

Lauren Valerie Coons

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO – Albuquerque, New Mexico

Master of Music

Graduated
July 2017

Music Theory and Composition

Major Professor: Patricia Repar

Musicology

Major Professor: Ana Alonso-Minutti

Thesis: "Indeterminacy as Social Practice in Contemporary Art Music"

Bachelor of Music

Graduated
May 2014

Music theory and composition

Major Professors: Richard Hermann, José-Luis Hurtado, Peter Gilbert

Magna cum laude

Thesis: "The Composer as Reader: A Comparative Analysis of Two Settings of Paul Verlaine's 'Green'"

MASTERCLASSES

Chen Yi & Luke Dahn

2015

Mario Lavista

2014

Hilda Peredes & Lei Liang

2014

Volker Blumenthaler & Morris Rosenzweig

2013

DANCE

STUDIO EDUCATION

Maple Street Dance Space – Albuquerque, NM

2011 - Present

Contemporary, African, Ballet

Lana's School of Dance – Albuquerque, NM

2001 - 2011

Ballet, jazz, classical and rhythm tap, hip hop, modern, contemporary

Fishback Studio of Dance – Albuquerque, NM

1996 - 2001

Ballet, jazz, classical tap, Scottish highland

RESIDENCIES, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Artist in Residence – Maple Street Dance Space, Albuquerque Teach and present new works in dance, music, and visual mediums	2019 - present
Artist in Residence – Albuquerque's Hear Here Festival Developed and presented new collaborative work as a composer/musician and dancer/choreographer. Festival presented by Keshet Dance and Center for the Arts and the Albuquerque Department of Cultural Services.	2019
Scott Wilkinson Composition Competition First Place	2016
Research Assistantship in Musicology - University of New Mexico Assisted Ana Alonso-Minutti, Assistant Professor of Musicology, in research-related tasks.	Spring 2015 - 2017
Scott Wilkinson Composition Competition Second place	2014

CREATIVE WORK

SELECTED COMPOSITIONS

<i>A Cup of Flowing Water</i> Four performative sculptures for flutist and percussionist. Composed for Wave Dash (Magdalena Meitzner and Camilla Hiotenga) to be premiered at the 2020 John Donald Robb Composers' Symposium.	2019
<i>Without a Number or a Name</i> For two dance theater performers and fixed-media electronics composed in collaboration with Romy Keegan as part of the Tree Being: Resilience series.	2019
<i>Faulty Trail 195</i> For two performers (clarinet, spoken or sung word, and movement). Composed for Clara Byom as part of the Tree Being: Resilience series.	2019
<i>Bird of Paradise</i> For dance, clarinet, and bass clarinet. Music and choreography by Lauren Coons.	2019
<i>Why Does a Bee Boogie?</i> A children's dance theater piece about how and why some animals "dance"	2019
<i>Prescription</i> A collaborative piece for percussion, accordion, banjo, voice, and dance. Co-composed and choreographed by Sonia Bologa and Sabine Shannon. Composed and performed as part of Albuquerque's Hear Here Festival.	2019
<i>Transfigurations</i>	2019

Fixed-media electronics and instrumental trio for performance and installation. Premiered as part of the 2019 John Donald Robb Composers' Symposium. Commissioned by the University of New Mexico Art Museum.

<i>Vacío/Void</i>	2018
Flute, and mezzo-soprano, movement score for dance. Commissioned by Abrepaso Flamenco dance company. Choreography by Alice Blumenfeld.	
<i>Crane Dance</i>	2017
Dance, fixed-media electronics, percussion. Co-choreographed by Romy Keegan, percussion performed and composed by Jefferson Voorhees. Composed and performed for the Return of the Sandhill Cranes celebration, Albuquerque Open Space Visitor's Center.	
<i>Cabazon</i>	2017
For solo violin and amplified clay pots. Commissioned by Yakima Fernandez, violin.	
<i>Runaway: Corrido e Inditas para corno y guitarra</i>	2016
For French horn and guitar. Commissioned by Christopher Ramos, horn.	
<i>Tunnel Home</i>	2015
Fixed media electronics, singing bowl, and dance	
<i>I Am Because We Are</i>	2015
A collaborative piece for percussion, violin, vocals, and dance. Choreography by Ariel Burge.	
<i>Instagramophone</i>	2015
A collaborative piece for social media.	
<i>Sonic Pathways</i>	2015
For two conductors and large instrumental ensemble. Composed for the UNM Health Sciences Center Orchestra.	
<i>LightForms</i>	2015
For accordion, alto saxophone, viola, cello, and percussion. Commissioned by the University of New Mexico Art Museum.	
<i>Granite and Butterflies</i>	2014
Fixed-media electronics, dance, and projected film. Film and choreography by Kelsey Paschich.	
<i>Alice</i>	2014
A collaborative piece for cello, viola, piano, and dance. Choreography by Kelsey Paschich.	
<i>Bear Canyon Epitaphs</i>	2014
A performance piece for five musicians, spoken poetry, and projected images.	
<i>La Madera</i>	2014
For string quartet, oboe, and accordion.	
<i>À laube</i>	2014
Duet for two guitars.	

<i>Oliver's Picture Book</i>	2014
For clarinet, tenor saxophone, euphonium, violin, cello, and percussion.	
<i>Monarchs</i>	2013
For mezzo-soprano and piano. Text by Caryn Lazzuri.	
<i>Nakshatras</i>	2012
For piano, alto saxophone, and trombone.	
<i>The Fire</i>	2011
For SATB chorus	

SELECTED PERFORMANCES

Tree Being: Resilience	2019
A performance and community gathering of works by Lauren Coons, Romy Keegan, and Steven Diaz with artwork by Artbox Albuquerque and a local ecology resource fair provided by the Albuquerque Open Space and the Sierra Club Albuquerque Chapter.	
Lorris. Coons. Byom	
An evening of music, movement, and theatrical works by Lauren Coons, Joshua Lorris, Clara Byom.	
Albuquerque's Hear Here Festival – Keshet Dance and Center for the Arts	2019
Performed percussion, accordion, and dance in the piece "Prescription," served as festival artist in residence.	
Currents New Media Festival 2017 – Santa Fe, New Mexico	2017
Performed live electronic music as part of an ensemble accompanied by live video projection.	
"Threepenny Cabaret Under the Stars" – Albuquerque Museum	2016
Dance performance of choreography by Romy Keegan to the music of Kurt Weil.	
"Desert Longings" – Art installation by Erin Fussell	2016
Performed in the film of a dance and contact improvisation performance. Installation presented at the Ocotillo Room, Albuquerque NM.	
"Rally: Women & Creativity" – Albuquerque International Balloon Museum	2016
Dance performance of choreography by Romy Keegan as part of a symposium for Albuquerque's Women in Creativity Month.	

ENSEMBLES, COLLECTIVES, AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Artbox Albuquerque – Ongoing community and collaborative arts project Project/organization that creates installations of works by Albuquerque-based artists and community members to be displayed in public spaces. Co-created and run by Leilani Brothers.	2019 - Present
The Six-O'clock Thing – Dance collective and improvisation ensemble Member of collective and dance theater improvisation ensemble.	2019 - Present
Tree Being – Ongoing community and collaborative arts project An ongoing series of works, performances, exhibitions and community projects in collaborations with professional artists, Albuquerque community members, and ecological/conservational organizations.	2016 - Present

JOB EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty, composition – University of New Mexico Taught courses Intro to Composition, Composition 1, and Composition 2 and helped to facilitate UNM Composition Studio classes.	Fall 2019 – Spring 2020
Artist/Educator – Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum Planned and facilitated educational activities in arts and sciences for students grades pre-k through 12. Composed and performed original music, stories, and dance for early childhood education/children's theater programs; produced family, community, and special needs programming and events.	2017 - 2019
Freelance Copywriter – Search Engine Optimization Write and edit website content for search engine optimization	2017 - Present
Weekly Guest Instructor – Advanced Guitar – Eldorado High School Provided weekly instruction to advanced guitar students in classical and popular guitar styles in a classroom format. Conducted advanced guitar ensemble.	Fall 2017
Private guitar instructor Provide private instruction in classical and contemporary guitar styles	2015 - Present
Departmental music theory tutor – University of New Mexico Tutored undergraduate and graduate music students in lower-division music theory, post-tonal music theory, and sixteenth-century counterpoint.	2014 - 2015
Music theory grader – University of New Mexico Reviewed and graded student homework and exams for undergraduate music theory courses and post-tonal music theory.	2011 - 2015
Keller Hall stage crew – University of New Mexico Assisted with onstage and backstage management and technical setup for performances, rehearsals, and events.	2011 - 2015
Group Class Instructor – Music and Dance	2003 - Present

Provide group instruction in classical and contemporary styles of music and dance, improvisation, and intermedia composition including ballet, jazz, tap, modern, contemporary, embodied creativity and improvisation, music and movement for kids, Ballet-Afrique.

RESEARCH WORK

SELECTED ESSAYS

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| <p>“Therapeutic Improvisation: A Social, Medical, and Musical Discourse of Improvisation in Music Therapy”</p> <p>Final research project for the course “Proseminar in Anthropology of Music,” imparted by Kristina Jacobsen, University of New Mexico.</p> | <p>2016</p> |
| <p>“Juegos Nuevomexicanos: Preserving and Performing a Conflicted Identity through Children’s Songs and Games”</p> <p>Final research project for the course “Proseminar in Critical Musicology,” imparted by Ana Alonso-Minutti, University of New Mexico.</p> | <p>2015</p> |
| <p>“Reestablishing Unity: Postmodern Connectivity in the Art of Meredith Monk”</p> <p>Final research project for the course “American Experimentalism,” imparted by Ana Alonso-Minutti, University of New Mexico.</p> | <p>2015</p> |
| <p>“Turning Into Bluegrass”</p> <p>Final research project for the course “Music Theory and American Popular Musics,” imparted by Richard Hermann, University of New Mexico.</p> | <p>2014</p> |
| <p>Book Review: David Huron, <i>Sweet Anticipation: Music and the Psychology of Expectation</i> (2007)</p> <p>Final research project for the course, “Music Theory Pedagogy,” imparted by Richard Hermann, University of New Mexico.</p> | <p>2014</p> |
| <p>“Applying Transformational Theories: A Combined Approach Toward an Analysis of Debussy’s Ariettes Oubliées no. 5, ‘Green’”</p> <p>Final project for independent study, “Testing Transformational Theories,” University of New Mexico. Supervised by Richard Hermann, University of New Mexico.</p> | <p>2014</p> |

INDEPENDENT STUDIES

Keyboard Skills for Music Theory Pedagogy 2014

Final Project: "The Keyboard Skills Test is Fun and Mandatory: A practical handbook and study aid for UNM music theory and composition students"
Graduate independent study supervised by Professor David Bashwiner, Ph.D.

Testing Transformational Theories 2013

Final Project: "Applying Transformational Theories: A Combined Approach Toward an analysis of Debussy's Ariettes Oubliées no. 5, 'Green'"
Undergraduate independent study in transformational music theory. Supervised by Professor Richard Hermann, Ph.D.

PRESENTATIONS

Runaway: Corrido e Inditas para corno y guitarra – Performance 2016

Presented and performed for the University of New Mexico Shared Knowledge Conference.

Bear Canyon Epitaphs – Performance 2016

Presented and performed as part of the John Donald Robb Composers' Symposium, University of New Mexico.

"Juegos Nuevomexicanos: Preserving and Performing a Conflicted Identity through Children's Songs and Games" 2016

Presented for the Society of Ethnomusicology at the Rocky Mountain Music Scholars Conference, hosted by University of New Mexico.

"Applying Transformational Theories: A Combined Approach Toward an analysis of Debussy's Ariettes Oubliées no. 5, 'Green'" 2014

Delivered as invited lecture for the UNM Composers' Colloquium.