

Drew Schnurr, Phd

Assistant Professor of Composition and Media

University of North Texas College of Music

Composer, sonic artist, performer, engineer and producer, theorist and educator with a broad range of professional experience in music and sound. Sonic artworks and film scores presented in galleries and theaters on six continents in addition to numerous national and international concert music commissions and performances. Music and sound design composed for networks including 20th Century Fox and Paramount Entertainment in addition to sound interface design and sonic branding for clients including Hyundai, Google, and LA Phil. Music released on Coviello Classics (distributed by NAXOS).

EDUCATION

University of California Los Angeles, PhD in Music Composition (2013)

University of California Los Angeles, M.A in Music Composition (2011)

University of Southern California, M.M. Double Bass Performance (2005)

Western Michigan University, B.M. Bass Performance and Jazz Studies (1996)

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

2018-current	University of North Texas College of Music and Department of Media Arts Assistant Professor of Composition and Media
2013-2018	UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music Lecturer in Music and Sound Composition / Digital Technology
2015-2018	Chaffey College Associate Professor of Music
2011-2013	UCLA Research Fellow
2005-2011	UCLA Department of Design Media Arts Lecturer in Sound
2006-2007	El Camino College Instructor in Electronic Music

ARTISTIC WORK and PERFORMANCES

2022 ARCH 1 (v.2) (Augmented Reality Concert Hall), application prototype

Author of concept and design for v.2 of augmented reality music software application.

- 2022 **Merrill Ellis Intermedia Theater Celebration Concert, UNT**
Live performance of ***Any-Instant-Whatever: III***, 17 minute recorded electronic sound score with video. Collaboration with visual artist Rebeca Mendez.
- 2021 **Ninth Annual Art & Nature Festival, Laguna Art Museum**
Exhibit of ***Any-Instant-Whatever***, 93 minute recorded electronic sound score with video. Collaboration with visual artist Rebeca Mendez.
- 2021 ***Any-Instant-Whatever***
93 minute recorded electronic sound score with video. Collaboration with visual artist Rebeca Mendez.
- 2021 **Gangwon International Triennale, South Korea**
Exhibit of ***At Any Given Moment: Fall 1***, 8 minute recorded electronic sound score with video. Collaboration with visual artist Rebeca Mendez.
- 2021 **Laguna Art Museum**
Exhibit of ***Any-Instant-Whatever***.
- 2019 **ARCH 1 (v.0) (Augmented Reality Concert Hall), application prototype**
Author of concept and design for augmented reality music software application.
- 2019 ***Alarm Bells*, for handbells**
Composed for his augmented reality software application *ARCH 1*. Premiere scheduled for Spring 2020 as part of *ARCH 1* release.
- 2019 **Susan Wulff, double bass**
National Commission: ***Calve on the Clavos***, a 7 minute work for piano, cello and double bass. Premiere scheduled for Fall 2020 in San Diego, CA.
- 2019 **Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival (Visual Arts Track)**
Feature screening of ***Ascent of Weavers***, 30 minute recorded electronic sound score with three-channel video. Collaboration with visual artist Rebeca Mendez.
- 2018 **Museum of Contemporary Art, Oaxaca**
Exhibit of ***Ascent of Weavers***, 30 minute recorded electronic sound score with video. Collaboration with visual artist Rebeca Mendez (international commission).
- 2017 **OCOC**
Orchestra performance: ***Churchill's War***, 25 minute work for orchestra and with electronically processed speech recordings. Anaheim, CA. (ocofoc.org).
- 2016 **CIRCUMSOLAR, *Migration 3***
Sonic-visual art exhibit: 25 minute recorded electronic sound score with video. Work created in collaboration with visual artist Rebeca Mendez.
Exhibitions:
- *2016 Art Nova 100*, Art Fair, Group Exhibition. National Agricultural Exhibition Center, Beijing, China. August 26–29, 2016.

- 10th Arte Laguna Art Prize. Group Exhibition. March 19–April 3, 2016. Arsenal in Venice, Italy.
 - *IV Bienal Ciudad Juárez / El Paso Biennial 2015*. Group exhibition. Museo de Arte de Ciudad Juárez and El Paso Museum of Art. October 11, 2015 – January 24, 2016.
 - *Istanbul Light Festival*, November 13–29, 2015. Zorlu Center, Istanbul, Turkey.
 - *SUR: Biennial*. Group exhibition. Cerritos College Art Gallery. October 8 – November 20, 2015.
- 2016 **Goska Isphording, harpsichord**
Performance: *Pendulum and Mirrors*, 7 minute work for solo harpsichord. Nijmegen, Netherlands.
- 2016 **The Riot Ensemble**
Performance: *Linda's Wake*, 18 minute work for mezzo soprano, oboe, harpsichord, double bass, and percussion. London, UK.
- 2015 **Hear Now Music Festival, Los Angeles**
Performance: *Hyperventilations of a Fire Dragon*, 6 minute work for piano with four hands performed by renowned pianists Vicki Ray and Aron Kallay.
- 2015 **Piano Spheres, Los Angeles**
Performance: *Hyperventilations of a Fire Dragon*, 6 minute work for piano with four hands performed by Vicki Ray and Aron Kallay.
- 2015 **Goska Isphording, harpsichord**
Commission and performance: *Pendulum and Mirrors*, a 7 minute work for solo harpsichord. London, UK.
- 2014 **Chamber Music Festival of Lexington, KY**
Performance: *Of Mother and Daughter*, 12 minute work for chamber trio performed by Nathan Cole (violin), Karen Slack (soprano), and Allegra Lilly (harp).
- 2014 **The Riot Ensemble, London, UK**
Commission and performances: *Linda's Wake*, 18 minute work for mezzo soprano, oboe, harpsichord, double bass, and percussion. Collaboration with Los Angeles Opera director and librettist Richard Sparks.
- 2014 **Rebeca Mendez, media artist**
Sonic-visual art exhibit: *Circumsolar*, 10 minute recorded electronic sound score with video. Collaboration with visual artist Rebeca Mendez exhibited at *Icebox* in Philadelphia and the *Alyce De Roulet Williamson Gallery*.
- 2013 **Providence New Music Premieres**
Commission and premiere: *Of Mother and Daughter*, 12 minute work for soprano, violin, and harp. Providence, RI.

2012 **Quartetto Maurice**

Commission and premiere: ***Four String Gambits***, 13 minute composition for string quartet. highSCORE Music Festival, Pavia, Italy.

2011 **Phil O'Connor, clarinet**

Commission, performance, and recording: ***In Medias Res***, 14 minute chamber trio performed by Phil O'Connor (clarinet), Erika Duke-Kirkpatrick (cello), and Justin Smith (guitar). Los Angeles, CA.

2011 **Performance and Recording**

Lune, 17 minute quartet recorded by Phil O'Connor (clarinet), Joel Pargman (violin), Timothy Loo (cello), and Brian Pezzone (piano). Los Angeles, CA.

2010 **Rebeca Mendez, *At Any Given Moment: Fall 2, Grass 2***

11 minute recorded electronic sound composition for sound-video artwork. Exhibitions at 'ENERGY' at the Williamson Gallery in Pasadena, the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Oaxaca (Mexico), the Nevada Art Museum, and the ARCO Madrid 29th International Contemporary Art Fair.

2009 **Rebeca Mendez, *At Any Given Moment: Fall 1, River 1***

8 minute recorded electronic sound composition for sound/video installation in exhibition at 'Scalable Relations' at the Beal Center for Art and Technology.

2008 **Los Angeles Philharmonic - *Celebrate Salonen***

Interactive sound design and sound architecture for the CELEBRATE: SALONEN interactive online site commemorating Esa-Pekka Salonen's tenure with the orchestra.

2007 **Persee Chamber Orchestra**

Premiere of multiple works performed by Alan Grunfield (violin), Jonathan Zalben (violin), Andrew McIntosh (viola), Susan Wulf-Keezer (double bass), Aaron Mclasley (piano), Phil O'Connor (clarinets), Brian Walsh (clarinets), Rich Guetschow (electric bass), and Sam Kestenholtz (percussion).

- ***Symphony of Lies***, 13 minute work for small chamber orchestra and projected visual text animations.
- ***Process 11***, 9 minute work for small chamber orchestra and projected live computer improvised graphic animations.
- ***Revery No.1***, 8 minute work for small chamber orchestra and electronics.

2007 **Composer and Engineer for Persee: *Orchestrated Perception*, persee.net**

Mixed-media live concert event staged in the heart of downtown Los Angeles. Visual-music concert works composed in collaboration with visual artists C.E.B. Reas and Michael Chu.

2006 **Regina Klenjoski Dance Company**

Commission and premiere: ***Inventory***, 25 minute recorded electronic sound score with live dance. Ford Theatre in Torrance, CA.

2005 **International Design Conference in Aspen**

Commission and premiere: *Infinite Pianos*, 46 minute composition for 5 pianos, double bass, and live electronics, performed by Vlcki Ray (piano), Georgi Slavchev (piano), Hyun-Soo Lee (piano), Allsion Adah Johnson (piano), Millicent Gappell (piano), and Drew Schnurr (double bass and electronics). Harris Hall, Aspen, CO.

2004 **Regina Klenjoski Dance Company**

Commission and premiere: *Streetscapes*, 41 minute recorded electro-acoustic sound score with live dance. Ford Amphitheater, Hollywood, CA.

MEDIA COMPOSITION and SOUND DESIGN

2022 **Manchester International Festival, Manchester UK**

Promotional video for Atmospheric Memory exhibit for Rafael Lorenzo-Hammer. Music placement of *Infinite Pianos: Impulse and Sequence*.

2022 **MusikMotion**

Audio/video logo design for educational seminar series on film music.

2021 **Wildlife Conservation Film Festival, NYC**

Festival screening of *Eco Terrorist: The Battle for Our Planet* produced and directed by Peter Jay Brown. Documentary film score.

2021 **Harsh Treatment** - score for short film by Johnathan Paul, Josh Gilbert. Produced by *Datalus Pictures*.

2019 **Fairview Chronicles** - score (regional commission) for full length TV series pilot in collaboration with University of North Texas Department of Media Arts. Collaboration with student composers Victor Granados and Conner Simmons. Composed and produced majority of music as lead composer on the project.

2018 **Eco Terrorist: The Battle for Our Planet** - film score for sequel to internationally acclaimed film documentary *Confessions of an Eco-terrorist* written and directed by Peter Jay Brown. International distribution by *Breaking Glass Pictures*.

2017 **One Main Financial**, music composition and production of music for online digital campaign.

2017 **Women's March, Los Angeles** - film score for short film documenting Women's March on January 21, 2017, directed by Rahat Mahajan and Rebeca Mendez.

2016 **Southwest Airlines**, Composition and production of music and sound design for national interactive digital campaign.

2014 **Documentary Film Score** - *Dalai Lama Awakening*, documentary film about the Dalai Lama by award winning director Khashyar Darvich. Screenings in US, UK, and Australia. Soundtrack release January 2015.

- 2013 **Google**, Sonic branding and interactive musical sound schemes for Google Fiber center lounges and interactive kiosks, *Google Fiber* campaign.
- 2013 **Hyundai USA**, Interactive musical architectures and interface sounds for kiosk presentations illustrating line of hybrid automobiles.
- 2012 **Generation Last**, film score for feature film by Joel Juarez. Festivals: Raindance, Cannes, Feratun, Festival Internacional de Cine de Pasto, Rodando, Worldkids International, and Nocturnativel De Cine Acapulco.
- 2011 **Confessions of an Eco-terrorist**, film score for internationally acclaimed film documentary written and directed by Peter Jay Brown. Festivals and screenings in US, Australia, UK, Germany, France and Mexico.
- 2011 **Film - The Bridge**, film score for film written and directed by Andres Torres Vives. Los Angeles premiere at Los Angeles International Film Festival in 2011.
- 2010 **Short Documentary Film Score - Dodge "Rock n'Roll" Marathon**
- 2009 **Film Score - Book of the Border**, Written and directed by Andrés Torres-Vives. New York premiere at the New York International Film Festival.
- 2009 **Film Score - Wasteland**, Written and directed by Derek Sieg.
- 2007 **Live Earth International** – Music score and sound design for animation shorts.
- 2006 **Sony Ericsson**, Concept and sound design for online campaign.
- 2006 **Yamaha Music International** - MIDI content development as music producer and MIDI programming specialist.
- 2005 **Documentary Film Score** - Institute of Modern letters: *In Their Words* documentary film highlighting the lives of foreign exiled writers.
- 2003 **20th Century Fox** - promotions for *Judge Judy*
Music score and sound design for national TV promotion.
- 2003 **Paramount Entertainment** - promotions for "*On Air with Ryan Seacrest*"
Music score and sound design for national TV promotion.
- 2002 **Wieden + Kennedy**, *W + K lab DVD*
Sound design for interactive DVD release by Nike advertising agency.
- 2000 **Much Music USA**, *Class Dismissed* with Alanis Morissette and the Goo Goo Dolls. Composed theme and score for national television series. Supervised production, recording, and mixing of live music recordings.

COMMISSIONS and WORKS IN PROGRESS

- 2019 **Karen Slack, soprano**

National Commission: 15 minute song cycle for soprano with piano accompaniment for African-American Metropolitan Opera soprano. Songs for opera in development based on historical accounts of African warrior queens.

2019 **Richard Sparks**

12 minute work for soprano, tenor, and piano accompaniment. Commission by Los Angeles Opera librettist and director for Los Angeles Opera soprano Jamie Chamberlin.

2019 **Allegra Lilly, harp**

Commission: 16 minute harp and electronics piece commissioned by St. Louis Symphony principal harpist. Premiere in Fall 2017, St. Louis.

2019 **Documentary Film Score - *Silence of Happiness***, Documentary about life in a Sri Lankan school for deaf children, by award winning director Khashyar Darvich.

2019 **Film Score - *Istinma***, Feature film made in collaboration with the Oglala Lakota tribe of Pine Ridge Indian Reservation about life on the reservation. Written and directed by award winning director Andrés Torres-Vives.

2019 **Fundación Música AntiquaNova**

Concert commission for 2019 festival, Buenos Aires. Instrumentation and length TBD.

FULL BIO

Andrew (aka Drew) Schnurr is a composer, sound artist, theorist, and performer blurring traditional lines in musical genre, media, and discipline. Over the past decade, his concert works have been performed nationally and internationally at various festivals while his scoring and sound design work has been featured on various television networks, and internationally on film screens and in galleries. Schnurr's current creative work engages multiple levels of visual, music, science, and social culture.

Schnurr's composition work in film has been featured at international film festivals including Cannes, Raindance, Berlin, Feratum, Festival Internacional de Cine de Pasto, Rodando, Nocturna, Festival De Cine Acapulco, Honolulu, Santa Barbara, Monterey, Los Angeles, and New York. Schnurr's composing and sound design clients include the Los Angeles Philharmonic (designing the sound for the CELEBRATE: SALONEN website commemorating Esa-Pekka Salonen's tenure with the orchestra), Sony Ericsson, Dodge, Yamaha, Wieden + Kennedy, Nike, Hyundai, Southwest Airlines, Google, 20th Century Fox, Paramount Entertainment, Live Earth, and Much Music USA.

Drew Schnurr's sound compositions created in collaboration with artist Rebeca Mendez have been presented internationally including exhibits at the Beal Center for Art and Technology, the ARCO Madrid 29th International Contemporary Art Fair, the Museo de

Arte Contemporáneo de Oaxaca (MACO), the Beijing Art Nova exhibition, the Venice 10th Arte Laguna Art Prize Exhibition, the IV Bienal Ciudad Juárez / El Paso Biennial 2015 exhibition, the 2015 Istanbul Light Festival, the Laguna Ninth Annual Art & Nature Festival, and the Gangwon Triennale 2021.

As an artistic researcher, Dr. Schnurr has developed and established unique intersections in music, critical theory, communication studies, design, media arts, and cultural history. His investigations into connections between speech and music is rooted in philosophical aesthetics that contextualize scientific understanding of cognitive process related to both sonic phenomena. His current research explores musical intersections with other scientific areas as well, including molecular biology and engineering of augmented reality software for musical expression.

Schnurr was on faculty at the UCLA Department of Design Media Arts from 2005 to 2011 where he taught Sound and Sonic-Visual Aesthetics. In 2013, he completed his PhD in composition from UCLA and returned to serve on faculty at the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, teaching Electronic Music and Sonic Arts until 2017. In 2018, he was appointed an Assistant Professor of Composition and Media at the University of North Texas — a dual appointment in the College of Music and Department of Media Arts.

Schnurr has commercial releases of both film and concert music with German record label Coviello Classics (Hamburg) with distribution through NAXOS, and with Ludwig Records on iTunes. Planning is underway with production to begin in 2022 on Schnurr's next international release with Coviello.