

MATTHEW SHORTEN

www.matthewshorten.com | matthewshortenmusic@gmail.com | +1 (203) 804 0139

EDUCATION

- 2023-2025 **M.A. in the History of Art, Graduate Program in the History of Art, Williams College**
Scholarships: Graduate Academic Merit Fellowship
- 2016-2020 **B.Mus. in Composition, Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University**
summa cum laude & Founder's Medalist (Valedictorian)
Minors: Voice Performance & Violin Performance
Thesis: "Samuel Barber & the Art of Isolation: An Exploration of Song & Sonority"
Awards & Prizes: S.S. and I.M.F. Marsden Prize for Excellence in Scholarship (Best Thesis), Margaret Branscomb Prize for Top Freshman, Rhodes Scholarship Finalist, Pi Kappa Lambda
Scholarships: Blair Dean's Honor Scholar, Linde B. Wilson Scholar

ARTIST RESIDENCIES & LANGUAGE TRAINING

- | | | |
|-----------|---|------------------|
| 2021-2022 | Visiting Researcher, Global Arts Division, Tokyo University of the Arts | Tokyo, Japan |
| 2021-2022 | Artist-in-Residence & Guest Conductor, Voices of Singapore | Singapore |
| 2021 | Visiting Teaching Artist, Phuket School of Music | Phuket, Thailand |
| 2021 | Japanese Language School, Middlebury Summer Language Schools | Middlebury, VT |
| 2019-2021 | Tenor Scholar & Resident Composer, VOCES8 Scholars Programme | London, UK |
| 2020 | Emerging Artist, Victoria Bach Festival | Victoria, TX |
| 2019 | Voice & Composition Fellow, Cortona Sessions for New Music | Cortona, Italy |
| 2018 | Voice & Composition Scholar, Wintergreen Music | Wintergreen, VA |
| 2016 | New Haven Symphony Young Composer's Program | New Haven, CT |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- | | | |
|--------------|--|-----------------|
| 2023-present | Tenor & Guest Artist, Apollo's Fire | Cleveland, OH |
| 2023-present | Tenor & Guest Artist, Bach Society of Minnesota | St. Paul, MN |
| 2023-present | Tenor, Servire Chorus | Wake Forest, NC |
| 2022-2023 | Tenor & Artistic Co-Director, Cantus Vocal Ensemble | Minneapolis, MN |
| 2022-present | Tenor, Ensemble Altera | Providence, RI |
| 2022-present | Tenor, Red Dot Baroque | Singapore |
| 2020-present | Tenor, Professional Artist Roster, Chorosynthesis | Seattle, WA |
| 2020-present | Tenor, Professional Artist Roster, Taylor Festival Choir | Charleston, SC |
| 2019-present | Tenor, Professional Artist Roster, VOCES8 Scholars | London, UK |
| 2021-2022 | Tenor, Professional Artist Roster, Voices of Singapore Singers | Singapore |
| 2020-2021 | Tenor Staff Singer, Cathedral Church of the Advent | Birmingham, AL |
| 2019-2020 | Assistant Conductor, Vanderbilt University Singers | Nashville, TN |
| 2019-2020 | Choral Scholar, St. George's Episcopal Church Chancel Choir | Nashville, TN |

RESEARCH PROJECTS & INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 "Samuel Barber & the Art of Isolation: An Exploration of Song & Sonority"
Undergraduate thesis written for the Bachelor of Music in Composition at Vanderbilt University.
- "Mountain as Mandate, Ancient Archetype, and Earthly Escape: Guo Xi's *Early Spring* (1027)"
Study of *Early Spring* for the Department of Art History, Vanderbilt University, December 8th, 2019.
- "The Chilling Textural Liberation and Resonant Horror of Krzysztof Penderecki's *Threnody to the Victims of Hiroshima*"
Paper written for the Department of Music Theory, Vanderbilt University, April 15th, 2019.
- 2018 "Das Lied von der Erde: Gustav Mahler's Seminal Defiance of Classical Classification"

Essay written for the Department of Musicology, Vanderbilt University, April 10th, 2018.

“Tea, Ceremony and Ceramics: Agents of Healing, Transformation, and Cultural Symbolism”

Invited paper and presentation at the Vanderbilt Undergraduate Writing Symposium in 2018.

2017 “City as Sound: Musical Structures in the Tokyo-Centric Writings of Natsume Sōseki”
Essay written for the Department of Asian Studies, Vanderbilt University, April 8th, 2017.

“Music as an Intergenerational and Cross-Cultural Symbol: An Interview with My Dad”
Invited paper and presentation at the Vanderbilt Undergraduate Writing Symposium in 2017.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE, MASTERCLASSES & WORKSHOPS

2023	Cantus High School Education Residency & Masterclass Series	Minneapolis, MN
2022	Cantus High School Education Residency & Masterclass Series	Minneapolis, MN
	Early Choral Music Workshop (Byrd, Lotti & Tallis), Voices of Singapore	Singapore
	VOS Choral Scholars, Masterclass and Workshop, Voices of Singapore	Singapore
	VOS Concert Choir, Masterclass and Workshop, Voices of Singapore	Singapore
	VOS Boys Choir, Masterclass and Workshop, Voices of Singapore	Singapore
	VOS Senior Choir, Masterclass and Workshop, Voices of Singapore	Singapore
2021	Vocal Technique and Choral Repertoire Workshop, Voices of Singapore	Singapore
	Introduction to Composition Workshop, Phuket School of Music	Phuket, Thailand
2019	Composition Workshop (1 Week), Tennessee Valley Music Festival	Huntsville, AL
	Adopt-A-Choir Initiative, Nashville Symphony Schermerhorn Center	Nashville, TN

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

2022-2023	Music & Media Librarian, Cantus Vocal Ensemble
2021-2022	Henry Luce Scholar, Luce Foundation, NY
2019	Assistant Conductor, University Singers, Vanderbilt University
2018-2020	Co-Founder & Vice President, ACDA Chapter, Vanderbilt University
2018-2020	President, Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Chapter, Vanderbilt University
2018-2020	Lead Curator & Co-Chair, Blair Salon Concert Series, Vanderbilt Ingram Commons
2018-2020	Senior Co-Chair, Blair SEGUE Orientation & Mentorship Program for First-Year Students
2018-2020	President, Blair Composers Forum, Vanderbilt University
2018-2020	Lead Curator, Living Sounds, New Music Concert Series, Vanderbilt University
2018-2020	Tenor Section Leader, Vanderbilt Chorale, Vanderbilt University

PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

2022	“Nebulae” for organ, commissioned by <i>Choir & Organ</i> Magazine and the VOCES8 Foundation. Published in the May 2022 Issue. https://www.rhinegold.co.uk/choir_organ/new-music-series-matthew-shortens-nebulae-for-solo-organ/
2021	“Vanderbilt Alumnus named Luce Scholar.” <i>Vanderbilt News</i> , March 12, 2021. https://news.vanderbilt.edu/2021/03/12/vanderbilt-alumnus-named-luce-scholar/
2020	“Student Stories: Blair Graduate [Matthew Shorten] Prepares for the International Stage through VOCES8 U.S. Scholars Program.” <i>Vanderbilt Immersion Pathways</i> , August 18, 2020. https://www.vanderbilt.edu/immersion/student-stories-matthew-shorten/
2019	“Young Composers Visit the Tennessee Valley Music Festival.” Interview with Matthew Shorten and German Lopez conducted by Dorrie Nutt for WLRH 89.3 FM/HD, June 12, 2019. https://wlrh.org/News/young-composers-visit-tennessee-valley-music-festival

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)
Broadcast Music Inc. (BMI)
Early Music America (EMA)
Music Teachers National Association (MTNA)
Luce Scholars Program, Henry Luce Foundation

VOCES8 Foundation
Voices of Singapore (VOS)
World Alliance of Children's Choirs (WACC)

AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2023 Graduate Academic Merit Fellowship, Williams College, Williamstown, MA
- 2021 Henry Luce Scholar, Luce Scholars Program, Luce Foundation, New York, NY
- 2020 Founder's Medal for First Honors, Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University
International Semi-Finalist, Walter Hussey Choral Composition Competition
International Semi-Finalist, James Toland Vocal Arts Competition, Oakland, CA
- 2019 Rhodes Scholarship Finalist, District VII, Rhodes Trust, Oxford, UK
S.S. and I.M.F. Marsden Prize for Excellence in Scholarship (Best Thesis), Vanderbilt University
Pi Kappa Lambda, Eta Iota Chapter, Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University
Winner, Tennessee Valley Music Festival Composition Competition
General Director's Award, James Toland Vocal Arts Competition, Oakland, CA
Potter Opportunity Grant, Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University
Finalist, American Composers Orchestra EarShot Residency, Sarasota Orchestra
- 2018 Winner, Vanderbilt University Orchestra Call for Scores
International Semi-Finalist, James Toland Vocal Arts Competition, Oakland, CA
Potter Opportunity Grant, Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University
- 2017 Margaret Branscomb Prize, Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University
Second Place, First-Year Division, National Association of Teachers of Singing
Finalist, Inaugural Choral Call for Scores, Vanderbilt University Choirs
- 2016 Blair Dean's Honor Scholarship, Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University
Linde B. Wilson Scholarship, Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University
Esther Byington Lindquist Scholarship

SELECTED WORKS & COMMISSIONED COMPOSITIONS

- 2022 **Nebulae** for organ
Commissioned by Choir & Organ Magazine for the New Music Series, published in May 2022 Issue.
Ekphrases for string quartet
Commissioned by the Aster Quartet at the University of Michigan, 2022 Winner of the Gustave Rosseels Endowed String Quartet Prize. Supported by a Binkow String Quartet Commission Grant.
Desert Pools for tenor and strings or piano
Premiered at the National Gallery Singapore. Poetry by Sara Teasdale.
- 2020 **Agnus Dei** for SATB choir
International Semi-Finalist at the 2020 Walter Hussey Composition Competition.
Ophelia for violin and piano
Commissioned by Emily Monroe (Vanderbilt) and Peter Sheppard Skaerved (Royal Academy).
- 2019 **Celestial Dreams** for koto, shakuhachi, violin, viola and cello
Commissioned by Kyo-Shin-An Arts, NYC; Premiered at the Tenri Cultural Institute.
White Fog for SATB choir
Commissioned by the VOCES8 Foundation. Premiered at Minnesota Public Radio.
Chrysalis for flute, Bb clarinet, violin, and marimba
Commissioned by the Cortona Sessions for New Music in Italy.
Three Etchings for string quartet
Commissioned by chatterbird for the *Hit and Pluck* collaborative.