

J. Michael Priester
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Penn Laird, VA 22846
Double Bass

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Education

Doctor of Music, Double Bass Performance and Literature

Indiana University, Jacobs School of Music; Bloomington, IN, May 2015

Minors in Music Theory and Early Music (Viola da Gamba)

Capstone Document: *Double Bass Intonation: A Systematic Approach for Solo and Ensemble Playing*

This interdisciplinary study systematically approaches solutions for problems of double bass intonation and proposes a pedagogical approach for double bass intonation based on research in acoustics, musical perception and cognition, and historical and modern performance practice and pedagogy, illustrated through application to double bass literature and applied to the pedagogy of the double bass.

Master of Music, Double Bass Performance

University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music; Cincinnati, OH,
June 2007

Bachelor of Music (cum laude), Double Bass Performance

University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music; Cincinnati, OH,
June 2005

Primary teachers:

Bruce Bransby, Faculty, Indiana University, Jacobs School of Music
Albert Laszlo, Faculty, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music
Deborah Taylor, Principal Bass, Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra

Additional studies:

Jeff Turner, Principal Bass, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra
Peter Lloyd, Faculty, The Colburn School
James Lambert, Associate Principal Bass, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra

Teaching Experience

Director of Music Admissions, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA
July 2015-present

Admissions Coordinator, January 2015-July 2015

Adjunct Professor of Double Bass, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA
August 2013-July 2015

Instructor of Double Bass, Grove City College, Grove City, PA

June 2012-August 2014
 Instructor of Double Bass, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Edinboro, PA
 January 2012-August 2014
 Guest Artist, Middlebury Bach Festival, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT
 5-8 May 2011 and 27-29 April 2012
 Assisted leading a student ensemble and instructing in
 historically informed performance practice
 Faculty, University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music Preparatory
 Department, September 2005- June 2007
 Double Bass Coach, Cincinnati Junior Strings, Cincinnati, OH
 September 2001-June 2005
 CCM Prep Department ensemble for string players aged 9 to 15
 Dr. Gerald Doan, director
 Prepared and ran sectional rehearsals
 Assisted with full rehearsals and logistics
 Principal Double Bass, Indiana University's University Orchestra
 August 2007-June 2008
 Acting a section leader and sectional coach, this portion of the program is framed
 as an educational and pedagogical component of the DM degree.

Performance Experience

Contracted orchestral experience:

Section Bass, Fort Wayne Philharmonic	Oct. 2012-June 2013
Section Bass, Wheeling Symphony Orchestra	March 2009-present
Section Bass, Pittsburgh Opera Orchestra	Oct. 2008-present
Principal Bass, Columbus Indiana Philharmonic	Sept. 2012-June 2013
Assistant Principal	Sept. 2007-Sept. 2012
Principal Bass, Kentucky Symphony Orchestra	June 2005-June 2007
Section Bass	Sept. 2003-June 2005
Section Bass, Terre Haute Symphony Orchestra	Sept. 2009-June 2013

Extra/substitute orchestral experience:

Roanoke Symphony Orchestra	2013-present
Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra	2013-present
Contracted to be Principal Bass in the 2015-2016 season	
Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra	2002-present
Carmel Symphony Orchestra	2009-2013

Solo and Chamber Recitals:

Solo Recital, 31 October 2015, Indiana University Recital Hall
 Included premier and recording of a new transcription of Bach's
 fifth cello suite by A. Kohn and generated first recording of Henze's
Serenade for Double Bass in IU catalogue.
 Chamber Recital, 9 April 2011, Indiana University Auer Hall

With IU Chamber Winds.
Chamber Recital, 20 September 2010, Indiana University Auer Hall
With Matvey Lapin and James Andrews, violins, Logan Strawn,
viola, Max Wollam-Fisher, cello, JJ Kohn, clarinet, Erin Yoder, horn,
Nathan Daniels, bassoon.
Solo Recital, 7 April 2009, Indiana University Recital Hall
With Natsuko Ejiri.
Included creation of first known publicly available recording of N.
Ludwin's transcription of Faure's *Elegy*, *Op. 50*.
Solo Recital, 17 June 2007, University of Cincinnati Masterclass Room
With Robert Conda, piano.
Solo Recital, 13 April 2005, University of Cincinnati Werner Recital Hall
With Wen-Ting Han, piano.

Additional performance experience:

Principal Bass and Founding Member, Virginia Sinfonietta
Formed in the 2014-2015 season, this chamber orchestra draws its
repertoire from contemporary art literature, and is the first of its kind in
Virginia. Its members come from numerous institutions from across
Virginia, including James Madison University, University of Virginia, and
Virginia Tech, among others. Its inaugural performance took place in
February 2015 at Bridgewater College
Guest Artist, Middlebury Bach Festival, Middlebury College,
Middlebury, VT, 5-8 May 2011 and 27-29 April 2012
Principal Bass
Fellow, Aspen Music Festival, American Academy of Conducting
Orchestra, Summers of 2004 and 2005

Presentations, Publications, and Clinics

Presentations:

"Intonation, Your Bass, and You: Exploring the Resonance
Approach to Double Bass Intonation," International Society of Bassists
Convention, 2 June 2015
Masterclass, James Madison University, School of Music, Harrisonburg,
VA, 21 March 2013
Masterclass and Lecture "Current Standards of Orchestral Double Bass
Professional Audition Repertoire and Performance," James Madison
University, School of Music, Harrisonburg, VA, 24 March 2010

Publications and discography:

Priester, John Michael (2015). Intonation, Your Bass, and You: Exploring the
Resonance Approach to Double Bass Intonation. In Martin, C. (Ed.),
*Proceedings from the International Society of Bassists Convention, Fort
Collins, CO 1-8 June 2015*. International Society of Bassists. (in press)
Priester, John Michael (2014). Graduate Recital [electronic resource].

Bloomington, IN: William and Gayle Cook Music Library.
Doctoral solo recital
Priester, John Michael (2010). Graduate Recital [electronic resource].
Bloomington, IN: William and Gayle Cook Music Library. Doctoral
chamber recital
Priester, John Michael (2009). Graduate Recital [electronic resource].
Bloomington, IN: William and Gayle Cook Music Library. Doctoral solo
recital

Clinics:

Spring String Thing, May 2014 and May 2015
Osborn High School, Manassas, VA, 22 May 2015
Annandale High School, Annandale, VA, 24 October 2014
Herndon High School, Herndon, VA, 25 September 2014
Langley High School, Langley, VA, 17 September 2014
Oakton High School, Vienna, VA 16 December 2013
Great Bridge High School, Chesapeake, VA 12 December 2013
Grassfield High School, Chesapeake, VA 11 December 2013
Robertson Secondary School, Fairfax, VA, 28 October 2013
Osborn High School, Manassas, VA, 4 November 2013
Albemarle High School, Charlottesville, VA, 30 October 2013
Charlottesville High School, Charlottesville, VA, 24 October 2013
Marshall High School, Falls Church, VA, 10 October 2013

Audition Advancements and Awards

Second Place, International Society of Bassists' Orchestral Audition Competition,
3 June 2013
Semi-finalist, International Society of Bassists' Orchestral Audition Competition,
6 June 2011
Semi-finalist, Grant Park Festival Orchestra, Section Bass, 6 April 2011
Semi-finalist, U.S. Army Field Band, Principal Bass, 3 October 2007
Semi-finalist, New World Symphony, Fellowship, March 2007
Finalist, International Society of Bassists' Orchestral Audition Competition, 7 June 2009
Fellow, Aspen Music Festival and School, American Academy of Conducting Orchestra,
2004 and 2005

Summer Programs

Viola da Gamba Society of America Conclave 24-31 July 2011
Middlebury Bach Festival, Guest Artist, May 2010
Indiana University Summer Festival, Festival Orchestra, 2008, 2009, and 2012
Aspen Music Festival, Fellow with the American Academy of Conducting Orchestra,
2004 and 2005
Aspen Music Festival, principal double bass, Concert Orchestra, 2002-2003

Collegiate and Orchestral Service

Member, Recruitment Committee, James Madison University, August 2015-present
Member, Orchestra Committee, Pittsburgh Opera, September 2014-present
Member, Musicians' Council, Columbus IN Philharmonic, 2008-2010 and 2011-2013
Member, Committee assessing the reappointment of Douglas Lowry,
Dean, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, 2004
Treasure and Executive Board Member, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Eta-Omicron Chapter,
University of Cincinnati, two terms 2004-2005
Founding member of the Eta-Omicron colony (now chapter) of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia
Fraternity, 2003-present
Member, Committee assessing the reappointment of Warren George,
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, University of Cincinnati College-
Conservatory of Music, 2003
Treasure and Executive Board Member, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory
of Music Tribunal (undergraduate student government association),
two terms 2004-2005
Representative, 2002-2005

Related Employment Experience

Student Supervisor, Campus Bus Service, Indiana University, October 2011-August 2013
Bus Operator, Campus Bus Service, Indiana University, June 2010-August 2013
Soccer Referee
United States Soccer Federation (club youth through adult amateur),
September 1996-present
National Federation of High Schools (interscholastic), September 2006-present
Crew Chief, May 2008-present

Professional Association Memberships

Virginia Music Educators Association
National Association for Music Education
American String Teachers Association
International Society of Bassists
Viola da Gamba Society of America
College Music Society
Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia

References

Dr. Jeffery Bush

Director, James Madison University School of Music
540-568-3614 (office)
bushje@jmu.edu

Sam Cross

Professor Emeritus of Double Bass, James Madison University School of Music
540-560-0874 (cell)
crosssg@jmu.edu

Jeffery Mangone

Principal Double Bass
Pittsburgh Opera Orchestra
Pittsburgh Ballet Orchestra
Wheeling Symphony Orchestra
Adj. Professor of Music, Double Bass/Jazz Bass
Duquesne University
University of Pittsburgh
412-512-8077 (cell)
bassicjeff1@gmail.com

Simon Evans

Bassist, USAF Band of Mid-America
Former student
434-249-4417 (cell)
simon.evans91@gmail.com
(In basic training until November 15, 2015)

B. Taylor Fletcher

Student teacher, Midlothian High School
Former student
804-836-7898 (cell)
tayfletch@gmail.com