starring Kelly Ground.
- Nov. 1993 BELROSE THEATER, San Rafael, California. Music Director and co-author for *Bravo Broadway* — a musical revue.
- Fall 1991 NOVATO LYRIC OPERA, Novato, California. Music Director and conductor for *Iolanthe*.
- 1988-2001 JEWISH HOME FOR THE AGED, San Francisco. Music specialist, performing, directing shows and special events, coaching.
- 1985-2001 CALIFORNIA MUSIC TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION Evaluator of student compositions for annual Composers Today program.
- June 1984 - MARIN CIVIC LIGHT OPERA, San Rafael, California.

- March 1987 Functioned in many capacities: music director, rehearsal accompanist, choral and orchestral preparation, vocal coaching of principals, and conducting. Shows covered a wide variety of theatrical genres including *Berlin to Broadway with Kurt Weill*, *A Chorus Line*, *Pirates*, *of Penzance*, *Kismet*, *Die Fledermaus*, and others.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (for detailed list of works, see **WORKS LIST**)

- 2014 Completed composition of one-act chamber opera, *How Beautiful With Shoes*, based on a short story of Wilbur Daniel Steele. Emily Pecora, libretto. Dedicated to British soprano Jennifer Coleman.
- August 2013 Presented and performed on Jennifer Coleman's debut recital in America, in a program of English and American art songs.
- May 2012 Premiere of *Three Songs on poems of Hart Crane* at New Jersey City University, Ellen Wieser, soprano; Baris Buyukyildirim, piano.
- April 2012 Premiere of *Viola Sonata* at Third Street Music School, New York City, with Amelia Hollander-Ames, viola.
- March 2012 Premiere of *Woodwind Quintet* at The Actors Chapel in Times Square, with the Virtuosi Quintet.
- 2009 Completed composition of three-act opera based on the final months in the life of Meriwether Lewis. John McEveety Woodruff, libretto. www.meriwetheropera.org
- 2000-2002 THE OMNI ENSEMBLE PLAYS WORKS OF JIM LAHTI. Co-produced a compact disc with David Wechsler of the OMNI Ensemble performing my original compositions. This involved raising the funds as well as a series of promotional interviews once the CD was completed.
- 1998-present WNYC-FM, New York City. Interview guest on various modern music programs, presenting both my own compositions as well as those of others.
- 1977-1983 Accompanist for students in rehearsal and at their lessons with Itzakh Perlman, Bernard Greenhouse, Lillian Fuchs, and Julius Baker.
- 1973-present Piano teacher and vocal coach. Play jazz piano in clubs and restaurants in New York City and the San Francisco Bay Area. Church organist and choir director.

AFFILIATIONS AND AWARDS

- Member, Local 802, American Federation of Musicians
- Member, American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers
- June 2018: Recipient of BRIO (Bronx Recognizes Its Own) Award for excellence in music composition from Bronx Council on the Arts.
- Awarded a grant from the Meet-the-Composer program of the New York State Council on the Arts for *Variations for Flute and Piano*.