

Joseph Michaels

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Personal

Born October 3, 1977 in Oberlin, Ohio, USA (US citizen, German permanent residency permit)

Languages: English (native), German (fluent), Italian (advanced), Japanese (intermediate)

Education

- 2003-2011 Northwestern University – Evanston, Illinois
DMA, music composition
GPA: 3.8
Dissertation: *Generative Incorporation and the Musical Identities in Erik Oña's Lokaler Widerstand*
Analysis of Erik Oña's *Lokaler Widerstand*, its use of previously composed material, and a discussion of quotation, borrowing, and related terminology
Doctoral committee: Hans Thomalla (chair), Jay Alan Yim, Linda Austern
Qualifying exam topics: microtonality, gender in music, and a comparison of compositional techniques in Medieval and 20th-century music
- 2008-2010 Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst – Stuttgart, Germany
Solistenklasse, music composition
GPA: 0,5 (equivalent to 4.0+)
- 2001-2003 University of California at San Diego
MA, music composition
GPA: 3.9
- 2000-2001 L'accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia – Rome, Italy
music composition
- 1996-2000 Eastman School of Music – Rochester, New York
BM, music composition
GPA: 3.9

Studies with Caspar Johannes Walter, Amy Williams, Chaya Czernowin, Augusta Read Thomas, Azio Corghi, Robert Morris, David Liptak, and Joseph Schwantner

Master classes/lessons with Erik Oña, Tristan Murail, Alvin Lucier, Toshio Hosokawa, David Lang, Bernard Rands, David Felder, Charles Wuorinen, Samuel Adler, Per Nørgård, and George Rochberg

Festivals attended: Kongress Mikrotonalität, Stuttgart (2011), June in Buffalo (2006), California Summer Music, Pebble Beach, California (2005), La Schola Cantorum, Paris (1999), Music 98, Cincinnati Conservatory of Music (1998)

Curating/Creative Grants

- 2018 (curating concert with Noise-Bridge and the Bugallo-Williams Piano Duo)
- 2018 US Tour with ensemble cross.art
- 2014 Bosch Foundation (curated concert "Postcards from America" with Invading Pleasures)
- 2014 Landesbank Baden-Württemberg and German American Center (curated concert "Hand in Hand" with the Bugallo-Williams Piano Duo)
- 2013 University College Cork and National University of Ireland, Maynooth (Ireland tour with ensemble cross.art)

2012 Landesbank Baden-Württemberg (curated concert “Chicago-Stuttgart” with Geoffrey Deibel)

Scholarships and Awards

2008-2010 Academic scholarship, Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde, Stuttgart, Germany
2003-2005 Academic scholarship, Northwestern University
2001-2003 Academic scholarship, University of California at San Diego
1999 ASCAP Morton Gold Young Composers Award, Honorable Mention
1999 Bernard Rogers Award, Eastman School of Music
1999 Bernard and Rose Sernoffsky Award, Eastman School of Music

Discography

2017 *Assembly Line* for two saxophones and playback, recorded by Geoffrey Deibel and Jonathon Nicol
2016 *Assembly Line* for two saxophones and playback, recorded by Invading Pleasures, Gruenrekorder
2016 *Variations* for guitar, recorded by Stephen Mattingly, Clear Note Publications
2003 *Con Moto* for flute and marimba, recorded by the Verederos Flute and Percussion Duo, Equilibrium Records

Compositions, Commissions and Performances (Selected)

2016 *Between Russia and Myself* for tárogató and playback
Commissioned by Nikola Lutz and the Ministerium für Wissenschaft und Künste, Baden-Württemberg
Premiered by Nikola Lutz at Fruchtkasten, Stuttgart, Germany (November 2016)
Geoffrey Deibel (version for sop. sax), Wichita State University, Kansas, USA (January 2017)
Geoffrey Deibel (version for sop. sax), US Navy Band International Saxophone Symposium, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, USA (January 2017)

2016 *Kuru?* for shakuhachi
Commissioned by James Nyoraku Schlefer and Deutscher Komponistenverband
Premiered by James Nyoraku Schlefer at Stadtkirche, Bad Cannstatt, Germany (June 2016)

2015 *Shell Shock* for OTTO and playback
Commissioned by InnoFonds
Premiered by Céline Papion at AK2 Galerie, Stuttgart, Germany (September 2015)
Weinhandlung Kreis, Stuttgart, Germany (May 2016)

2015 *Where Life Is Hard, John Denvers, Diffused* for video
Exhibitions:
Art House Beim Engel, Luxembourg City, Luxembourg (October 2015)
Art Museum Stuttgart, Germany (June 2015)
Gedok Galerie (March 2015)

2014 *Moment, Curitiba II* for piano and video
Video by Yukihiro Taguchi
Commissioned by Junko Yamamoto
Premiered by Junko Yamamoto at NWU UVS Conservatory, Potchefstroom, South Africa (August 2014)
Gedok Galerie, Stuttgart, Germany (European premier, May 2016)
Wits Music School, South Africa (August 2014)
University of Cape Town, South Africa (August 2014)
University of Stellenbosch, South Africa (August 2014)
University of Durban, South Africa (August 2014)

2014 *Assembly Line* for two soprano saxophones and playback
Commissioned by the Bosch Foundation
Premiered by Invading Pleasures at Gedok Galerie, Stuttgart, Germany (May 2014)
eventuell, throughout Switzerland and Graz Austria (February 2017)

Landman/Stadler Duo, Biel, Winterthur, and Basel, Switzerland (October 2016)
Geoffrey Deibel and Robert Hess, Cortona, Italy (July 2016)
Geoffrey Deibel and Erin Rogers, Shapeshifter Lab, Brooklyn, NY, USA (March 2016)
Geoffrey Deibel and Jonathan Nichol, Wichita State University (US Preview, February 2016)
Invading Pleasures, Theaterhaus Stuttgart (December 2015)
Stromraum Stuttgart (December 2014)

- 2014 *Together in Perfect Harmony* for piano 4-hands
Commissioned by the Landesbank Baden-Württemberg and German American Center Stuttgart
Premiered by the Bugallo-Williams Piano Duo at Gedok Galerie, Stuttgart, Germany (February 2014)
Festival del Centro Histórico, Mexico City, Mexico (March 2016)
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (January 2016)
University of North Carolina, Greensboro (January 2016)
University of Florida, Gainesville (February 2015)
ISCM, University of Miami (February 2015)
Alia New Music Festival, Pittsburgh (May 2014)
Pausa Art House, Pittsburgh (US Premier, May 2014)
- 2013 *almost void* for cello, piano, and video
Video by Peter Welz with William Forsythe
Commissioned by ensemble cross.art
Premiered by ensemble cross.art at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth (February 2013)
Unerhörte Musik, Berlin, Germany (January 2017)
Kunstraum 34, Stuttgart, Germany (November 2016)
University College Cork, Ireland (February 2013)
Linden Museum, Stuttgart, Germany (September 2013)
- 2012 *Oases* for mezzo soprano, flute, clarinet, violin, cello, contrabass, percussion, and video
Video by Joseph Michaels and Paul Kramer
Commissioned by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Art, Nordrhein-Westfalen
Premiered by Truike van der Poel, Thürmchen Ensemble and Erik Oña (conductor) at Acht Brücken, Cologne, Germany (May 2012)
- 2012 *Der Provokateur im ICE* for baritone saxophone and playback
Commissioned by Landesbank Baden-Württemberg
Premiered by Geoffrey Deibel at Open Art Space, Stuttgart, Germany (June 2012)
- 2011 *Moment, Curitiba I* for cello, piano, and video
Video by Yukihiro Taguchi
Commissioned by ensemble cross.art
Premiered by ensemble cross.art at Sala Crisantempo, São Paulo, Brazil (August 2011)
With Rohan de Saram, Neue Töne Open, Stuttgart, Germany (November 2012)
With Céline Papion
Linden Museum, Stuttgart, Germany (September 2013)
University College Cork, Ireland (February 2013)
National University of Ireland, Maynooth (February 2013)
State Conservatory Stuttgart, Germany (European premier, December 2011)
Curitiba Biennial for Contemporary Music, Brazil (August 2011)
- 2011 *31 Touch Tones* for Fokker Organ
Premiered at Gaudeamus on the self-playing Fokker Organ, Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ (September 2010)
- 2010 *Der kluge Richter* for speaker, cello, and clavichord
Commissioned by ensemble cross.art
Premiered by Ulrike Götz and ensemble cross.art in Reutlingen, Germany (May 2010)
Wiesen, Germany (October 2010)
Singen, Germany (September 2010)

- 2010 *Study* for pipe organ and playback
Premiered by Lydia Schimmer at Münster St. Paul, Esslingen, Germany (January 2010)
- 2009 *Ein geschlossener Waffenstillstand* for sine tones with optional, variable ensemble
Version II premiered by Caterina Centofante and the Echtzeit Ensemble, Stuttgart, Germany (January 2009)
Version I, 2016 Ars Electronica Forum, Leuk, Switzerland (May 2016)
- 2009 *Newport Beach in the 70s* for two violins, cello, and harpsichord
Commissioned by Ensemble Cordial
Premiered by Ensemble Cordial at Münster St. Paul, Esslingen, Germany (July 2009)
State Conservatory, Stuttgart, Germany (January 2010)
Friedenskirche, Stuttgart, Germany (October 2009)
Kloster der Franziskanerinnen, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany (September 2009)
MA Festival/Flanders Festival, Bruges, Belgium (August 2009)
- 2009 *Faces* for solo voice
Premiered by Andreas Fischer at Theaterhaus, Stuttgart, Germany (June 2009)
Annelie Sophie Müller, State Conservatory Stuttgart, Germany (January 2010)
- 2009 *Improvisation Games* for variable ensemble
Commissioned by ensemble >gelberklang< and the City of Stuttgart
Premiered by ensemble >gelberklang< and local school children at the Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart, Germany (October 2009)
Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart, Germany (December 2015)
- 2004 *Pleochroma* for solo cello
Premiered by Scott Kluksdahl at California Summer Music, Pebble Beach, California (July 2004)
Scott Kluksdahl, Northwestern New Music Marathon (May 2005)
Céline Papion, Weinhandlung Kreis, Stuttgart, Germany (May 2016)
Stadtkirche Ludwigsburg, Germany (February 2015)
Konzert zur Marktzeit, Ditzingen, Germany (January 2015)
Pauluskirche, Fellbach, Germany (November 2014)
Lotte, Stuttgart, Germany (European premier, June 2014)
- 1999 *Variations* for solo guitar
Premiered by Stephen Mattingly at the Eastman School of Music (April 1999)
Czestochowa School of Music, Poland (October 2014)
Sierra Nevada Guitar Festival (July 2014)
11th Panama Guitar Festival (June 2014)
St. John's Unitarian Church, Cincinnati, Ohio (April 2014)
Marshall University (November 2013)
University of Louisville (March 2013)

Radio Broadcasts

- 2017 Deutschland Rundfunk
Broadcast of *Assembly Line*
- 2016 Sudwest Ründfunk 2 (Southwest Broadcasting 2), Cluster
Broadcast of *Between Russia and Myself* and interview about the US election
- 2015 Free Radio Stuttgart
Broadcast of *Assembly Line*
- 2014 Free Radio Stuttgart
Broadcast of *Mystery Mixes* and *Assembly Line*, plus interview about the meaning of experimental music

2012 Westdeutscher Rundfunk 3 (West German Radio 3)
Broadcast of *Oases*

Teaching

MUSIC

Guest composer (workshops, lectures, and individual lessons with students)

2014 Musik Akademie, Basel, Switzerland
2013 University College Cork, Ireland
2013 National University of Ireland, Maynooth
2013 Indiana University Southeast
2013 University of Louisville
2005 University of South Florida

UNIVERSITY COURSES

2012 Oral Communication I, University of Tübingen, Germany
English language course which focused on various themes related to music; responsibilities included designing all aspects of the course and grading

2009-2011 History of the Arts, University of Stuttgart, Germany
English language survey course on the history of music and the arts; responsibilities included designing all aspects of the course and grading

2003-2005 Ear Training, Northwestern University (Graduate Assistant)
Responsibilities included designing quizzes, administering tests, grading, and attending meetings

2002-2003 Ear Training, University of California at San Diego (Graduate Assistant)
Responsibilities included designing quizzes and grading

PRIVATE TEACHING

2006-2008 Washington, DC
Lessons in composition, theory, ear training, piano, and violin

2004-2006 Chicago, Illinois
Lessons in piano

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

2016-now Tenured Assistant Professor, University of Stuttgart, Germany
2012-2015 Assistant Professor, University of Stuttgart, Germany
2008-2012 Adjunct, University of Stuttgart, Germany
2013-2014 Adjunct, University of Applied Sciences, Esslingen, Germany
2010-2013 Language Instructor, Educom, Stuttgart, Germany
2012 Adjunct, University of Tübingen, Germany
2006-2008 Language Instructor, LADO International Language School, Washington, DC
2003-2005 Language Instructor, Intrax Language Institute, San Diego, California
2000-2001 Language Instructor, St. Thomas English School, Rome, Italy

Related Professional Experience

CURATING (also see "Curating/Creative Grants")

2015-now Cofounder and board member, Stuttgarter Kollektiv für aktuelle Musik (Stuttgart Collective for Current Music, www.skam.io)

PROJECTS WITH BETTY FREEMAN

- 2004-2005 Compiled and wrote the artists' biographies for the international traveling exhibition "Music People," which featured Betty Freeman's photographs
- 2002-2004 Transcribed ninety recordings of composers, musicians, and artists who visited Betty Freeman's home and presented their works there in the 1980s and 1990s.

Software

Finale, Cubase, Logic Pro X, basic knowledge of MAX/MSP, iMovie, Final Cut Pro, Adobe After Effects, Microsoft Office