JOSHUA KOHL

Co-Director, Composer, Conductor & Performer, Degenerate Art Ensemble

Joshua Kohl is a composer and conductor and is the co-artistic director of the Seattle based multi-art group Degenerate Art Ensemble (DAE) which is his primary creative outlet. He has performed with the group throughout the United States, and ten countries of Western and Eastern Europe. Recent project highlights include a major museum exhibition of his work with DAE at the Frye Art Museum in 2011, a 2012 commission by theater Director Robert Wilson to create an interpretation of his and Phillip Glass' epic work *Einstein On The Beach* at the Baryshnikov Center in New York, collaborations with Kronos Quartet in 2012 and 2015, a large scale site specific work commissioned by the Seattle Center Foundation to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Seattle Worlds Fair and his latest work with the group *Predator Songstress* premiered at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco. Joshua is also an avid orchestral conductor of the music of his peers. In February of 2012 he conducted the music of fellow DAE composer Jherek Bischoff with the Wordless Music Orchestra in New York at Lincoln Center with vocalists David Byrne. He also conducts composer Samantha Boshnack's big band orchestra B'shnorkestra and co-produced their debut record which made the top ten jazz albums in 2015. His and DAE's work Red Shoes was awarded a Music Theatre Now award from the International Theatre Institute in and was part of a presentation at the Swedish Bienalen of Performing Arts in 2013. Joshua's work for string quartet, clarinet and recorded voice "My Bronx" which was made in collaboration with his father author Herbert Kohl was commissioned by the Frye Art Museum and has become a part of the museum's permanent collection.

AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Creative Capital, 2013
New Music USA, 2014
Music Theatre Now Award (International Theatre Institute), 2012
Meet the Composer / Commissioning Music USA, 2007
Watermill a Laboratory for Performance (New York), 2011 artist in residence
New Museum (New York), 2009 artist in residence
Next50 Worlds Fair Anniversary (Seattle Center Foundation), 2012
National Endowment for the Arts, 2011
Artist Trust Fellowships 2000 & 2007
Aaron Copland Fund for Music, 2004
4 Culture Special Projects Special Projects 1999 -2013 multiple

Performance Works

The Predator's Songstress, 2012-present [under developement]
Multi-discipline series of portraits in the form of dances, live music, video, animation and art installation. The work includes composition for strings and vocal ensemble.

Underbelly- October 2012
Site Specific large scale production and collaboration with Olson Kundig Architects and commission from the NEXT50 and the Seattle Center Foundation(50th anniversary of the Seattle Worlds Fair). Compositions include works for string quartet, vocal sextet and electronic music.

Letters from Atomic Shores (On The Beach), April 2012
Interpretation of *Einstein on the Beach* commissioned by Robert Wilson's Watermill Center a Laboratory for Performance co-composed with Jherek Bischoff for string quartet plus bass and three voices performed at the Baryshnikov Arts Center (NY).

Red Shoes, May 2011
Five location site specific epic performance work produced by the Fry Art Museum (Seattle). Composed collaboratively with Jherek Bischoff for string quartet, marching band, electronics, choir and two solo singers.

Sonic Tales, October& November 2009
Large scale full length dance and music work, Moore Theatre (Seattle). Kohl collaborated with musician Jeffrey Huston and performed on guitars and electronics.

Silvering Path, October 2008
A dance and live music collaboration experiment produced by DAE and the Free Sheep Foundation (Seattle). Music for two guitars, electronics and voice.

Checkersplitter, Cuckoo Pie, PNX &Space Girl #6*, 2009*
The Stone (New York) Collaboration with Meet the Composer's Commissioning Music USA

Degenerate Art Ensemble big band tours*,* 2001-2007
Tours of US, Netherlands, France, Italy, Slovenia, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland and Germany. Kohl composed many of the works for these tours as well as conducted the ensemble of percussion, violin, viola, two trumpets, tenor sax, voice, guitar and bass.

Cuckoo Crow, November 2007
Presented by the REDCAT (Los Angeles). Kohl composed music for instruments he co-invented along with vioin, viola, electric guitar and bass.

Concert of New Music, July 2007
TFF Festival (Rudolstadt, Germany)

Degenerate Art Ensemble big band tours (vocalist/performer 2001-2007)
tours of US, Netherlands, France, Italy, Slovenia, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland and Germany.

Cuckoo Crow **(premiere version)**, March 2006
The 1,600 seat Moore Theater, presented by Seattle Theater Group and at Bumbershoot Festival (Seattle)

Checker Splitter, March 2005
work for 45 piece orchestra plus solo dancer The Moore Theatre presented by Seattle Theater Group (Seattle)

Sleepvessel Sheep, January 2005
The Bridge Project at Velocity Dance Center (Seattle)

Cuckoo Crow (trio version)*,* 2004
The Cave Space (New York), Industrial Performance Project (Seattle)

Dreams From Wounded Mouth, 2003
Live music and movement theater work. Ensemble: percussion, violin, viola, two trumpets, tenor sax, voice, guitar and bass. Orph Theater (Berlin), Teatr 2 Strefa (Warsaw) KUD, (Ljubljana, Slovenia), Consolidated Works (Seattle).

13, 2003
Work for invented instruments, bass and solo dancer, Theater Yugen (San Francisco), lluseum (Amsterdam),

Intimate Stage, (Seattle).

Dream Eater, 2002
Lincoln Park outdoor night performance (Seattle)

***Nymph,* 2001-2003**
Orph Theater (Berlin), On the Boards (Seattle), Seattle Art Museum (Seattle) On the Boards International New Performance Series. Ensemble: invented instruments, percussion, violin, viola, two trumpets, tenor sax, voice, guitar and bass.

Razor Stitch, 1999
Live music and dance theatre performance work. On The Boards NW New Works, Theater Yugen (San Francisco), NW Asian American Theater (Seattle). Ensemble: 2 basses, violin, cello, 2 trumpets, typewriter / screamer, tenor sax, percussion & electric guitar.

SCREAM!LionDogs, 1999
On The Boards (Seattle) - Special Commission for 17 piece orchestra, 3 dancers, 3 actors.

Hell's Cauldron, 1998
On The Boards NW New Works, Theater of Yugen (San Francisco). Ensemble: bass, violin, cello, 2 trumpets, clarinet, flute, electric guitar, sax, percussion.

Rinko, 1997/2000
On The Boards NW New Works, ODC Theater (San Francisco). Ensemble: bass, violin, cello, 2 trumpets, clarinet, flute, electric guitar, sax, percussion.

***The Gaucho,* 1999**
Orchestral film score to Douglas Fairbanks' classic silent film performed live. Venue 9 (San Francisco), NW Film Center (Portland), Gas Works Park (Seattle)

***Metropolis,* 1998**
Orchestral film score to the classic Fritz Lang film Metropolis performed live. Venue 9 (San Francisco), Seattle International Film Festival, Gas Works Park to a crowd of 10,000 (Seattle).
Yokai, 1995
On The Boards NW New Works Festival. Work for 17 piece orchestra and 10 dancer/actors.

Yokai Stampede, 1994
co-choreographed with Saiko Kobayashi at NW New Works On The Boards. Work for 17 piece orchestra and 10 dancer/actors.

Hell Courtesan, 1994
Seattle Experimental Opera, Seattle Asia Dance Festival. Work for bag pipe, taiko drums, flute and brass.

Children Playing in the Hour of the Ox, 1993
Seattle Asian Art Museum, OK Hotel (Seattle), Evergreen State College (Olympia). Work for mixed ensemble

<u>COMPOSITIONS FOR OTHER COMPANIES AND PRODUCTIONS</u>

***c(H)ord,* Inkboat dance company (San Francisco)**

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts - Dance score for InkBoat using flutes, toys, homemade instruments and digital processing.

***Silvering Path,* 2009 (Seattle, Portland)**
Score for dance film created by Mandy Greer, Ian Lucero and Haruko Nishimura

***Night Flight,* 2009, Moore Theatre (Seattle)**
10 voice operetta with accordion, bass, guitar and violin commissioned by the Book-it Repertory Theatre

***The Beard of Avon,* 2008, Portland Center Stage (Portland)**
Directed by Chris Coleman with Clarinets, percussion, Brass, violin, guitar and cello

***Twelfth Night,* 2008, Portland Center Stage (Portland)**
Directed by Jane Jones for Portland Center Stage using clarinets, percussion, Brass, violin, guitar and cello

***Ode Toumani,* 2002, Guitar Society (Seattle & Minneapolis)**
Classical guitar performed by Michael Nicolella

***Clarinet Concerto*, 2002, Northwest Symphony (Seattle)**
Created for New York clarinetist Richard Faria

***Concerto for Clarinet and Orchestra,* 2000 (Seattle)**
Premiered by Northwest Symphony

***Flute Concerto,* 1998, Henry Art Gallery (Seattle)**
Created for flutist Paul Taub

***Earth and Ice,* 1997, Temple University, (Pennsylvania)**
Commissioned by violinist Allan Kastelle

***Me and the Chickadee,* 1996**
Duet for flute and oboe performed at Evergreen State College (Olympia), Seattle Asian Art Museum (Seattle) Broadcasted on KUOW

***Out of Nowhere,* 1995**
Work for chamber orchestra performed at The OK Hotel (Seattle) and Bumbershoot Festival (Seattle)

***Quartet in February,* 1994-1996**
Quartet for strings and percussion performed at Bumbershoot Festival, Seattle Asian Art Museum (Seattle), Clinton Street Theater (Portland) and performed on KUOW FM and KCMU FM

***Duo for Violin and Piano,* 1993**
OK Hotel (Seattle) Performed at New Works Concert for Cornish College of the Arts

***Pink House,* 1992**
Cornish College of the Arts (Seattle) Performed for *Noise,* a concert of new composers works

DISCOGRAPHY

Sonic Tales / Degenerate Art Ensemble, 2009
Dance score and alt-pop album

Cuckoo Crow / Degenerate Art Ensemble, 2005
Dance Score and alt-pop album (charted #62 on the US College Radio Charts)

The Bastress/ Degenerate Art Ensemble, 2003
Punk Jazz Big Band music for 13 musicians

Lookaway Popeye / Degenerate Art Ensemble,2002
Punk Jazz Big Band music for 13 musicians

Scream!LionDogs / Degenerate Art Ensemble, 2001
Dance Theater score for 17 musicians

Rinko/ Degenerate Art Ensemble, 2000
Dance Theater score for 13 musicians

Razor Stitch / Degenerate Art Ensemble, 1999
Dance Theater score for 13 musicians

The Young Composers Collective, 1996
works for 17 piece big band garage orchestral

PRIVATE STUDY IN MUSIC COMPOSITION

Jarad Powell, Composer
Bright Sheng, Composer
Bern Herbolsheimer, Composer

EDUCATION

Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle, WA *Bachelor of Arts in Music Composition*

New England Conservatory of Music Boston, MA

Berklee College of Music Boston, MA