

# MASON BYNES

Composer. Career Coach. Arts Advocate.

[masonbynes.org](http://masonbynes.org) | 832-419-0801 | [mbynes30@gmail.com](mailto:mbynes30@gmail.com) | [LinkedIn](#)

## COMPOSITIONS

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- 2023 25' **The Wanderer's Tethering**, operetta for mezzo, spoken word, and string quartet, commissioned and premiered by Boston Lyric Opera
- 2023 4' **Epiphanytide**, motet for SSSAATTBB choir, commissioned and premiered by Emmanuel Music
- 2022 15' **Three Dialogues**, for SSAATTBB choir and piano accompaniment, commissioned and premiered by the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society
- 2022 15' **For My Mother, and the Mother I Am**, for soprano and piano accompaniment, commissioned and premiered by Boston Art Song Society
- 2022 11' **Spring, Sprang, Sprung**, for chamber orchestra, commissioned and premiered by Parlando
- 2021 8' **Two Stepping**, for wind quintet and cowboy boots, commissioned by and premiered WindSync
- 2021 3' 30" **Music for Meditation**, for Double Bass and vocal back track, commissioned and premiered by Discover Double Bass LLC
- 2021 6' 30" **If Singing is Free**, for SATB voices, violin, cello, and piano accompaniment, commissioned and premiered by North End Music and Performing Arts (NEMPAC)
- 2021 5'30" **Songs for the People**, for soprano and piano accompaniment, commissioned by the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS)
- 2020 5' **Broomsticks**, for classical guitar, commissioned and premiered by Ex-Aequo
- 2020 11' 30" **Dowland Impressions**, for soprano and classical guitar, commissioned and premiered by Lumedia Musicworks
- 2020 3' 30" **The [WRECK]oning**, for solo bass, commissioned and premiered by Bass Players for Black Composers with presented by International Society of Bassists, MIT libraries, and Robert Black from Bang-On-A-Can
- 2020 2' **250 Candles**, for string trio (miniature), commissioned and premiered by The Amorsima Trio
- 2020 10' 30" **For Rosa**, for brass quartet, commissioned and premiered by The Westerlies Inc.
- 2020 3' 30" **The House**, for tenor and piano accompaniment, performed by members of Promenade Opera Project, Lyric Opera of Chicago, and Dallas Opera
- 2019 4' 30" **Dry**, song for short film directed by graduate student from University of North Texas, Claire DeJarnett
- 2019 8' **Pleiades**, electroacoustic work
- 2019 4' **Prayer to Persephone**, for soprano, viola and piano
- 2019 5' **Incipient Sonority**, for SSA choir and handbells
- 2018 4' **Following Orpheus**, electroacoustic work
- 2018 6' **ZEUS**, for three electric guitars, electric bass and drum set chamber ensemble
- 2017 8' 30" **Persephone**, for solo cello

## PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

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### Boston Pops Holiday Singers

2021-present Vocalist

- Perform in octet directed by Keith Lockhart, coached by Director Lisa Graham for December matinees

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## Odyssey Opera

2020 Chorus

- Performed chorus role of Arnold Rosner's opera, "The Chronicle of Nine", Directed by Gil Rose and artistically led by Linda Osborn

## Nightingale Vocal Ensemble

2020-2021 Vocalist

- Recorded vocals for chorus featured in first virtual season during the Covid-19 pandemic

## Boston Pops

2019 Chorus

- Performed in Boston Pops Holiday Tour (New England), directed by Keith Lockhart, performing with Boston's Metropolitan Chorale, directed by Lisa Graham

## Metropolitan Chorale

2019-2020 Chorus

- Performed in Metropolitan Chorale, directed by Lisa Graham- performed Leoš Janáček's *Amarus*, Kodaly Budavari's *Te Deum*, and Felix Mendelssohn's *Die erste Walpurgisnacht*

## Dallas Choral Fest

2018 Chorus

- Performed in vocal ensemble accompanied by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra- directed under Highland Presbyterian Church Choir Director, Greg Hobbs. Featuring Francis Poulenc's *Stabat Mater* and Herbert Howells' *Hymnus Paradisi*

## SELECTED MUSIC COMMISSIONS AND COLLABORATIONS

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[National Association of Teachers of Singing](#), [Parlando](#), [National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain](#), [The Westerlies](#), [Boston Lyric Opera](#), [Bass Players for Black Composers](#), [Discover Double Bass](#), [Bang-on-a-Can](#), [Philadelphia Chamber Music Society](#), [Ex-Aequo](#), [Houston Youth Symphony](#), [Boston Pops Holiday Singers](#), [Boston Art Song Society](#)

## RECENT ARTIST RESIDENCIES

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2023-present Inaugural Winner of Florence Price Commission, Washington Master Chorale

- Selected as commissioned composer for 2023-2024 season

2023 Empowerment Through Music: Cornell University

- [Residency](#) with grammy nominated countertenor, Reginald Mobley, with performances of original choral work "Three Dialogues" by Cornell University Choir and Glee Club
- Presented master class "The Power and Beauty of Process"

2021-2022 Composer in Residence, Boston Art Song Society

- Residency featuring performances of original works from [catalogue](#) and a [commission for a new monodrama](#)

2021 Key Note Speaker, University of North Texas College of Music Spring 2021 Commencement

- Delivered a virtual address titled "[A Call to Reclaim Our Space](#)" to graduating students

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## LECTURES AND INTERVIEWS

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- 2023** “The Power and Beauty of Process”, lecture at Cornell University supported by Sparks & Wiry Cries with additional performance of “Three Dialogues”
- 2023** Featured in Emmanuel Music podcast, [Bach Lab](#), in an interview promoting the premiere of new motet “Epiphanytide”
- 2022** 25th African American Art Song Alliance Conference, led by University of California-Irvine’s Dr. Darryl Taylor- “Songs for the People” featured in a evening concert, followed by composer round table discussion
- 2022** Omni Foundation [interview](#) with guitarist, Brig Urias, promoting new guitar work, “Broomsticks”
- 2021** Featured in an [article](#) by Boston’s experimental digital magazine, “The Scope”
- 2021** “[The Power and Beauty of Process](#)”, lecture and masterclass with Bass Players for Black Composers
- 2021** Interview with Angelica Campbell from Austin Classical Guitar, promoting guitar work, “Broomsticks”
- 2020** BBC Radio 3 interview with members of National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, promoting performance of doubles bass work, “Hades”, at the Royal Festival Hall

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE

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**Berklee Career Center, Berklee College of Music - Boston, MA**

- 2023** **Senior Career Services Advisor**
- Promoted to to senior advisor after the completion of the following:
  - Supervised Los Angeles Industry Trip for 20 senior screen scoring students, engaging with various employers within post-production (e.g. Riot Games, Electronic Arts, Warner Brother Studios, and others)
    - Served as liaison for employers, coordinating check-in times and collecting student information/portfolio work
    - Processed 100+ student applications for trip and conducted two interview rounds with academic chairs
    - Collaborated with internal team on travel/hotel booking, transportation services, and itinerary planning
  - Launched recruitment initiative with Disney Television and Animation for composers/songwriters to respond to creative brief for new animated series
    - Booked campus space and organized info sessions featuring Vice President and Director of Music
    - Managed submission process using Google Suite/Dropbox, resulting in two finalists selected for hire
- 2021-2023** **Career Services Advisor**
- Advised students on career strategy and entrepreneurship, holding 400+ appointments a semester and tracking advising notes through CSM platform
  - Acted as faculty instructor for two internship classes per semester, with a caseload of ~20 students
  - Developed presentations for team of career advisors regarding job application, interviewing, and industry resources using Canva
  - Managed composition career community, providing specialized advising and career development workshops
  - Served as interim Social Media Manager, designing Instagram posts, reels, and story takeovers
    - Increased fall semester following by 1,000+ accounts, giving monthly
    - Project managed team of student content contributors, organizing work flow through Asana and Slack
    - Maintained “[Instagram Takeover](#)” series for Berklee interns and launched “[New Year's Career Resolution](#)” series
    - Assisted in the production and promotion of major artist residencies, industry pitch sessions, and recruitment events

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- Managed class presentation featuring guided tour of website design best practices with Head of Academic Partnerships at Wix

## 2019-2021 Graduate Assistant in Employer Relations

- Peer advised undergraduate and graduate students on resumes, cover letters, and Berklee resources
- Managed job platform (Simplicity), The Berklee Career Manager, and maintained online customer service and call support related to job postings, workshops, and campus events
- Trained team of 6-8 undergraduate employees on job board maintenance and office function
- Researched various internships, full-time/part-time roles, auditions, competitions, casting calls, and grant opportunities for posting on job platform

## SUMMARY OF KEY OUTCOMES

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### Project Development and Supervision

- Disney Television and Animation Recruitment Program: successfully managed partnership and program functions, resulting in one student composer and one student songwriter selected for hire by the company
- Social Media Management: Managed content contributions by streamlining processes for team of 3, developing a new brand for office's Instagram with a student centered focus
- Boston Pops Auditions: Supervised campus partnerships and leveraged relationship with conductor Keith Lockhart and artistic director to recruit vocalists and instrumentalists for BSO, with 10 students recruited for performances

### Career Counseling

- Held leading numbers for appointments with students and alumni due to increased numbers in follow up appointments
- Rebranded career workshop presentations to align with AI, design, and social media aesthetics to cater to a younger audience
- Curated workshops for identity based program, Black Scholars Initiative, and served as a mentor for two students
- Assisted students and alumni with job applications, landing work with companies including: Disney, Capitol Records, Bleeding Fingers, Vancouver School of Music, Sparks and Shadows, Maison Arts Publishing, and more

### Employment Training and Job Development

- Successfully pitched and implemented a resource share with director of international career center to expand advising team's knowledge of international employers and industry hubs
- Led weekly meetings with senior student employee, helping to determine fall semester training for new hires
- Hosted weekly meetings with advising team to report out talent updates, review best practices, and identify job opportunities to better support advising appointments
- Berklee NYC She Knows Tech: attended conference and reported back on tips for job applications from recruiters hiring in production, presentation was later used for advisor workshops with student clubs

## MUSIC INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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### Raging Cloud Studios - remote

#### 2021-present Composer, freelance

- Compose music for boutique independent music studio, responding to creative briefs for sync licensing in film and TV

### Nightingale Vocal Ensemble - Boston, MA

#### 2020 Finance Chair

- Led ensemble's successful crowdfunding campaign using Kickstarter, securing funds that supported production of entirely virtual season
- Established quarterly newsletter, supporting marketing team with content contributions

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- Drafted band partnership contract and managed finance team's process of filing for non-profit status

2020

## Composer

- Composed choral work, "[Nebula](#)", for SSAATTBB voicing, recording soprano and alto vocal tracks using home studio
- Managed recording process, collecting files from vocalists in remote settings during pandemic
- Mixed and mastered final recording and designed [music video](#) using visuals from NASA public domain

## Mason Bynes Music - remote

### 2018 - present Composer, Freelance

- Freelance composer, vocalist, and multimedia artist serving a [variety of artists](#) and collectives through commissions, performances, podcasts, artist residencies, and public speaking engagements
- Press interviews and reviews by [Boston Globe](#), [Opera Wire](#), [Boston Neighborhood Network](#), [The Scope](#), and [CBS Texas](#)
- Published and recorded works with [Bass Players for Black Composers](#), [Ex-Aequo](#), [The Westerlies](#), and [Discover Double Bass](#)
- Design and manage [website](#) using Wix, processing invoices for score sales and artist services on a weekly basis
- Manage and define social media brand by coordinating photo shoots and creating promotional content using Canva

## EDUCATION

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### The Boston Conservatory at Berklee - Boston, MA

#### Master of Music in Composition

- Conservatory Scholarship Recipient
- Directed studies with Guggenheim fellow Dr. Marti Epstein

### University of North Texas - Denton, TX

#### Bachelor of Music in Composition

- Magna Cum Laude
- Studied composition under Dr. Kirsten Broberg and music for media under Dr. Drew Schnurr
- Mentored by film composer and University of Southern California professor Bruce Broughton
- Studied vocal performance (opera emphasis) with baritone Michael Anthony McGee

## SKILLS

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- Administrative: Simplicity (CSM), Google Suite, Mac OS, Windows, Workday, Booker, Slack, Asana, Trello, Zoom, WebEx, Drop Box, VMock
- Visual Editing and Design: Nikon D3500, Final Cut Pro, iMovie, Canva
- Digital Audio Workstation & Music Notation Software: Logic Pro X, Pro Tools, Garage Band, Finale, Zoom (recording)
- Social Media: Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, YouTube
- Arts Administration, Public Speaking, Presentation Design
- Extensive composition and vocal performance experience
- Career Education and Workshop Design