

Education

Eastman School of Music Doctor of Musical Arts , Music Composition Primary Instrument: Piano Student of Robert Morris, David Liptak Dissertation Composition: <i>Flight</i> – Chamber Opera	May 2009
University of Chicago Master of Arts , Music Composition Student of Shulamit Ran	June 2004
The Juilliard School Bachelor of Music , Composition Student of Samuel Adler	May 2002

Teaching Experience

Lecturer, West Virginia University, School of Music Courses Taught: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Composition (undergraduate and graduate levels)• Graduate Theory Review• Written Theory III (Chromatic Harmony)• Written Theory IV (Form & Analysis)• Aural Theory III• Instrumentation• Orchestration	August 2014-present
Lecturer, Duquesne University, Mary Pappert School of Music Course Taught: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Orchestration	August-December 2013
Assistant Professor, Samford University, Division of Music Courses Taught: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Composition (undergraduate and graduate levels)• Composition Seminar• Introduction to Composition• Theory II (Diatonic Harmony)• Theory III (Chromatic Harmony)• Theory IV (Music of Late 19th and 20th Century)• Form & Analysis• Counterpoint	August 2008-May 2013

- Orchestration
- Instrumental Arranging
- Introduction to Music Technology

Teaching Assistant, Eastman School of Music 2004-2007
 Taught Composition for Non-Majors, and organize end-of-semester composition recital for all student composers' works, and assisted in Freshmen Colloquium and Experiencing Music classes.

Administrative Responsibilities and Services to Samford University

Director of Graduate Studies in Music, Samford University August 2012- May 2013
 Oversee all aspects of graduate music program (M.M. and M.M.E.) - recruiting, admission, enrollment, graduate assistantship, placement test, academic advising, and chair all oral comprehensive examinations.

Coordinator of Theory & Musicology, Samford University August 2011- May 2013
 Oversee music theory, composition, and musicology curriculum, and coordinate multiple sections of music theory classes and theory labs.

Faculty Senate August 2011- May 2013
Faculty Advisory Board, Graduate Student Council August 2012- May 2013
Chair, Graduate Music Committee August 2012- May 2013

Teaching Interests

- Studio and class composition
 - All topics of undergraduate theory curriculum including tonal harmony and form & analysis
 - 16th and 18th century counterpoint, invention and fugue
 - Late 19th century and 20th century musical practices
 - Post-tonal theory and analysis
 - Orchestration and Arranging
-

Honors and Awards

Third Place, Wright State University Trombone Festival Composition Contest	2016
Winner, J & V Foundation Commission Award (Chinese Music Teachers Association of Northern California)	2012
Winner, Alabama Music Teachers Association State Commission Award	2012
ASCAP Plus Award, American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers	2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2006, 2005
Winner, International Call for Duet, Shanghai Conservatory of Music, China	2009
Finalist, Teaching Assistant Award, Eastman	2007
Belle Gitelman Award, Eastman	2005
Finalist, Margaret Blackburn Memorial Competition	2005
Finalist, Earplay Donald Aird Memorial Composers Competition	2005
Winner, International Society for Contemporary Music Composition Competition,	

USA Florida Chapter, Florida International University	2004
First Prize (Leo Kaplan Award), ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards	2002
First Prize, Ellen Taaffe Zwilich Prize, International Alliance for Women in Music	2002
Winner, SCI / ASCAP Commission Project Competition, Region II (NY, NJ, PA)	2002
Palmer Dixon Prize, Juilliard Composition Department Highest Honor	2002
Finalist, Music Taipei Composition Competition, Taiwan	2000
Winner, Young Composer's Award, Foundation for Chinese Performing Arts, Boston	1999
Second Prize, Search for New Music, International Alliance for Women in Music	1998

Music Critic Review

The Birmingham News by Michael Huebner October 10th, 2012
 [Samford University faculty composer Sarana Chou presented another impressive premiere with "Ki-Go," a short but intensely dramatic quartet....]

The Birmingham News by Michael Huebner February 26th, 2012
 [Sarana Chou lives in two musical worlds, one tense, driven and dissonant, the other lyrical and nostalgic]

The Birmingham News by Michael Huebner July 11th, 2010
 [....Chou took a traditional tune from her native land and composed "Improvisation on a Taiwanese Tune: A Grasshopper Teasing a Rooster." Colorful, bright and angular, it easily conjures the playful antics the title implies.]

The New York Times by Allan Kozinn March 20th, 2009
 [....If the Taiwanese composer Tzu-Ling Sarana Chou kept clear of overt musical influences, her "Quadro Parlante" (2003) was inspired, she wrote in a program note, by Rembrandt's self-portraits. You have to take her word for that; her language is modern and thorny, and it moves between wildness and restraint.]

The Birmingham News by Phillip Ratliff October 3rd, 2008
 [....Arguably the most impressive point in the concert was the delightful performance of Chou's "Improvisation on a Taiwanese Tune: A Grasshopper Teasing a Rooster." Chou, who is also a pianist, and Angela Flaniken performed this inventive, colorful 10-minute piece. String harmonics and other special effects were abundant, and the harmonic language was a mix of mildly biting dissonances and Taiwanese idioms. But Chou never let the tricks get in the way of her larger expressive goals. Simply put, Chou is a composer with a convincing point of view and the facility to get her ideas across.]

Presentation and Pre-Concert Talk

Music Activity Hour, Samford University, AL 2011
 Getting to Know Samuel Adler Through His Music

Southeast Taiwanese-American Summer Conference, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 2010

2nd new Music Week, Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Shanghai, CHINA 2009
 Panel Discussion and Pre-Concert Talk on *Three Miniatures* for double bass and guitar

Women's Works Series, New York City, Concert and Radio Interview	2009
Pre-concert lecture on the solo piano piece <i>Quadro Parlante</i> , and interview regarding compositional technique and philosophy behind the composition.	
New Music Miami Festival, Miami, FL	2005
Pre-concert lecture on the solo piano piece <i>Quadro Parlante</i>	
Taiwanese-American Heritage Festival, La Jolla, CA	2005, 2000
Pre-concert lecture on the solo violoncello piece <i>Taiwanese Suite</i> , addressing the relationship between composer and audience in the current concert music scene.	
The Banff Summer Arts Festival, Alberta, CANADA	2000
Pre-concert lecture on the viola and piano piece <i>Anguished Cry</i> , addressing the compositional inspiration and creativity process.	
Seminar, New Music from China, Harvard University, Boston, MA	2000
Lecture and open discussion with panel composers, on the practice of using traditional Chinese folk music and instruments in Western contemporary music.	

Grant

Grant for New Composition, National Culture and Arts Foundation, TAIWAN	2010
Faculty Development Grant, Samford University	2009
Grant for New Composition, National Culture and Arts Foundation, TAIWAN	2008
Professional Development Funds, Graduate Student Association, Eastman	2005

Commission

- Rhapsody on the Chaconne Theme for Solo Viola, Hsin-Yun Huang-violist 2014
- *Night* for Violin & Timpani [Alabama Symphony Orchestra Concertmaster and Friends Chamber Music Series] 2014
- Dance to the Moon for Cello and Piano, set piece for 2014 pre-college cello category competition [Chinese Music Teachers Association of Northern California] 2013
- *ki-go* for Flute, Violin, Piano, and Percussion [Alabama Symphony Orchestra Concertmaster and Friends Chamber Music Series] 2012
- Toccata for Bassoon and Piano [Pro Art Bassoon Ensemble] 2012
- Ritual Mask for Clarinet, Violin, Piano [Alabama Music Teachers Association] 2012
- Fanfare for Our Time [Boston Brass & Samford Wind Ensemble] Samford University 2011
- Memory Theatre [Pro Art Bassoon Ensemble] 2010
- Flight - Chamber Opera [National Culture and Arts Foundation], TAIWAN 2008
- A Grasshopper Teasing A Rooster [I-Chia Tseng], Rochester, NY 2006
- Devant for Ten-string Guitar [Myriam Bogaerts], Antwerp, BELGIUM 2003
- Quadro Parlante for Piano [Jenny Lin], New York City 2002
- Handsome Bottoms Up [Jenny Lin], New York City 2002
- Guitarpeggione [Guitar, Appeggione] Nicolas Deletaille, Brussels, BELGIUM 2002
- Taiwanese Suite for solo Violoncello [Li-Ling Wang], New York, NY 2000

- Taiwanese Children Songs [Children Choir, Chamber Ensemble] Taiwanese-American Heritage Festival; Cho-Liang Lin, Artist Director, La Jolla, CA 2000

Festival, Seminar, and Forum

Composition Seminar, Freie Universität, Berlin, GERMANY	2006
Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Composer's Forum, Buffalo, NY	2006
June In Buffalo, Buffalo, NY	2005
New Music Miami Festival, Miami, FL	2005
Women In Music Festival, Rochester, NY	2005
Composer Residence, The Banff Summer Arts Festival Alberta, CANADA	2000
New Music from China, Concert and Seminar, Harvard University, Longy School of Music, Boston, MA	2000

List of Compositions, Premiere and Recent Performances

Opera

Flight: ACT I (2006-2008) ACT II (Work-in-progress)	Chamber Opera	Eastman School of Music, May 3, 2008
--	---------------	--------------------------------------

Orchestra

Speaking Without Words (2004)	String Orchestra	Eastman Philharmonia, February 18, 2006
Awareness (2003)	Orchestra	Juilliard Orchestra, December 2001 (Reading)

Concerto

Fanfare for Our Time (2011)	Brass Quintet & Antiphonal Wind Ensemble	Boston Brass & Samford Wind Ensemble, December 6, 2011 Samford University, February 25, 2012
Spotlight On (2005)	Piano Concerto	Jenny Lin & Eastman Student Orchestra, February 18, 2006 Jenny Lin & Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, February 8, 2006
The Emancipation of The Sprit (2000)	Flute Concerto	Demarre McGill & Juilliard Orchestra, November 19, 2002 (Reading Session)

Chamber Music

Night (2014)	Violin & Percussion	Alabama Symphony Concert Master & Friends Series, January 28, 2014
Tunes Heard in My Childhood No. 7 Dance to the Moon (2013)	Cello & Piano	Chinese Music Teachers Association of Northern California Cello Category Competition, April 6, 2014
Tocatta (2013)	Bassoon & Piano	National Recital Hall, TAIWAN, March 8, 2013
Tunes Heard in My Childhood No. 6 (work-in-progress)	Bassoon & Piano	
Early Bird Special (work-in-progress)	Alto Sax & Percussion	
Ki-Go (2012)	Violin, Flute, Piano, Percussion	Alabama Symphony Concert Master & Friends Series, October 9, 2012
Ritual Mask (2012)	Clarinet, Violin, Piano	Samford University, April 9, 2013 Jacksonville State University, June 7, 2012
Tunes Heard in My Childhood No. 4 A Train Whistle (2011)	Cello & Piano	Samford University, February 25, 2012 University of North Taxes, June 23, 2011
Tunes Heard in My Childhood No. 5 A Tea Lady's Love Song (2011)	Double Bass & Piano	Samford University, February 25, 2012 University of North Taxes, June 23, 2011
Memory Theatre (2010)	Bassoon Quartet	ProArt Bassoon Quartet, Chan Centre for the Performing Arts Vancouver, CANADA, July 18, 2010
Tunes Heard in My Childhood No. 3 Rain Phantasy (2009)	Violin & Piano	Samford University, February 25, 2012 Samford University, November 17, 2011 National Taiwan Normal University, TAIWAN, July 3, 2010 Samford University, September 8, 2009 Liederkrantz Hall, NYC, April 11, 2007
Three Miniatures (2008/2007)	Double Bass & Guitar	University of North Taxes, November 16, 2009 Shanghai Conservatory of Music, CHINA, October 14, 2009 University of North Taxes, April 2, 2009 Eastman School of Music, May 3, 2008
Tunes Heard in My Childhood No. 2 A Grasshopper Teasing A Rooster (2006)	Viola & Piano	Samford University, February 25, 2012 National Recital Hall, TAIWAN, September 7, 2011 Tainan Classical Music Salon, TAIWAN, September 3, 2011

		Samford University, October 2, 2008 Eastman School of Music, January 25, 2007 Eastman School of Music, December 10, 2006
Two Ways To Be Alone (2006)	Piano Trio	Akademie der Künste, Berlin, GERMANY, July 12, 2006 Eastman School of Music, February 27, 2006 Eastman School of Music, February 18, 2006
Guitarpeggione (2002/2004)	Double Bass & Piano	The Juilliard School, May 17, 2002
String Quartet No.2 (2001)	String Quartet	The Juilliard School, November, 2001
Left & Right (2001)	Clarinet & Piano	The Juilliard School, October, 2001
Anguished Cry (2000)	Viola & Piano	Taichung City Hall, TAIWAN, June 11, 2000
The Way (1998-1999)	Fl. Bsn. Vla. Vlc. Pno	The Juilliard School, April 5, 1999

Solo

[New Work]	Solo Viola	Hsin-Yun Huang Montgomery College Parilla Performing Arts Center, May 24, 2014
A Little Dance Suite (2011)	Solo Violin & Two Solo Dancers	Samford University, February 25, 2012 First United Methodist Church Birmingham, March 18, 2012 Samford University, October 25, 2011
Furious (2011)	Solo Piano & Dance Ensemble	Samford University, February 25, 2012 Samford Spring Dance Concert, March 29 - April 1, 2012 (4 shows)
devant (2004/2005)	Solo Ten-string Guitar	Eastman School of Music, May 3, 2008
Fantasy (2003)	Solo Bassoon	Eastman School of Music, March 24, 2005
Tunes Heard in My Childhood No. 1 Handsome Bottoms Up (2003/2009)	Solo Piano	Samford University, February 25, 2012 Longy School of Music, May 10, 2011 Western Carolina University, July 10, 2010 Montgomery College Parilla Performing Arts Center, May 7, 2010 Jenny Lin, Encore for Taipei Symphony Concerto Night, 2003

Quadro Parlante (2002/2003)	Solo Piano	Weill Recital Hall, October 25, 2002 Greenwich House Arts, NYC, March 18, 2009 Passaic Library, NJ, March 8, 2009
Taiwanese Suite (2000)	Solo Cello	The Juilliard School, December, 2000

Professional Affiliations

American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP)
New Music USA
College Music Society
Society of Composer, Inc.

References

Samuel Adler
Professor of Composition, The Juilliard School
60 Lincoln Center Plaza, New York, NY 10023
(419) 666-9519
sadlercomp@yahoo.com

David Liptak
Professor of Composition, Eastman School of Music
26 Gibbs Street, Rochester, NY 14604
(585) 274-1573
dliptak@esm.rochester.edu

Joseph Hopkins
Dean, Professor of Music, Samford University
800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229
(205) 726-2778
jhopkins@samford.edu

Kathryn Fouse
Associate Dean, Professor of Music, Samford University
800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229
(205) 726-2489
klfouse@samford.edu

Jenny Lin
Concert Pianist, New Music Specialist
11 E. 36th Street, #302
New York, NY 10016
(917) 945-7788
jenny@jennylin.net

Shulamit Ran
Professor of Composition, University of Chicago
1010 East 59th Street, Goodspeed Hall 3rd Floor, Chicago, IL 60637
(773) 702-3072
sran@uchicago.edu
