

CURRICULUM VITAE
STEPHEN WHALE

Stephen J. Whale, born 1987 in Sydney, Australia

Email: sjwhale@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.cse.unsw.edu.au/~meicheng/stephenwhale/>



PROFILE

I am an Australian concert pianist, accompanist, teacher of music theory, ear training and piano, and music researcher. As a pianist, I have performed in many significant concert series and festivals in the United States, Norway, Finland, and Australia. For the 2015-16 season, I was the principal solo artist for L'Archet concert group based in East Stroudsburg University, USA, and have appeared regularly on their concert series since then. In addition to solo concerts I have regularly performed chamber music, and have collaborated with singers in opera and lied recitals.

My main focus as a holistic musician applies the knowledge of harmony and form toward shaping vivid and illuminating performances. My doctoral dissertation developed an approach to analyzing harmony and form in tonal music (c.1770-1850) based on the dynamic interplay of opposing forces. I strive to apply this research to my performing and teaching.

EDUCATION: MAIN

City University of New York

New York, NY, USA

9/2019

Doctorate of Musical Arts (major in Piano Performance)

- Fulfilled all requirements for the degree: approved dissertation, three recitals, passed comprehensive examinations, passed foreign language exam (German)
- Dissertation title: Analyzing Harmonic Polarities: A Tonal Narrative Approach. Advisor: Scott Burnham
- Studied piano with Thomas Sauer
- Studied Schenkerian and other analysis methods to advanced level with William Rothstein, Poundie Burstein and Eric Wen.
- Average Grade: 3.77/4

Yale School of Music, Yale University

New Haven, CT, USA

5/2011

Master of Music in Piano Performance

- Studied piano with Boris Berman (principal teacher), Wei-Yi Yang, Claude Frank
- Studied analysis of form and style in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century music
- Took courses in accompanying singers (lied and opera) and instrumentalists
- Average Grade: 3.8/4

Sydney Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney

Sydney, NSW, Australia

Stephen Whale: pianist, accompanist, educator and scholar
CURRICULUM VITAE

- 12/2008 Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance (Honours, First Class)
- Piano studies with Natalia Sheludiakova
 - Submitted thesis and gave two recitals for the Honours degree. Title: Einojuhani Rautavaara as Modernist, Mystic and Romantic: the evolution of his style 1970-1998 as a synthesis of three compositional personalities.
 - Grade: First class honours

TEACHING & ACCOMPANIMENT EXPERIENCE

Masterclasses, accompaniment, piano teaching (individual lessons)

- 2016–2018 Visiting accompanist at Aaron Copland School of Music in Queens, NY & Barnard College, New York City.
- Performed for degree recitals and recordings for graduate school applications.
 - Accompanist for the studio of Susan Rotholz (flute).
- 2017 I gave a piano masterclass at Hidden Valley Music Seminars in Carmel, CA
- Repertoire taught: Debussy, *Arabesque*
- 2013-2014 Private piano teacher and accompanist in Bergen, Norway.
- Accompanist in the studio of Hilde Haraldsen Sveen (voice, Grieg Academy).
- 2012-2013 Piano teacher and accompanist at Newington College in Sydney, NSW
- 2012 Accompanist at Educational Center for the Arts, New Haven
- Accompanied musical theater production "Songs for a New World" and choir concerts
- 2010–2011 Teacher of piano as a secondary instrument and accompanist at Yale School of Music
- 2010-11 Part-time student accompanist at Yale School of Music
- Accompanied lessons in the studios of Hyo Kang (violin) and David Shifrin (clarinet)
- 2007-2008 Part-time student accompanist at Sydney Conservatorium of Music
- Accompanied lessons in the studios of Michael Halliwell (voice), Barry Ryan (voice), and Maree Ryan (voice), Goetz Richter (violin).

Music theory, ear training, analysis, keyboard harmony/class piano teaching

- 4/2019 Guest lecture for MUS 86500, Seminar in Musicology: Chopin (invited by Professor Scott Burnham) at CUNY Graduate Center
- Gave a class analyzing harmony and form in Chopin's Nocturne op. 37/2 in terms of opposing forces.
- 2015–2018 Adjunct professor of music theory, ear training and class piano at Aaron Copland School of Music, Queens College, CUNY

Courses taught at Queens College (CUNY):

- 2015-2017 MUS 73, Rudiments of music (theory)
- I taught a remedial course to first year Bachelor students. Students rigorously internalized the basics of intervals, scales, keys, chord construction, rhythm to prepare them for theory sequence 1-6.

Stephen Whale: pianist, accompanist, educator and scholar
CURRICULUM VITAE

- Fall 2015** MUS 75, Piano 1
- I instructed non-pianists in playing harmonic progressions and simple pieces. In this class I focused on training the students to hear the voice leading, bring out dissonant or chromatic tones, and understand harmonic function.
- 2016-2017** MUS 74, Basic musicianship: piano
- I instructed non-pianists with no or little previous experience in the basics of piano playing. I taught basic technique, sound production (how to produce a beautiful sound), listening technique, basic harmonic progressions and sight reading.
- Fall 2015** MUS 171, Sight-singing 1
- I instructed students in singing intervals, short and simple melodies, arpeggiating basic chord progressions and executing basic rhythms in simple and compound time. I directed students to quickly analyse melodies for important features such as semitones, leaps and arpeggios to aid their fluency.
- 2016-2017** MUS 73, Sight-singing and dictation: rudimentary level
- 2014-2015** Private music theory teacher in New York City
- Taught an advanced student keyboard harmony and harmonic and formal analysis.

SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCES AND RECORDINGS

Recitals

- 2015-2019** Regular appearances at Cohen Hall, East Stroudsburg University for the L'Archet Concert Group
- Chosen as Principal Solo Artist for 2015-16 season
 - Solo and chamber music recitals
 - Performed with the Ulysses Quartet, Domenic Salerni (Violinist, Attacca Quartet)
- 2012-2019** Regular appearances at significant venues in New York City
- Performed solo and chamber music recitals and accompanied voice recitals at Klavierhaus, Elebash Hall, Tenri Cultural Institute, and Le Frak Hall (Aaron Copland School of Music).
 - Performed with Boris Allakhverdyan (Principal Clarinet, LA Philharmonic and Farkhad Khudyev (Music Director, University of Texas Symphony Orchestra).
 - Performed lied recitals with Archie Worley (understudy, Metropolitan Opera).
- 2017-2018** Performed concerts at concert halls in public libraries in New York area and New Jersey
- Solo performances for "New Talent, New Ideas" and "Music on a Sunday Afternoon" concert series'.
- 2013-2017** Performances at major festivals and other venues in Norway and Finland
- Solo performance at Bergen International Festival (Norway)

Stephen Whale: pianist, accompanist, educator and scholar
CURRICULUM VITAE

- Performances with singers at Harald Sæverud museum and Grieg Museum, Bergen
- Solo performance at Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival (Finland)
- 2009-2013** Performances at significant venues in Australia
- Solo Performances at the Goethe Institut and Steinway Showroom, Sydney; Wesley Performing Arts Center, Canberra
- 2007** Solo performance of Rachmaninov's Second Piano Concerto with the Queensland Orchestra at Queensland Performing Arts Center

Performances as orchestral pianist

- 2012–2013** Several performances with Sydney Chamber Opera Orchestra
- *The Lighthouse* by Peter Maxwell Davies & *Owen Wingrave* by Benjamin Britten
- 2006-2012** Orchestral performances with Australian Youth Orchestra and Yale Philharmonic
- Repertoire: Ravel, Stravinsky, Mahler, postgraduate student compositions

Broadcasts and professional recordings

- 2015-2017** Interviews and broadcast of live recital on WVIA radio, Scranton, USA
- 2016** Professional recording of violin and piano repertoire
- *Atmospheric Lines*, featuring Cesar Franck's Sonata in A Major and Einojuhani Rautavaara's *April Lines*. Recorded at Red Rock Studios, Pennsylvania, USA.
- 2013** Art Sound Radio, Canberra, Australia
- 2010-2011** Radio broadcast of solo recitals on 2MBS, Sydney, Australia

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Complementary Studies (Music)

- 7/2016** Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival in Kuhmo, Finland (studies with Juhani Lagerspetz)
- 7/2015** Kangasniemi Song Academy in Kangasniemi, Finland
- Studied vocal accompaniment with Ilmo Ranta. Accompanied students in studio of Seppo Ruohonen
- 6/2015** Beethoven Institute at Mannes School of Music in New York City
- Masterclasses with Thomas Sauer, Robert McDonald & Benjamin Hochmann. Performed Beethoven's op. 10/3 in final concert
- 2013-2014** International Diploma in Piano Performance, Grieg Academy, Bergen, Norway
- Studied piano with Audun Kayser. Secondary voice studies with Hilde Haraldsen Sveen.
- 7/2010** Piano! Festival at Australian National Academy of Music in Melbourne, VIC
- Studied with Boris Berman
- 2008 & 2009** International Holland Music Sessions in Bergen, Holland
- Studied piano with Geoffrey Madge & Boris Berman
- 1/2008** Ronald Dowd Summer School for Singers and Répétiteurs in Sydney, NSW (studies with Victor Morris)

Stephen Whale: pianist, accompanist, educator and scholar
CURRICULUM VITAE

2004 & 2006 Lessons in jazz piano improvisation and jazz harmony

Language skills

English: native language
Finnish: Proficient level
German: proficient reading skills; beginner/intermediate speaking & listening
Danish: beginner/intermediate

SCHOLARSHIPS, PRIZES & AWARDS

2018-2019 Dissertation Completion Encouragement Award (\$1000)
2014-2019 Graduate Center Fellowship & Full Scholarship for DMA studies at City University of New York (Tuition & USD 25,000 pa)
2015-2016 Appointment as the Principal Solo Artist for *L'Arbet* Concert Group, East Stroudsburg, PA, USA
2013 Award from the PPCA Performers' Trust Foundation, Sydney, Australia
2009-2011 Full Tuition Scholarship from Yale School of Music
2009 Greville/Coughtrey Award for Overseas Study (AUD 14,000)
2009 Australian Postgraduate Award (AUD 10,000)
2008 Henderson Travelling Scholarship (AUD 20,000)
2005-2008 Four Sydney Conservatorium of Music Scholarships
2002 St. George/Sutherland Young Performer of the Year

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

6/2019 Brandeis University Musicology Graduate Students Conference
• Title: "Schoenberg's chart of regions as a tool for analyzing centrifugal and centripetal trajectories in Schubert's D. 894."
4/2019 South Central Society for Music Theory conference, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, USA
• Title: "Goethe's generation of color as a metaphor for harmonic shading and trajectories"
2018-2019 Presentations at Music Theory Dissertation Group, CUNY Graduate Center

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Administration/editing

2018-2019 Writing across the curriculum (WAC) fellow, Queens College
• Tasks: editing the journal *Revisions* to give writing intensive students at Queens College an opportunity to submit their pieces. Evaluation of 200 writing intensive syllabi according to WAC principles (administrative). Instructor assistance in developing assignments for audio-essay format.