# Dr. James Miley Assistant Professor Willamette University Department of Music Salem, Oregon

# EDUCATION

- D.M.A. in Composition (1999). University of Oregon School of Music, Eugene, Oregon.
- M.Mus. in Composition\* (1994). University of Arizona School of Music, Tucson, Arizona.
- B.A. in Music Composition, minor in English (1989). Occidental College, Los Angeles, California.
- \*additional graduate studies at the California Institute of the Arts and UC Santa Barbara

# ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2009 present Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies; Willamette University, Salem, Oregon.
- 2005 2009 Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies; Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia. Taught composition, music theory, jazz ensembles and improvisation; coordinated all aspects of jazz performance program and composition degree program.
- 2002 2005 Instructor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies; Cuesta College, San Luis Obispo, California. Taught music theory, jazz history, jazz improvisation, jazz arranging and ensembles; coordinated all aspects of jazz performance program.
- 2001 2002 Visiting Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies; Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia. Directed jazz ensembles, taught jazz improvisation and arranging.
- 1999 2001 Lecturer in Music; California State University, Fresno. Taught composition, electronic music, improvisation and jazz history; coordinated all aspects of composition degree program and jazz performance program, directed jazz ensembles.
- 1997 1999 Visiting Instructor in Music; Albion College, Albion, Michigan. Taught first year music theory and aural skills, jazz history, jazz pedagogy, jazz ensembles.

# **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Composers Forum (2007 – present)
American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP): 1998 – present
California Band Directors Association (CBDA): 2003 – 2005

Board Member/IAJE Representative

College Music Society: 1995 – present
San Luis Obispo County Jazz Federation, Board Member: 2002 – 2005

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

Theory/Harmony (first and second year) Ear Training/Sight Singing (first and second year) Individual Applied Composition (undergraduate and graduate level) Jazz Improvisation I & II Advanced Jazz Improvisation I & II Large and Small Jazz Ensembles Jazz Arranging I & II Orchestration Music Appreciation Jazz and American Popular Music History Jazz and American Culture Electronic Music Composing and Arranging with MIDI

#### HONORS & AWARDS (since 2004)

- 2009 Bruce Carver Multicultural Award Selected as sole recipient of a \$3000 grant to produce and promote a concert of new music for classical chamber trio and human beatbox artist with various jazz soloists on the campus of Virginia Tech in April, 2009.
- 2007 CLAHS Faculty Development Grant, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Selected as one of 17 recipients college-wide for a \$3000 grant to complete work on a professional recording of my music for small jazz ensemble.
- 2007 Featured Composer/Conductor, 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Virginia Intercollegiate Honor Band (ICHB). Invited to rehearse and record recent wind ensemble composition "Last Light" with the student members of the ICHB over the course of two days during February, 2007.
- 2006 USF Center for Jazz Composition, Featured Composer/Presenter Selected from a international pool of 120 applicants as one of 13 guest composers to be featured at the inaugural Jazz Composers Symposium at the University of South Florida's Center for Jazz Composition, March 9 - 11, 2006, Tampa, FL.
- 2005 Gil Evans Fellowship in Jazz Composition

Commissioned by IAJE and the Herb Alpert Foundation to compose "There," an extended work for jazz orchestra in honor of Gil Evans. The Fresno Jazz Composers Orchestra with soloist Tim Ries premiered the work under my direction at the IAJE annual conference, January 6, 2005, in Long Beach, CA.

- 2004 IAJE Conference Presenter/Guest Artist

   IAJE Annual Conference, New York, NY, January 23, 2004. Cuesta College Jazz
   Ensemble one of only eight college & university instrumental ensembles invited to
   perform at the annual international conference in 2004.

   2004 Cuesta College Foundation Faculty Development Grant
- \$2000 awarded for production of a departmental jazz recording featuring Cuesta College jazz ensembles (instrumental and vocal).

#### PUBLICATIONS

- New Music Reviewer, International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE) Jazz Educators Journal (2001 - 2008). Jazz ensemble new music reviewer for the IAJE Jazz Educators Journal.
- Featured Composer/Clinician, Monterey Jazz Festival's Digital Music Education Project, November, 2007. www.montereyjazzfestival.org/dmep/
- "The Road to a Successful Jazz Festival Experience," (with Dr. Benjamin Boone, Fresno State University), IAJE Jazz Educators Journal, December 2004 issue.

Compositions and Arrangements published by Walrus Music, Arroyo Grande, California:

The Art of Darkness	My Cruel Heart
Belly	Point of You
The Dude Abides	Reminds Me Of
Fool Me Once	Sid the Squid
Get It?	South of Everywhere
In Your Voice	Still Small Voice
Loose Fitting Genes	Take the Wheel
Most Definitely, Bob!	There (parts I & II)
The (Beautiful) Comedian	

*Compositions and Arrangements published by University of Northern Colorado Jazz Press, Greeley, Colorado:* 

Djangle	Late As Usual
Henchworm	What Did You Say?

Compositions and Arrangements Published by Heritage Music (back catalog only):

Chew On This!	Sack O' Woe
J.I.V.E.	Thunk!
Nineteen	Wave

#### SELECTED RECORDINGS (as composer, pianist and/or director)

<u>Confronting Inertia</u> (late 2009), John Adler and Tracy Cowden. Features premiere recording of *[this is] for Trumpet and Piano* (2008), commissioned by trumpet virtuoso John Adler for this project, released on Origin Classical.

<u>The Gadfly</u> (late 2009), BUG. Same personnel as MURMUR, featuring 9 new compositions for label debut on Origin Records.

<u>Angular</u> (2008), Altered. Third disc from Los Angeles-based jazz trio featured premiere recordings of compositions *What's That Smell?* and *In the Mode*.

<u>Pulse</u> (2008), Dan Cavanagh's Jazz Emporium Big Band, Origin Arts, Seattle, WA. Featured as director and pianist on composer Dan Cavanagh's debut album for OA2 records.

<u>MURMUR</u> (2007), BUG. Features noted alto saxophonist Peter Epstein, guitarist Jeff Miley, bassist Roger Shew and drummer Brian Hamada in addition to the composer on piano. Track list includes premiere recordings of *Brine, The Dude Abides, Murmur, Don't Be Difficult* and *Open*.

<u>60 x 60: A Circle of Sound</u> (2007), Vox Novus 2004-2005. Composition *Mid East Peace Talks* (with Ben Boone, saxophone) included on compilation recording edited by Robert Voisey.

<u>Talking To Myself</u> (2006), Santa Rosa College Jazz Band, directed by Meryl Wamhoff. Features premiere recording of *Sid the Squid*.

<u>Graphic</u> (2005), Altered. Two compositions, *Bug* and *Digging Out* recorded by guitar trio from Los Anegeles, California.

<u>In Your Voice</u> (2005), Cuesta College Jazz Ensemble, directed by James Miley. Features premiere recordings of *Belly, Art of Darkness, Djangle* and *In Your Voice*.

On the Edge (2004), Buchanan High School Jazz Band A, directed by Paul Shaghoian. Features premiere recording of *Stella By Holland*.

<u>Paris</u> (2002), Bird of Paradise Orchestra. Composition *What Did You Say*? Recorded by bassist Paul Keller's Bird of Paradise Orchestra, a contemporary big band based in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

<u>State of the Union 2.001</u> (2001), complied by Elliot Sharp. Features *Drunken Bastard No. 2* for tenor saxophone and treated piano (with Ben Boone, saxophone). This disc includes 171 one-minute compositions and improvisations from artists all over the world.

# COMMISSIONS for ORIGINAL WORK (2002 - present)

- **Dancing, Not Drowning** (2009) for the University of Texas at Arlington's Society for the Preservation of Dance Music.
- **Necessary Angels** (2009) for violin, 'cello, piano, electric guitar and human beatbox artist. Commissioned by Alan Weinstein and the Kandinsky Trio
- *Everything in the Wrong Place* (2008) for Paul Lucckesi and the Buchanan High School Jazz Band A, Clovis, California.
- *The Comedian* (2008) for Paul Lucckesi and the Buchanan High School Jazz Band A, Clovis, California.
- *Take the Wheel* (2008) for Curtis Gaesser and the Folsom High School Jazz Band A, Folsom, California.

[this is] (2007) for John Adler, trumpet and Tracy Cowden, piano.

- Loose Fitting Genes (2007) for the Monterey Jazz Festival's Next Generation Festival, Monterey, California.
- *The Dude Abides* (2007) for the California Band Directors Association in honor of their 50th anniversary, Fresno, California.
- *Reminds Me Of...* (2006) for the Monterey Jazz Festival's Next Generation Festival, Monterey, California.
- *Last Light* (2006) for Myron McReynolds and the City High School Wind Ensemble, Iowa City, Iowa.
- *After the Water, the Clouds* (2005) for Ramiro Barrera and the James Logan Wind Symphony, Union City, California.
- There (2004) 2005 IAJE/Gil Evans Fellowship in Jazz Composition.

- *Point of You* (2004) for Charles Richard and the RCC Jazz Ensemble, Riverside, California.
- *Get It?* (2003) for Dave Glenn and the Whitman College Jazz Ensemble, Walla Walla, Washington.
- *Fool Me Once* (2002) for Ron Cunha and the Cosumnes River College Jazz Festival, Elk Grove, California.
- Stella By Holland, part I: The Space Between (2002) for Paul Shaghoian and the Buchanan HS Jazz Band A, Clovis, California.
- Stella By Holland, part II: Southern Standard (2002) for Brian Coyle and the Hope College Jazz Ensemble, Holland, Michigan.
- *The Art of Darkness* (2002) for Mike Dana and the Fresno City College Jazz Ensemble, Fresno, California.

# SELECT NATIONAL PERFORMANCES OF COMPOSITIONS (2005 – present)

- *[this is]* for trumpet and piano, performed by John Adler and Tracy Cowden at the Frost School of Music, University of Miama, April 7, 2009.
- *Everything In Its Right Place* for large jazz ensemble, premiered by Paul Lucckesi and the Buchanan High School Jazz Band A with guest soloist David Binney, Clovis, California, February 6, 2009.
- Late As Usual, Loose Fitting Genes and There (parts I and II), for large jazz ensemble, performed by the University of Nevada, Reno, Jazz Ensemble I under the direction of Andrew Heglund with the composer as guest conductor. March 4, 2008, Nightengale Concert Hall, University of Nevada, Reno.
- *The Dude Abides, Loose Fitting Genes* and *In Your Voice*, for large jazz ensemble, performed by the Hope College Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Brian Coyle with the members of the jazz collective BUG (Peter Epstein, alto; James Miley, piano; Jeff Miley, guitar; Roger Shew, bass; Brian Hamada, drums) as the core rhythm section and soloists. November 14, 2007, Knickerbocker Theater, Holland, MI.
- **The Dude Abides,** for large jazz ensemble. Featured performance at the opening concert of the Reno International Jazz Festival in Reno, NV, by the UNR Jazz Ensemble I under the direction of Andrew Heglund, April 23, 2007.
- *The Dude Abides, There, Loose Fitting Genes, Late As Usual, Get It?,* and *Art of Darkness*, for large jazz ensemble. Featured performances as part of the University of Kansas Jazz Series with the KU Jazz Band I, Dan Gailey, director. April 5, 2007.
- Loose Fitting Genes, for large jazz ensemble. Premiered at the 2007 MJF Next Generation Jazz Festival in Monterey, CA, by three separate groups: Los Angeles Academy of the Performing Arts Jazz Ensemble (Los Angeles, CA), Buchanan HS Jazz Band A (Clovis, CA) and Folsom HS Jazz Band A (Folsom, CA) in concert on March 24, 2007.
- *The Dude Abides*, for large jazz ensemble. Premiered by the 2007 California All State High School Jazz Band under the direction of Patrick Williams. Fresno, CA, February 16, 2007.

- *The Art of Darkness, Still Small Voice* and *Late as Usual*, for large jazz ensemble. Featured performances as part of jazz composer residency with the Albuquerque Jazz Orchestra, directed by John Sanks, Albuquerque, NM, January 20, 2007.
- *Last Light*, for wind ensemble. Premiered by the City High School Wind Symphony under the direction of Myron McReynolds, Iowa City, IA, May 10, 2006.
- *After the Water, the Clouds*, for wind ensemble. Premiered at Carnegie Hall by the James Logan Wind Symphony under the baton of Ramiro Barrera, New York City, NY, May 29, 2006.
- **Reminds Me Of...,** for large jazz ensemble. Premiered at the 2006 MJF Next Generation Festival in Monterey, CA, by three separate groups: Davis HS Jazz Ensemble A (Davis, CA), Berkeley HS Jazz Band A (Berkeley, CA), and the Arts & Communications Academy Jazz Band (Beaverton, OR) in concert on April 22, 2006.
- **Stella By Holland**, for large jazz ensemble. Featured performance at the opening concert of the Reno International Jazz Festival in Reno, NV, by the UNR Jazz Ensemble I under the direction of Andrew Heglund, April 28, 2006.
- *There*, for large jazz ensemble. Featured performance by Tim Ries with the Fresno Jazz Composers Orchestra at the International Association for Jazz Education's annual conference, Long Beach, CA, January 6, 2005.

Other notable ensembles performing my music include:

Arizona All State High School Honor Jazz Band (Phoenix, Arizona) California State University, Northridge Jazz Band A Clovis West High School Jazz Band A (Fresno, California) Colorado All State High School Honor Jazz Band (Colorado Springs, Colorado) Dallas/Ft Worth High School Honor Jazz Band Folsom High School Jazz Band A (Folsom, California) Fort Lewis College Jazz Ensemble (Durango, Colorado) Hope College Jazz Ensemble (Holland, Michigan) Las Vegas Academy of Fine and Performing Arts Jazz Ensemble I (Las Vegas, NV) Lawrence University Jazz Ensemble (Appleton, Wisconsin) Massachusetts All State High School Honor Jazz Band New Mexico All State High School Honor Jazz Band (Albuquergue, New Mexico) New York All State High School Honor Jazz Band New Trier High School Jazz Band (Chicago, Illinois) Paul Keller Jazz Orchestra (Ann Arbor, Michigan) Rio Americano High School Jazz Band A (Sacramento, CA) University of Houston Jazz Ensemble I University of Kansas Jazz Ensemble I University of Michigan Jazz Ensemble I University of Oregon Jazz Ensemble University of South Florida Jazz Ensemble University of Texas, Arlington, Jazz Ensemble I University of Washington Jazz Ensemble I Washington All State High School Honor Jazz Band (Spokane, Washington) Whitman College Jazz Ensemble (Walla Walla, Washington) Wisconsin All State High School Honor Jazz Band (Eau Claire, Wisconsin)

# NATIONAL APPEARANCES (as composer/performer/conductor, 2002 – present)

## INVITED SOLO APPEARANCES

Guest Composer/Performer, Fort Lewis Jazz Festival (with saxophonist Tim Ries), Durango, CO, March 4 – 5, 2009. Guest Composer/Performer, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA, November 10, 2008 Guest Composer/Performer, Fullerton College, Fullerton, CA, November 11, 2008 Guest Composer/Conductor/Performer, Buchanan High School, Clovis, CA, November 12.2008 Guest Composer/Conductor/Performer, University of Nevada, Reno, March 4, 2008 Guest Conductor/Performer, University of Texas, Arlington, February 29 - March 3, 2008 Guest Composer, Reno International Jazz Festival, Reno, NV, April 2007 Guest Composer/Conductor, University of Kansas Jazz Ensemble I, Lawrence, KS, April 2007 Guest Conductor, New Mexico All State Jazz Ensemble I, Albuquerque, NM, January 2007 Guest Composer, International Association for Jazz Education (Walrus Music Meet-the-Composer), New York, NY, January 2007 Guest Artist/Composer, California State University, Northridge, October 2006 Guest Artist/Composer, California State University, Fresno, October 2006 Guest Artist/Composer, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA, October 2006 Guest Composer/Conductor, International Jazz Composers Symposium, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, March 2006 Guest Composer, International Association for Jazz Education (Walrus Music Meet-the-Composer), New York, NY, January 2006 Guest Composer/Conductor, California State University, Northridge, March 2005 Guest Composer/Conductor/Performer, IAJE Annual Conference, Long Beach, CA, January 6, 2005 (with Charlie Richard and the Riverside College Jazz Band "A") Guest Composer/Conductor, University of Oregon Arrangers Symposium, November 2004 Guest Director/Clinician, Nordhoff High School Jazz Ensemble, Ojai, CA, April 2004 Guest Performer/Composer, IAJE Annual Conference, New York, NY, January 23, 2004 (with Paul Shaghoian and the Buchanan High School Jazz Band "A") Guest Performer/Composer, CMEA Annual Convention, Pasadena, CA, March 2003 Guest Performer/Composer, Hope College, Holland, MI, February 2002 INVITED EDUCATIONAL FESTIVAL APPEARANCES Billy Higgins Fresno State Jazz Festival, featured artist, Fresno, California California Music Educators Association Central Section Jazz Festival, Hanford, California Campana Jazz Festival, Pleasanton, California City Jazz Festival, Fresno City College, Fresno California Cosumnes River College Jazz Festival, Elk Grove, California Dos Pueblos Jazz Festival, Goleta, California

Drury College Summer Jazz Camp, Springfield, Missouri

Fort Lewis Jazz Festival, Durango, Colorado

Fullerton Jazz Festival, Fullerton College, California

Mid Valley Jazz Festival, Cherry Avenue Middle School, Tulare, California Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festival, Monterey, California Music in the Parks, Milpitas, California Redwood Empire Jazz Festival, Santa Rosa, California Reno International Jazz Festival, Reno, Nevada Ridgeview Jazz Festival, Bakersfield, California San Joaquin Valley Jazz Festival, Buchanan High School, Clovis, California Santa Barbara Jazz Festival, Santa Barbara, California Tri-State Jazz Festival, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia University of New Mexico Jazz Festival, Albuquerque, New Mexico University of Texas—Arlington, Jazz Festival, Arlington, TX

## SELECTED LIST OF COMPOSITIONS

#### Orchestral & Large Ensemble

Last Light (2006) for wind ensemble. 7'30"
After the Water, the Clouds (2006) for wind ensemble. 10'
In the Shadow of Angels (1999), concerto for electric guitar, jazz trio, and wind ensemble. 30'
Fade (1997) for chamber orchestra (flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, 2 horns, 2 percussion, piano, and strings). 6'
Public Tundre (1004) for generalize ensemble. 5'

Dublin Tundra (1994) for gamelan ensemble. 5'

#### Chamber Music

Necessary Angeles (2009) for violin, 'cello, piano, electric guitar and beatboxer 12'
[this is] (2007) for trumpet and piano. 9'
Unfinished Business (2001) for tenor saxophone, piano, and vibraphone. 5'
Shaw and Cedar (1999) for flute, trumpet, viola, 'cello, double bass, piano, and percussion. 8'
Five Things (1996) for violin and clarinet. 11'
Lint (1994) for flute, viola, and harp (or piano). 6'

'tudes (1992-97) for disklavier. 7'

#### <u>Choral</u>

Lux Aeterna (in progress) for mixed chorus (SATB) and piano two simple songs (1994, rev. 2003) for unaccompanied mixed chorus (SATB) with tenor and soprano solo. Texts by e.e. cummings. 8'

A Little Mass (1996) for baritone solo, boy choir (SA), horn in F, and organ. 14'

Ave Maria (1995) for mixed chorus (SATB) with oboe and 'cello. 6'30"

Come, Holy Spirit (1995) for mixed chorus (SAB) and organ. 2'

*I(a* (1992-94) for unaccompanied mixed chorus (SATB). Text by e.e. cummings. 4'30"
 *I Dwell in Possibility* (1992, rev. 1995) for mixed chorus (SATB) and organ. Additional text by Emily Dickinson. 17'

#### Vocal Solo with Accompaniment

Simple (1996) for tenor and piano. Poem by the composer. 3'

**Desert Songs** (1996) for mezzo-soprano, piano, double bass, and percussion. Poems by the composer. 10'

After Vincensini (1995) for soprano and piano. Poems by Henri Coulette. 6'

*the extremely little house of my mind* (1994-95) for baritone and piano. Poems by e. e. cummings. 9'30"

*the turning point* (1993) for soprano, flute, alto saxophone, viola, 'cello, double bass, piano, guitar, and percussion (2). Poems by Henri Coulette. 10'

Come, My Way (1992) for soprano and piano. Poem by George Herbert. 2'30"

**Two Songs from the Reach** (1988-89) for tenor and chamber orchestra (2 fl, 2 cl, Bb soprano sax, bsn, trp, hrn, 2 tbn, 4 percussion, strings). Texts by Stephen R. Donaldson. 8'

## Small Jazz Ensemble

Approximately 125 compositions for small jazz ensemble composed since 1989

Large Jazz Ensemble

- *Everything in Its Right Place* (2008) for large jazz ensemble (5, 5, 4, piano, guitar, bass, drums, vibes) 9'
- *The Comedian* (2008) for large jazz ensemble (5, 5, 5, piano, guitar, bass, drums, vibes) 6'
- *Take the Wheel* (2008) for large jazz ensemble (5, 5, 5, piano, guitar, bass, drums, vibes) 11'
- Loose Fitting Genes (2007) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, guitar, bass, drums, vibes) 8'
- *The Dude Abides* (2007) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, guitar, bass, drums, vibes) 10'
- *Reminds Me Of...* (2006) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, guitar, bass, drums, vibes) 7'
- *There* (2004) for large jazz ensemble (5, 5, 4, piano, guitar, bass, drums, mallets, aux. percussion) 20'
- *Point of You* (2004) for large jazz ensemble (5, 5, 5, piano, guitar, bass, drums, aux. percussion) 8'

Get It? (2003) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, guitar/vibes, bass, drums) 7'

- *Fool Me Once* (2002) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, guitar/vibes, bass, drums) 6'
- *The Art of Darkness* (2002) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano/synth, guitar, bass, drums) 9'
- **Stella by Holland** (2002) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, vibes, piano, guitar, bass, drums) 10'

Sid the Squid (2001) for large jazz ensemble (5, 5, 5, piano, guitar, bass, drums) 10'
 Peaches and Plots (2000) for large jazz ensemble (5, 5, 5, french horn, piano, guitar, bass, drums) 3'

Chew On This! (2000) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, bass, drums) 4'

*Most Definitely, Bob!* (2000) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, bass, drums) 7' *Thunk!* (1999) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, bass, drums) 4'

Late As Usual (1997) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, guitar, bass, drums) 7'

*What Did You Say?* (1997) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, guitar, bass, drums) 5'

*Nineteen* (1997) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, bass, drums). 5'

- *Djangle* (1996) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4 [tpts & flgs], 4, piano, guitar, bass, drums). 7'
- *Henchworm* (1996) for large jazz ensemble (5, 4, 4, piano, guitar, bass, drums). Based on "Inchworm" by Frank Loesser. 8'

Electronic and Electro-Acoustic

*Visions of Tom* (1997) for computer generated sound with drum machine and piano 6' *three lost days* (1995) for electronic tape. 5'30"

## **REFERENCES AVAILABLE**

Steve Owen Professor of Music School of Music 1225 University of Oregon Eugene, OR 97403-1225 (541) 346-2137 sowen@oregon.uoregon.edu

Dr. Brian Coyle Professor of Music Department of Music Hope College Holland, MI 49423 (616) 395-7653 coyle@hope.edu

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