



Jack Langdon

performer + composer + educator + worker

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Jack Langdon (b. 1994, Madison, WI) is a Chicago-based composer/performer and media artist. His work utilizes instrumental performance, theater, new media, and installation in concert, site-specific, and digital contexts. He is an improviser who performs on piano, organ, and guitar, and occasionally other instruments. His compositional work engages with artistic labor and production, communization, film and media theory, intermedia, and materialist aesthetics. His current practice aims to use the concert site as the nexus of social reorganization through workshop and documentary formats. Langdon works as a piano and composition teacher, as well as an arts administrator and organizer. He fights for equality and inclusivity in the various institutions he works in. He writes on music, art, politics, and culture.

education

St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN: 2013-2017 - Bachelor of Music: Composition

Degree Advisor: Justin Merritt

Additional Studies with James E. Bobb (organ/piano); Steven Campbell and Paul Niemisto (tuba); Sandra Joy Friesen (improvisation/experimental performance); and Timothy Mahr, Therees Hibbard, and Steven Amundson (conducting)

The Walden School Creative Musicians Retreat, Dublin, NH: June 2016 - Guest composition participant

Composition Teachers

Katherine Young, Bethany Younge, Joan Arnau Pamies, Sam Pluta, Nicholas Demaison, Osnat Netzer, Justin Merritt, Timothy Mahr, Michael Daugherty, David Maslanka, Reinaldo Moya

commissions/collaborations

2018: Adam Sanders + Vital Organ Project: *here (3): sound images of the worker, part one* for e. guitar, e. bass, pipe organ, fixed media

Mark Mahoney + Jack Langdon: *mirror* for two pianos and fixed a/v

St. Olaf Percussion Ensemble: *yeah uh hmm* for 8 performers and fixed media

2017: RenegadeEnsemble: *what do i do now (self-portrait)* for two amplified voices, amplified ensemble, and video

Joshua Weinberg: *sometimes/not without 1* for alto flute

The St. Olaf Band: *cataract* for large concert band

2016: Minnesota Sinfonia: *angular planes of light* for chamber orchestra

The Walden School: *interiority* for string quartet (for mivos quartet)

Joshua Weinberg: *Mosaic I* for prepared harp and electronics

St. Olaf College Lynn and Mary Steen Fellowship with The St. Olaf Lyric Theater: *The End of Saro* for opera and live electronics

Musika Nova Ensemble: *taking time* for trombone, cello, live electronics, video performer, and speaker/dancer

2015: Joshua Weinberg and Michael Betz: *Infinites* for flute and piano

St. Olaf College CURI Grant: *Forest/Cathedral* for organ and electronics

awards/achievements

2018: MISE-EN_PLACE Residency Award: premiere of *here (4): a poetics of art labor* - a four-day long multimedia opera

UTK Contemporary Music Festival: paper presentation "Producing Musical Sociality: Towards an Installative Concert Practice"

Greenlight New Music Festival: resident performer/composer

ScoreFollower: 2018/2019 Season Curator

RenegadeEnsemble: Spring 2018 Composer+Curator-in-residence

ASCAP Plus Award 2018

2016: Minnesota Sinfonia/McKnight Foundation New Works Program Winner

KC VITAs Chamber Choir Call for Scores Participant

Acceptance into Bozzini_Lab Montreal 2016

St. Olaf College Mary and Lynn Steen Fellowship: "Creating an Electronic Opera: writing 'The End of Saro' for The St. Olaf Lyric Theater"

Montview Presbyterian Church, Denver, CO - John Kuzma Award Finalist

The Walden School Creative Musicians Retreat Participant

2015: St. Olaf College CURI Research Grant for "The St. Olaf Laptop Orchestra"

St. Olaf College Miles Johnson Endowed Fund Scholarship

Vancouver Chamber Choir Young Composers Competition

2014: St. Olaf College Christiansen Scholarship in music composition

2013: Wisconsin School Music Association Student Composer Contest, Instrumental category

teaching/professional experience

2013 - 2017 : Musika Nova: New Music Society of St. Olaf College (Northfield, MN)

Positions: *Vice President: 2014-2015 / President: 2015-2016 / Artistic Director: 2016-2017*

Responsibilities: *curating concert programs, grant applications/development, marketing/social media (Facebook/Twitter/Instagram), facilitating collaboration opportunities, championing works of student composers at St. Olaf College, website design and graphic design, performed/directed in ensemble*

2015 - 2017 : St. Olaf College: Music Department (Northfield, MN)

Position: *Composition TA / EMS Manager*

Responsibilities: *tutoring composition students, maintaining organization of the electronic music studio, organizing and programming bi-annual composition recital: "fresh ink"*

2016 - 2017 : 113 Composers Collective (Minneapolis, MN)

Position: *Arts Administration Intern*

Responsibilities: *assisting with grant applications, performance scheduling, concert setup/takedown, contacting local media, development research, institutional giving, concert ticketing and ushering,*

2016 - 2017 : St. Olaf College: Halvorsen Music Library (Northfield, MN)

Position: *Library Assistant*

Responsibilities: *checking in/out library materials, assisting patrons in finding research materials, reshelving, assisting in library acquisitions, interlibrary loan courier between Halvorsen and Rolvaag libraries, Alma and Bridge cataloging systems*

2017 - current : The Musical Offering (Evanston, IL)

Position: *Piano and Composition Teacher, co-director of scratch orchestra and composers' residency*

Responsibilities: *teaching students ages 5-18 beginning and intermediate piano, facilitating piano and composition studio classes, developing and instituting new/experimental music presence at The Musical Offering, assisting in social media*

2018 - current : The Royal Conservatory of Music (Toronto, ON)

Position: *Center Representative for Chicagoland*

Responsibilities: *organizing, scheduling, and hosting Chicago's RCM musical evaluations program at Symphony Center, acting as the corporate liaison between the Royal Conservatory Certificate Program in Toronto and customers/educators in Chicago*

2018 - current : Elastic Arts (Chicago, IL)

Position: *Concert Producer*

Responsibilities: *hosting and assisting in the production of concerts and events, cashiering, setting up audio/video tech, running sound, recording guest ensembles, maintaining organized space, assisting in programming and curation*

2018 - current : ScoreFollower (Chicago, IL)

Position: *Curator*

Responsibilities: *contributing new works to the online archive of new music scores, contacting composers and ensembles to obtain permissions, researching trends of new materialism(s) and post-institutional critique in new music, supporting and expanding the institution's inclusivity and social practices*

musical skills

composition/arranging/orchestration (9 years, professional), tuba (7 years, advanced), trombone (1 year, intermediate), music history and musicology (6 years, advanced), piano (8 years, advanced), organ (3 years, intermediate), guitar (8 years, advanced), violin/viola (1 year, beginner), cello (6 months, beginner), clarinet (2 years, early intermediate), piano teaching (4 years, advanced), band/wind ensemble directing (2 years educational, advanced), choral directing (2 years educational, advanced), orchestral directing (1.5 years educational, intermediate), instrument repair (6 months, beginner), improvisation teaching (3 years, advanced), pro-audio and a/v (2 years, intermediate)

software

Google Suite (7 years, advanced), Microsoft Suite (10 years+, advanced), MuseScore (8 years, professional), Sibelius (4 years, advanced), Finale (2 years, intermediate), Logic Pro (3 years, advanced), Reaper (7 years, advanced), Adobe Illustrator (1 year, intermediate), Adobe Photoshop (4 years, advanced), Adobe Lightroom (2 years, advanced), Adobe InDesign (2 years, intermediate)

research areas

sociology of contemporary music, aesthetics, communisation, critical improvisation, trans/post-disciplinarity, labor organization in art, embodied performance practice, art history and theory, continental philosophy, egalitarian educational praxis, spatiotemporality of performance, architecture and design

recent repertoire performed

reorientation: 1 - Jack Langdon - (guitar and objects) - album recorded in Chicago, IL (release 6/20/18)
here (3): sound images of the worker - (guitar) - performed with Vital Organ Project (First Lutheran, Duluth, MN - 10/17/18)
XEROX ROCK - Celeste Oram - (guitar) - performed with RenegadeEnsemble (Studio Z, St. Paul, MN - 4/6/18)
Choir of Shadows - Eva-Maria Houben - (guitar) - w/ RenegadeEnsemble (Studio Z, St. Paul, MN - 4/6/18)
Clouds - Eva-Maria Houben - (piano) - recorded w/ Mark Mahoney (Elastic Arts, Chicago, IL - 3/28/18)
improvisation - (piano) - recorded w/ Mark Mahoney (Elastic Arts, Chicago, IL - 3/28/18)
nur ein klang 5 - Eva-Maria Houben - (piano) - performed w/ Willem Mudde (Flaten Art Museum, Northfield, MN - 3/20/17)

writings/presentations

"Creative Composition and Performance for the Pipe Organ" - presentation, St. Olaf College, Oct. 2015
"The Creation and Institution of an undergraduate Laptop Orchestra" - presentation, St. Olaf College, Aug. 2015
"Developing Variation in Webern Op. 5 Mvmt. 2" - paper, St. Olaf College, May 2016
"////soundpolitics////: new music and political praxis" - essay, St. Olaf College, Nov. 2016
"A Modernity: Noh Theater and the 20th century American Musical Avant-Garde" - paper, St. Olaf College, Nov. 2016
"Orchestral Sound Mass and Ensemble Identity" - presentation, St. Olaf College, Dec. 2016
"Sound Studies: Historical Perspectives on the Cultural Anthropology of Sound" - paper, St. Olaf College, Apr. 2017
"Political Music and issues surrounding a Gehaltästhetik Turn" - presentation, St. Olaf College, May 2017
"Statements on my Work: current practice" - presentation, St. Olaf College, May 2017
"I hear this body: Barthes' Musical Aesthetics and the Work of Walshe, Cassidy, and Steen-Andersen" - paper, St. Olaf College, May 2017
"Pitch Affinities in Morton Feldman's 'Intermission 6'" - paper, Nov. 2017
"What is there to gain: a materialist response to the impasse of new music in the 21st century" - essay, Mar. 2018
"Producing Musical Sociality: towards an installative concert practice" - essay, UTK Contemporary Music Festival, Oct. 2018