

DR. TY ALAN EMERSON

Phone: 216-403-0255
tyalanemerson@yahoo.com
www.tyalanemerson.com

1108 S Green Rd
South Euclid, OH 44121

COMPOSER, CONDUCTOR

EDUCATION

- | | | |
|------------|---|----------|
| DMA | The Peabody Institute
Defense Title: "Angels in America-Carl Ruggles and Dissonant Counterpoint"
Committee: Robert Sirota, Morris Cotel, Eileen Soskin, Bruno Amato | May 1999 |
| MM | Louisiana State University
Thesis: "The Tale of Harry—A Ballet on Henry V"
Advisor: Dinos Constantinides | May 1996 |
| BM | Shenandoah University, Music Education
Graduated Summa Cum Laude
Composition studies with Thomas Albert | May 1994 |

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| Cleveland Chamber Collective
Premiere of "OATH BREAKER"
Emerson composer and conductor | 2024 |
| Cleveland Chamber Collective
Premiere of "Shelter-in-Place"
Emerson composer and conductor | 2023 |
| The Cleveland Jazz Orchestra
Guest conductor on various works including Emerson's "Waiting to Exhale"
Dance | 2021, 2023, 2024 |
| Inlet Dance Theatre and Cleveland Chamber Collective
Featuring Emerson's "Caliban Ascendant," previewed at Arts Tremont. Premiered at Cain Park and later performed during Ground Works at Cleveland Public Theater. | 2019-2021 |

AWARDS, COMMISSIONS, FESTIVALS

Grants to support performances	2006-present
Agencies include: Bascom Little Fund, Ohio Arts Council, Cuyahoga Arts and Culture	
New Music on the Bayou Festival, Monroe, LA	2022
Performance of “Cast Thy Nighted Colour Off”	
Commission by Dylan Moffitt	2022
Resulting in new work for Steel Pan, “Pan Songs”	
NEO Sonic New Music Festival, Cleveland	2018
Performance of “Tripartite” by No Exit	
Commission by No Exit	2016-2018
Resulting in new work “Darkling, I Listen”	
New Music Festival at Marshall University	2015
Featured work “Prospero on the Beach”	
Commission by ASSEM3LY	2015
Resulting in new work “Prospero on the Beach”	
Commission by Musical Theater Project	2014
“Deconstructing Kurt Weil” A two-act Cabaret with new, modern versions of Weil’s American oeuvre	
MTNA/OMTA Composer of the Year	2014
Resulting in new work “Caliban” flute and piano version	
Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Award	2013
Commission by No Exit	2011
Resulting in new work “Tripartite”	
Commission by Mary Kay Fink and Richard King	2009
Resulting in new work “Rogue”	
Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Award	2009
Fortnightly Music Club of Cleveland	2008
Resulting in new work “Piano Sonata”	
Argosy Foundation Grant	2007
For the project “Metal Chamber”	

CMS/SCI National Conference, San Antonio Featuring “Trombone Quartet”	2006
New Music Festival at Akron University Featuring “In Us” for percussion sextet	2005
Music at the Forefront at Bowling Green State University Featuring “Triptych” for saxophone and piano	2004
Residency at Interlochen Arts Academy Featuring performance of “Iron and Aire”	2002
Commission by Gary Louie and Kirsten Taylor Resulting in new work “5 Pieces” for saxophone, piano, and wind ensemble Premiered by the Peabody Wind Ensemble, Harlan Parker, conductor	2001
MacDowell Colony Fellow	2000
Resolution 2000 New Music Festival at Indiana State University SE Featuring “Dedications”	2000
Commission by Gary Louie and Kirsten Taylor Resulting in new work “Iron and Aire”	1999
Eleanor Searle McCullum Donor Award From the Academy of Arts and Letters Resulting in a performance at the Swedish Embassy	1999
ASCAP Morton Gould Prize Award winning work “Dedications”	1999
Randolph Rothschild Award Composition excellence award from Peabody Institute	1999
The Huddersfield New Music Festival Huddersfield England Featuring “Trombone Quartet”	1998
Commission by Kirsten Taylor Resulting in new work “Dedications”	1997
Texas Shakespeare Festival, Kilgore Texas Commissioned to compose original music for four plays performed in repertory	1996

OTHER NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

WCLV Radio “Fresh Innovations” Mark Satola, host Featured several times per year, most recently “Caliban Ascendant”	2003-present
Cleveland Chamber Collective Premiere “Shelter-in-Place”	2023
Ohio Channel Presents-Creating, Community Documentary film following Emerson’s collaboration with Inlet Dance Theatre	2022
Cleveland Chamber Collective Premiere of “Pan Songs” featuring Dylan Moffitt	2022, 2024
The Cleveland Jazz Orchestra Featuring “Waiting to Exhale”	2021, 2024
Cleveland Chamber Collective “Music of America” Featured works “Cast Thy Nighted Colour Off” and “Love and Other Missed-Spellings” Featuring saxophonist Gabriel Pique	2020
Cleveland International Film Festival Arranged and co-produced the music for the Festival Trailer This trailer showed before every film during CIFF 43	2019
Zeitgeist, Minnesota New Music Ensemble Performance of “Homage to Lou” in Cleveland with No Exit	2018
The Musical Theater Project Featuring arrangements for the following full-length cabarets: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Silver Linings: The Songs of Jerome Kern• Let’s Not Waste Another Moment: The Impact of Milk and Honey• Almost Like Being in Love: The Songs of Lerner and Loewe• Bernstein on Broadway	2016-2018
Cleveland Chamber Collective Featuring “Homage to Lou”	2016
Panaramicos, Cleveland Composers’ Guild concert Featuring “Miranda” which would later become “Ariel” in “Caliban Ascendant”	2014
Cleveland Chamber Collective at 78th St Studios Featuring “Rage&Love&Ashes”	2011
Cleveland Duo with James Umble Premiere of “Tattoos” with performances in Cleveland and Youngstown	2008

VERB Ballets Featuring selections from “Metal Chamber” Performed during Ground Works at Cleveland Public Theater	2008
Quorum New Music Ensemble Featuring performance of “Iron and Aire”	2002

COMMERCIAL RECORDINGS

Taking Charge Albany Records: Albany, NY ASSEM3LY Featuring Emerson’s “Prospero on the Beach”	released 2017
Telling Tales: Cleveland Composers’ Guild Capstone Records: Brooklyn, NY Various performers Featuring Emerson’s “Birch Whispers”	released 2004

QUOTES AND REVIEWS

Mark Satola, Radio Personality and Music Critic

“Ty Alan Emerson is one of northeast Ohio’s most talented and imaginative composers. He writes in a style that is cognizant of international music developments but which is also immediately comprehensible to audiences. His music is dynamic, complex (without being complicated) and suffused with originality.”

Kevin McLaughlin, Cleveland Classical Music Critic

“*Oath Breaker* takes the audience on a 60-minute journey of anger, grief, and hope, as a kind of collective PTSD therapy session about the events of January 6 and its subsequent aftermath. The mixture of recorded electronics, live performances, and poetic and prosaic texts helped to conjure in real time the horror of that day.

Musically, the piece maintains internal logic and emotional tautness over the 60-minute span....it all hangs together, and the overall effect is quite satisfying. Solos — and everyone in the band had one sooner or later — added greatly.

All of it seemed of a piece despite its multitudes. Every passage — whether tonal, multi-tonal, or electronic — was well fitted to the text.

To misquote Dickens, *Oath Breaker* is an effective telling, not so much of what could be, but of what must never be again.”

Bill Wade, Inlet Dance Theatre, Executive and Artistic Director

“The sonic world of Ty’s “Caliban Ascendant” is lush, rich in both Western and Eastern citations of tone and rhythm, and clear regarding character development. It is full of detail.

The large audience at the premiere immediately jumped to their feet with a rousing standing ovation that was unusually loud and long lasting. It was clear they appreciated the quality of the music, choreography, and performance. The social statement in the work was also clearly received and appreciated by the multigenerational and multi-ethnic audience. I've received numerous emails and direct messages regarding the impact of Ty's music combined with Inlet's artistry.

Ty is an utmost professional with a very high skill set and he is very deserving of accolades and awards for his mature artistry and willingness to lean into our society's pressing unresolved inequities."

Peter Feher, Cleveland Classical Music Critic

"Ty Alan Emerson—who composed the score, adapted the story...and conducted Sunday's premiere—didn't skimp on the musical demands.

The work calls for a battery of percussion and a group of chamber musicians willing to play outside of the box, from passages for prepared piano to extended technique after extended technique. The Collective, some of whom are members of The Cleveland Orchestra, gave a clean, confident reading of the piece, at a level you'll only hear from established ensemble players."

Daniel Hathaway, Cleveland Classical Music Critic

"Ty Alan Emerson led a tight performance by the live musicians. *Drones* made a strong initial impression, suggesting more details would be revealed in a second hearing."

Nicholas Stevens, Cleveland Classical Music Critic

"*Darkling, I Listen...* resembled a single painted brushstroke on an otherwise blank canvas. Variable in thickness, color, and height, drawn against silence and always threatening to run out..."

Eric Kisch, Cleveland WCLV Radio Personality and Music Critic

"This is a young man with a great future ahead of him. I look forward to many musical experiences from his pen."

Andrew Adler, Louisville Courier-Journal Music Critic

regarding the performance of "Dedications" at the Resolution 2000 Music Festival [it] "possessed surprising emotional resonance and was quite expertly wrought."

COMPLETE WORKS LIST

Works for Chamber Ensemble

OATH BREAKER

Requiem on January 6
Flute, Violin, Viola, Cello, Piano
Percussionist, Electronics

Pan Songs

Commissioned by Dylan Moffitt
Steelpan or collection of indefinite pitch
percussion arranged like a steelpan

Shelter-In-Place

Flute, Violin, Viola, Cello, Piano,
Percussionist

Lorraine

(In Memory of My Mother)
Viola, Cello, Piano

Book of Trios

Violin, Viola, Cello
(An ever-growing collection of short
pieces)

Waiting to Exhale

Requested by Cleveland Jazz Orchestra
Jazz Octet
Jazz Band with Strings

Cast Thy Nighted Colour Off

B-Flat Clarinet/Bass Clarinet, Piano, 2
Percussionists
(also available for Soprano/Baritone
Saxophone, Piano, 2 Percussionists)

Homage to Lou

In honor of Harrison's Centennial
Violin, Piano, Percussionist

Love and Other Missed-Spellings

Saxophones (1 Player), Vibes, Piano,
Drum Set
(a set of 6 mvts. selections can be played
separately)

1. Overtures
2. Beautiful Stranger
3. Wrapped Up In You
4. Mary-Go-Round
5. Waiting to Exhale
6. Nostalgia

Darkling, I Listen

Commission by No Exit
Flute, Violin, Viola, Cello, Piano,
Percussionist

Caliban Ascendant

Presented in collaboration with Inlet
Dance Theatre
Flute, Violin, Viola, Cello, Piano,
2 Percussionists
(a set of 4 mvts. selections can be played
separately)

1. Prospero on the Beach
(also available for flute,
piano, perc)
2. Ariel
3. Caliban (also available for flute
and piano)
4. Prospero Exiled

Tripartite

Commissioned by No exit
Violin, Viola, Cello

Music from the Play Elephant Man

Flute, Violin I+II, Viola, Cello, Piano

Rage&Love&Ashes

A chamber concerto

Flute, Violin I+II, Viola, Cello, Piano

Rogue

Commissioned by Mary Kay Fink

Flute, Horn in F, Piano

Metal Chamber

Flute, Violin I+II, Viola, Cello, Piano

(a set of 3 mvts. selections can be played separately)

1. Overtures
2. Mary-Go-Round
3. Blood and Oil

In Us

Percussion sextet

Tattoos

For the Cleveland Duo

with James Umble

Violin, Alto Saxophone, Piano

Piano Sonata

Commissioned by the Fortnightly Music Club of Cleveland

Doors

Flute, Violin I+II, Viola, Cello, Piano

Tryptich

Written for John Sampen

Alto Saxophone, Piano

Iron and Aire

Commissioned by Gary Louie and Kirsten Taylor

Violin, Alto Saxophone, Piano

Trombone Quartet

Composed for the Huddersfield New Music Festival

Dedications

Commissioned by Kirsten Taylor

Violin, Cello, Piano

Works for Wind Ensemble

After All Is Said and Done

Wind Ensemble

After Vietnam

Wind Ensemble

Fear in a Handful of Dust

Wind Ensemble

Kansas Town When the Sun Goes Down

Wind Ensemble

5 Pieces

Commissioned by Gary Louie and Kirsten Taylor

Concerto for Alto Saxophone, Piano, and Wind Ensemble

Concerto for Harp with Wind Ensemble

Commissioned by the Peabody Wind Ensemble, Harlan Parker, conductor