

# **Justin Lavacek, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of Music Theory

**University of North Texas**

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## Education

### **Ph.D. in Music Theory, 2011**

Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University

Minor Fields: Music History & Literature, Choral Conducting

Dissertation: *Contrapuntal Confrontation and Expressive Signification in the Motets of Machaut* (Kyle Adams, advisor)

### **M.M. in Music Theory Pedagogy, 2003**

The Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University

Minor Field: Composition (Tom Benjamin)

### **B.M. in Music Theory, 2001**

Loyola University of New Orleans

## Employment

### **University of North Texas**

Assistant Professor, 2019-

Coordinator of Music Theory, 2017-2019

Principal Lecturer, 2019 (promoted)

Senior Lecturer, 2016-2019

Lecturer 2012-2016

### **DePauw University**

Part-time Instructor, 2007-2008 (one year vacancy)

### **Indiana University, Jacobs School of Music**

Associate Instructor, 2003-2006

## **The Peabody Conservatory**

Instructor, 2001-2003

Teaching Assistant, 2001-2003

## Publications

“Plotting Medieval Polyphony: an *enchiriadis Tonnetz*”

-submitted to Indiana Theory Review (initial submission 12/23)

Dancing Machaut’s *Chansons baladées*: Unfixed Forms and Mensural Missteps

-submitted to Music Theory Online (revision 8/23)

“Hidden Colouration: Deep Metrical Flexibility in Machaut”

*Plainsong and Medieval Music* 31/2 (2022): 143-167.

“I Got Isorhythm: Recreating the *ars nova* Motet in the Theory Classroom”

*Journal of Music Theory Pedagogy* 35 (2021).

Review of *A Critical Companion to Medieval Motets*, edited by Jared C. Hartt

(Boydell Press, 2018). *Notes: The Quarterly Journal of the Music Library*

*Association* 77/1 (September 2020): 112-15.

Review of *The Monstrous New Art: Divided Forms in the Late Medieval Motet* by

Anna Zayaruznaya (OUP, 2015). *Music Theory Online* 22/2 (June 2016).

“Contrapuntal Ingenuity in the Motets of Machaut.” *Integral* 28/29 (2014-15):125-180.

“Mozart’s Harmonic Design in the Secco Recitatives.” *Theoria* 22 (2015): 63-97.

*Winner of the Mozart Society of America’s Outstanding Article of 2014-2015*

## Non-Refereed Publications

“Completing Zelenka’s *Regina Coeli* (ZWV 133) Sketch.” *Harmonia*

Interview with International Harpsichord Soloist Barbara Willi. *Harmonia*

## Presentations

“Plotting Medieval Polyphony: an *enchiriadis Tonnetz*”

Texas Society for Music Theory, 2024

“Dancing Machaut’s *Chansons Baladées*: Unfixed Forms and Mensural Missteps”

paper and roundtable discussant

International Medieval Congress, 2023

“Solmization and Thoroughbass in Banchieri’s Early Tonality”

Texas Society for Music Theory, 2023

“Dancing Machaut’s *Chansons Baladées*: Unfixed Forms and Mensural Missteps”

Music Theory Midwest, May 2022

“Beyond Modus: Deep Mensural Structure in Medieval Music”

**European Music Analysis Conference 10**; Moscow, Russia 2020

-declined invitation due to COVID-19 concerns

“Hidden *Coloration*: Mensural Dissonance in Machaut”

**Society for Music Theory**, November 2019

“Moveable *Ut* and Multivalent *Mi* in Italian Theory and Practice”

*Modes, Church Tones, Tonality: Tonal Spaces c. 1550 – c. 1720*

Ferrara, Italy, November 2018

“A Tale of Two Songs: Contrapuntal Courtship in Machaut’s *Le Voir Dit*”

Texas Society for Music Theory, February 2018

“<sup>b</sup>IV in Theory and Chopin” (Timothy Jackson, coauthor)

**Society for Music Theory**, November 2017

“<sup>b</sup>IV in Theory and Chopin”

Texas Society for Music Theory, February 2017

“Schenker’s *Double Mixture* and the Curious Case of <sup>b</sup>IV”

Music Theory Midwest, 6 May 2016

Rocky Mountain Society for Music Theory, April 2016

“Completing Zelenka’s *Regina Coeli* (Z133) Sketch”

Palacký University, Czech Republic, October 2015

“Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Machaut’s Rondeaux”

MHTE Invited Faculty Panel, April 2015

“The *Meditations* of Josef Suk on the *Svaty Vaclave* Hymn”

Czech Culture Center (Houston, TX), March 2015

“Contrapuntal Ingenuity in the Motets of Machaut”

University of North Texas MHTE Division Lecture (invited), February 2014

“Mapping Mozart’s Harmonic Design in Secco Recitatives”

Music Theory Midwest, April 2013

“Contrapuntal Confrontation in the Motets of Machaut” (dual paper session)

**Society for Music Theory/American Musicological Society** Annual Meeting,  
November 2012

“Counterpoint and Form in Machaut’s Isorhythmic Motets”

Music Theory Midwest, May 2012

“The Influence of Music Upon Text in Machaut’s Motets”

46<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies at a session sponsored by the  
International Machaut Society, May 2011

“Meaningful Manipulation of Motet Tenors in Machaut”

Music Theory Southeast & South Central Society for MT, March 2011

“Contrapuntal Competition in the Motets of Machaut”

45<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 2010

“Displaced Grids: Contrapuntal Dissonance in Bach”  
Music Theory Southeast, February 2009

“The Dual Nature of Musical Signification in Handel’s *Alexander’s Feast*”  
Semiotics Society of America, October 2007

“The Emperor’s New Clothes: Ritual and Aesthetics in Popular Cantus Firmus  
Masses of the Renaissance”  
Indiana University Biennial Music Theory Symposium, 11 February 2006

“Ethos through the Looking-Glass: and What Handel Found There”  
McGill University Students’ Society Symposium, 5 March 2005

### Research Agenda in Progress

<sup>b</sup>IV in Theory and Chopin (holding for submission)

### Select Service Committees

TSMT: at-large executive board member, elected (2023-2026)

UNT: Graduate Council (2022-2024)

UNT: Graduate Academic Degrees Committee (chair, 2022-2024)  
Spring 2022 pro tempore

UNT: Faculty Advisory Committee (2021-2024)

TSMT conference: Local arrangements chair (2021 & 2022)

UNT: Coordinator of Music Theory (2018-2019)

UNT: Interim Coordinator of Music Theory (2017-2018)

UNT: Graduate Performance Degree Committee (2015-2018)  
-evaluates DMA diss. proposals, establishes graduate performance curricula

UNT: Czech Music Conference & Festival, *co-organizer* (2018)

UNT: *Harmonia* Faculty Review Board (2016)

UNT: Theory Core Curriculum Sub-Committee (2012-present)

UNT: Public Relations committee, *chair* (2012-2014)

UNT: Czech Music Conference & Festival, *co-organizer* (2015)

UNT: *Harmonia* Faculty Review Board (2014)

UNT: Texas Society for Music Theory conference planning (2013)

## Teaching Experience

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### **University of North Texas**

#### Graduate:

Analytical Techniques 1 (chant to 1600)  
Analytical Techniques 2 (1600-1900)  
Analytical Techniques 3 (1900-present)  
Medieval Music (theory proseminar)  
Theory and Analysis pre-1750 (theory proseminar)  
History of Music Theory 1 (Greek antiquity to Tinctoris)  
History of Music Theory 2 (Tinctoris to Rameau)  
Music Theory Pedagogy  
Graduate Theory Review  
Graduate Keyboard Review

#### Cross-listed (graduate/undergraduate):

Sixteenth-Century Counterpoint  
Eighteenth-Century Counterpoint  
Schenkerian Analysis  
Form Analysis

#### Undergraduate:

Theory 1-4 (complete undergraduate sequence)  
Aural Skills 2 & 4  
Theory Keyboard Skills (theory seminar)  
Explorations in Music 1 (non-majors)  
Explorations in Music 2 (non-majors)

### **DePauw University**

Theory for Non-Majors 1  
Musicianship 1 (aural skills, keyboard)

## **Indiana University**

Theory 1-3

Graduate Theory Review

### Professional Service

Texas Society for Music Theory, executive board (2023-2026)

Theory textbook reviewer, Oxford UP 2020

Book reviewer for the Music Library Association, 2019

Book reviewer for Music Theory Online, 2016

Theory textbook reviews, Oxford UP and Norton 2015

Aural skills textbook review, Oxford UP 2013

Music theory core textbook manuscript review, Oxford UP 2008

### Awards and Honors

Emerson Award Winner (Mozart Society of America): Outstanding Article of 2014-2015

UNT Thank a Teacher award recipient, Fall & Spring 2013

### Professional Affiliations

Society for Music Theory

Texas Society for Music Theory