

JOSEPH SOWA

COMPOSER, EDITOR, WRITER

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EDUCATION

PhD, Music Composition and Theory, Brandeis University (ABD)	expected 2018
MM, Music Composition, Brigham Young University	2012
BM, Music Composition, Editing minor, Brigham Young University	2010
<i>Magna Cum Laude, University Honors</i>	

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS & HONORS

Commission, Barlow Endowment for Music Composition for English Horn Sonata	2016
Semi-Finalist, American Prize for “Summer Has Ten Thousand Stars”	2015
ASCAP Plus Award Recipient	2011, 2013–2015
Finalist, Morton Gould Young Composer Awards, ASCAP for “Summer Has Ten Thousand Stars”	2011
Commission, Barlow Endowment for Music Composition for “A Field Guide to Natural History”	2010
Finalist, ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards for “Two Metaphors”	2009

ACADEMIC AWARDS & HONORS

1st place, Vera Hinckley Mayhew Creative Arts Contest, for “A Field Guide to Natural History”	2012
Graduate Student Fellowship, Brigham Young University	2011
3rd place, Vera Hinckley Mayhew Creative Arts Contest for “Summer Has Ten Thousand Stars”	2010
2nd place, Vera Hinckley Mayhew Creative Arts Contest for “Two Metaphors”	2009
Laycock Grant for Creative Collaboration in the Arts	2008
ORCA Grant for undergraduate research	2008
2nd place, Vera Hinckley Mayhew Creative Arts Contest for “Go Exploring”	2008

CONFERENCES & FESTIVALS

Fresh Inc. (Kenosha, Wisconsin)	2017
highSCORE Music Festival (Pavia, Italy)	2016
highSCORE Music Festival (Pavia, Italy)	2012
Brevard Music Festival (Brevard, North Carolina)	2011
European American Musical Alliance (Paris, France)	2009
Linguistics Association of the Southwest (Provo, Utah)	2009

SELECTED COMMISSIONS & COLLABORATIONS

PRISM Quartet	<i>Motion Lines</i>	2017
Carolyn Hove, Jeralee Johnson, David Ashton / Barlow Endowment for Music Composition	<i>English Horn Sonata*</i>	2016
Farallon Quintet	<i>The Integrity of Clouds*</i>	2016
Genesis Chamber Singers	<i>Jesus of Nazareth, Savior and King*</i>	2015

Jeralee Johnson	<i>Daydreams and Postlude*</i>	2015
Lydian String Quartet	<i>Ginger</i>	2014
Neil Thornock	<i>Under an Orange Sky*</i>	2012
Arianna Tieghi	<i>Icarus and Daedalus*</i>	2012
Jared Starr, BYU Chamber Orchestra	<i>Myths and Legends*</i>	2011
Douglas Bush	<i>In and Through All Things*</i>	2011
Barlow Endowment for Music Composition	<i>A Field Guide to Natural History*</i>	2010
Laycock Endowment for Creative Collaboration	<i>Clarinet Sonata*</i>	2009

(* Commissioned works)

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- “James Tenney’s Meta-Hodos: Analytical Lessons from an Obscure Master’s Thesis,” “*Star Wars* as Orchestral Primer,” and “Ruts and Timing in My Music.” All three lectures presented as guest composer, Boise State University, Boise, ID, March 9-10, 2017.
- “Now the Green Blade Rises.” *Hymns Today* 9 (Easter 2015): 22–23.
- “The Lamb of God.” *Hymns Today* 4 (Holidays 2013): 36–37.
- “The State of Scholarly Research on Harrison Birtwistle.” *Brio* (Journal of the UK/Ireland branch of the International Association of Music Librarians) 48 (Autumn/Winter 2011): 22–37.
- “Meanings of Music: Metaphors, Proportions, and Physiology.” Presented as part of the BYU Honors Program Lecture Series, Provo, UT, December 1, 2011.
- “Life After Brahms: Learning to Live with the ‘Classical Music’ of the Twentieth Century.” *Insight*, April 2010: 38–44.
- “‘Sweet As!’: the intensifier As in New Zealand and Australian English.” *English Today* 98 (June 2009): 58–61. (also presented at the conference of the Linguistics Association of the Southwest, Provo, UT, Sept. 24–26, 2009.)
- “The Role of the Human Conversation in Fostering a Love for Writing.” *Tutoring Strategies*, Winter 2009: 51–53.
- “Writing in the Undergraduate Music Theory Curriculum.” *Writing in the Disciplines*, Winter 2009: 58–61.

RECORDINGS

- “For the Beauty of the Earth” (arr.). *American Grace*. Charity Tillemann-Dick, Joela Jones, Richard Weiss. 2014.

COMPOSITION STUDIES

- Primary Teachers: Eric Chasalow, David Rakowski, Yu-Hui Chang, Stephen Jones, Neil Thornock
- Additional Studies: Christian Asplund, Martin Boykan, Murray Boren, Michael Hicks, Steven Ricks, David Sargent
- Masterclasses: Robert Aldridge, Julian Anderson, Mark Applebaum, Derek Bermel, Chaya Czernowin, David Dzubay, Mario Garuti, Amy Beth Kirsten, Lansing McLoskey, Harold Meltzer, and Dmitri Tymoczko

ARTS ADMINISTRATION EXPERIENCE

- Co-director, New Music Brandeis (concert series) 2015–2016
- Intern, Barlow Endowment for Music Composition (commissioning body) Summer 2009

CLASSROOM TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Tufts University , Medford/Somerville, MA. Instructor “Star Wars: How Long Ago? How Far Away?” (interdisciplinary, co-taught)	Spring 2017
Brandeis University , Waltham, MA. Instructor, TA Theory and Musicianship Lab 2 (aural skills)	Spring 2017
Intro to Electroacoustic Music (TA/Derek Hurst)	Fall 2016
Theory and Musicianship Lab 4 (aural skills)	Spring 2016
Theory and Musicianship Lab 3 (aural skills)	Fall 2015
Theory and Musicianship Lab 2 (aural skills)	Spring 2015
Theory and Musicianship Lab 1 (aural skills)	Fall 2014
Brigham Young University , Provo, UT. Instructor, TA Music Theory 2	Winter 2012
Music Theory 1	Fall 2011
Music Fundamentals	Fall 2010
First-Semester Composition (TA/Chrsitian Asplund)	Winter 2010
Writing for Publication (TA/Gary Hatch)	Winter 2010
Writing for Publication (TA/Gary Hatch)	Fall 2009

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Composer, Boise State University <i>Presented 3 lectures and taught 7 private composition lessons</i>	2017
Theory Instructor, Young Musicians’ Summerfest <i>Part of a week-long camp for high schoolers held by BYU</i>	2011, 2012
Writing Fellow, Humanities 1 <i>Paired with a different class each semester, I conferenced with student writers for each of the papers they wrote. In tandem, I completed a course in writing tutoring, published two papers on writing tutoring, and participated in monthly training meetings.</i>	Fall 2009
Writing Fellow, Bioethics	Winter 2009
Private Instructor in music theory, composition, and aural skills.	2008–present

EDITING, WRITING AND DESIGN EXPERIENCE

Consulting Editor—External Relations, BYU College of Fine Arts and Communications <i>Wrote press releases and news articles. Managed and produced a monthly news email for the BYU Museum of Art. Edited articles by other writers. Trained student employees. Collaborated with graphic designers, web developers, and academic stakeholders in the rebranding of the college, for which I developed the editorial voice of the college. Revised and edited the entire college website accordingly.</i>	2012–2015
Editorial Consultant, BYU Honors Program Publications <i>Collaborated with the Dean and others to refine the concept of Insight magazine, including its stance toward its audience, its content, and so on. Created a production schedule to produce both a print magazine and an online edition. Created a course outline by which the magazine and its online counterpart can be produced in two discrete semesters by students of varying backgrounds and abilities.</i>	Summer 2010

- Senior Designer, Stowaway Magazine Winter 2010
Proposed the basic grid for the magazine's design. Designed the table of contents, the culture spread, a feature article, and an ad for the magazine's website. Did copyfitting and helped ensure coherency of design throughout the magazine. Helped with miscellaneous writing and editing throughout the magazine.
- Managing Editor, BYU Honors Program Publications 2009–2010
TA'd for a class to write content for the magazine and newsletter. Supervised development of content with the publisher, Dr. Gary Hatch. Designed and laid out the newsletter, the Spark, and the magazine, Insight. Coordinated with Humanites Publication Center in editing and miscellaneous design issues related to Insight. Fact checked, proofread, and handled publication of Insight.
- Intern, Humanities Publication Center 2008–2009
Supervised the layout and design of College of Humanities Magazine, Winter 2009. Did layout for, proofread, and produced a 350-page book on Mt. Vesuvius studies. Laid out articles for Insight magazine, Winter 2009. Completed various other editing and layout assignments.

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

- Council member, BYU Graduate Student Society 2010–2011
Helped publicize and organize events for BYU's 3,300 graduate students.
- President, Student-Provo City Alliance 2010–2011
Founded a group to help students get involved in local politics. Results included registering students to vote and preventing the implementation of an unpopular city ordinance

AFFILIATIONS

American Composer's Forum
 ASCAP

Complete List of Compositions

(selected performances, commissions, and awards bulleted)

ORCHESTRAL

Myths and Legends 2011, solo violin and chamber orchestra, 11'

- Funded by a BYU Graduate Student Fellowship
- 2011 December 7 (premiere): BYU Chamber Orchestra, Jared Starr, soloist, Kory Katseanes, cond.

Summer Has Ten Thousand Stars 2009–2010, full orchestra, 10'

- 2010 April 10 (premiere): BYU Philharmonic Orchestra, Jamie Teot cond.
- 2015, Semi-finalist, American Prize for “Summer Has Ten Thousand Stars”
- 2011, Finalist, Morton Gould Young Composer Awards, ASCAP for “Summer Has Ten Thousand Stars”
- 2010, 3rd Place, Vera Mayhew Creative Arts Contest in Music Composition.

CHAMBER

Blossom Music (Dickinson’s Flowers) 2017, soprano and mixed quintet, 6'

- Written for the 2017 Fresh Inc. Festival

Motion Lines 2016, saxophone quartet, 4'

- 2017 January 29: Prism Saxophone Quartet

The Integrity of Clouds 2016, clarinet quintet, 6'

- Commissioned by the Farallon Quintet.

Subterranean (Lantern Music) 2015–2016, mixed septet, 8'

- 2016 May 8 (premiere): Mark Berger, Luke Blackburn, Davis Coleman, Gleb Kanasevich, Tess Maxwell, Robin Rhodes, Mike Williams; Matt Sharrock, cond.

Ginger 2014, string quartet, 12'

- 2014 December 6 (premiere): Lydian String Quartet

Wasabi 2012, string quartet, 5'

- 2014 May 4: New Music Brandeis
- 2012 August 2 (premiere): Quartetto Indaco at the highSCORE Festival 2012

Interstate Pastoral 2011, flute, clarinet, and bassoon, 7'

- 2011 July 14 (premiere): Erin Torres, Dana Howell, and Reiss Schoendorf at the Brevard Music Festival

A Field Guide to Natural History 2010–2011, saxophone, bass, piano, and percussion, 24'

- 1st Place, 2012 Vera Mayhew Creative Arts Contest in Music Composition.
- Commissioned in 2010 by the Barlow Endowment for Music Composition.
- 2011 July 7 (premiere): 2011 Convention of the International Society of Bassists at San Francisco State University by David Kjar, Eric Hansen, Scott Holden, and Ron Brough.
- 2011 October 5: Brigham Young University by Ray Smith, Eric Hansen, Scott Holden, and Ron Brough

Gorre and Daphetid 2011, piano trio, 5'

- Written for a modern dance collaboration with choreographer Anne Garlick.
- 2011 February 23 (reading session): New York Piano Trio.
- 2011 March 31 and April 1 (premiere): BYU Dance Department’s New Works New Voices concert.

Monet’s Gardens 2009, saxophone quartet, 7'

- 2009 October 1 (reading session): US Coast Guard Sax Quartet.

Clarinet Sonata 2008–2009, clarinet and piano, 24'

- Finalist, 2009 ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards.
- 2nd Place, Vera Mayhew Creative Arts Competition in Music Composition.
- 2011 September 30 (full premiere): Baldassin Pianos in Salt Lake City by Jaren Hinckley and Jed Moss
- 2011 April 1 and 5 (First movement): Brigham Young University by Tara Hill and Mark Witmer
- 2009 November 11 (Second, third, and fourth movements): Brigham Young University by Hannah Bates and Jackie Bodily.
- 2008 November 11 (reading session): Jean Kopperud and Stephen Gosling of the New York New Music Ensemble.
- Funded by a grant from BYU's Office of Undergraduate Research.

I AM 2008, 15 players, 8'

- 2008 November 5 (premiere): the Musical North Chamber Ensemble, Lev Ivanov cond., as part of The Fall Collection project.
- Funded by a grant from the Laycock Endowment for Creative Collaboration in the Arts, for which I wrote the grant letter, managed the budget, and supervised all aspects of the project's completion.

Go Exploring 2008, piano, string quartet, and percussion, 9'

- 2nd Place, Vera Mayhew Creative Arts Competition in Music Composition.
- 2008 March 20 (reading session): fEARnoMUSIC

Odds and Ends 2004/2009, flute, clarinet, bassoon, violin, and cello, 15'

- 11 November 2009 (premiere): Brigham Young University by Nicole Okeson, Rulon Bailey, Jessi Judd, Ashley Kunz, and Natachia Li.

SOLO/DUO

Coruxa en Carbayu 2016, flute and guitar, 4'

- 2016 August 10 (premiere): Unassisted Fold at the highSCORE Festival 2016

Daydreams and Postlude 2015–2016, solo oboe, 10'

- 2015 May 3 (premiere): Jeralee Johnson

Double Refraction by a Uniaxial Crystal 2015, cello and piano, 5'

- 2015 March 8 (premiere): Geoffrey Burlison, piano, and David Russell, cello

night flocks of angels trumpet 2012, violin and piano, 4'

- An arrangement and expansion of the ninth movement of A Field Guide to Natural History.
- 2015 March 1: Daniel Stepner and Donald Berman.
- 2013 October 26: Georgia Luikens and Alexander Lane.
- 2012 December 1 (premiere): by Katie Jensen and Joseph Olsen.

Icarus and Daedalus 2012, solo clarinet, 4'

- 2012 July 6 (premiere): Arianna Tieghi at the 2012 International Arts Educators Forum in Città di Castello, Italy
- Commissioned by Arianna Tieghi

fangled contraption 2011, flute and alto saxophone, 2'

- 2011 August 5 (premiere): Erin and Michael Torres at the Brevard Music Festival
- 2011 December 2: Erin and Michael Torres at the Celebration Concert of Ohio State University

- 2011 December 8: Erin and Michael Torres at the 35th International Saxophone Symposium at George Mason University
- 2012 October 18: the AWEA Duo at Morehead State University

floboe 2010, flute and oboe, 3'

- 2010 November 10: Danielle Priest and Megan Beardall at Brigham Young University

You Mean the World to Me 2009, saxophone and tam-tam, 9'

- 2009 April 3 (premiere): Skyler Murray.
- 2009 November 18: Skyler Murray.

Atlas 2007, bassoon, 5'

- 2008 February 29 (premiere): Brigham Young University by Darcy Whetten
- 2016 August 20: Jessi Vandagriff

KEYBOARD

Under an Orange Sky 2012, carillon, 8'

- 2012 November 19 (premiere): Neil Thornock.

Marginalia 2012, organ, 8'

- 2012 March 12 (premiere): Neil Thornock at Libby Garner Concert Hall, University of Utah.

In and Through All Things 2010–2011, organ, 6'

- 2011 March 27 (premiere): Douglas Bush at the Catholic Cathedral in Moscow, Russia.
- 2011 April 23: Douglas Bush at the Salt Lake Tabernacle.

Prelude: Silent Chambers 2009, piano solo, 2'

- 2010 July 25 (premiere): Lee Deitterich at the École Normale de Musique de Paris.

VOCAL AND CHORAL

Blossom Music (Dickinson's Flowers) 2017, soprano and mixed quintet, 6'

- Written for the 2017 Fresh Inc. Festival

Jesus of Nazareth, Savior and King 2015, SATB choir, 5'

- Commissioned by the Genesis Chamber Singers
- 2015 October 18 (premiere): Genesis Chamber Singers, Joseph Young, cond.
- 2015 October 23, 25, December 12, 13, and 18: Genesis Chamber Singers

Beauty Is Not Caused 2013, high voice and piano, 2'

- 2014 April 13: Sarah Pelletier, soprano, and Lois Shapiro, piano

Love and Joy 2013, SATB choir, 2'

How Shall I Bury Thee, My God? 2013, SATB choir, 3'

The Lamb of God 2012, SATB choir, 3'

In Praise of Songs that Die 2011, high voice and piano, 3'

- 2011 July 7: Jason Weisinger and Bolton Ellenberg at the Brevard Music Festival

A Lake and a Fairy Boat 2008, high voice and piano, 4'

- 2008 December 18: Karen Baron, soprano, and Chris Koelzer, piano

ELECTRONICS

Loomings 2013, *fixed media, 8'*

- 2014 April 26: Brandeis University

Brain Siphon 2012, *fixed media, 8'*

Lavender Summer 2009, *fixed media, 5'*

- 2009 December 4: Brigham Young University

What About That Girl? 2006, *fixed media, 5'*

- Premiered on 17 November 2007 at Brigham Young University
- Performed again on 11 November 2009