

# Curriculum Vitae

## Saman Shahi

MaMus University of Toronto, Composition,  
*Faculty of Music 2012*  
BaMusic University of Toronto, Composition, Piano Performance,  
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### **Qualifications:**

- Emerging Professional, holding a Master's degree from the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto in Composition.
- Co-founder and Executive Manager of ICOT ( Iranian-Canadian Composers of Toronto).
- Active pianist, composer, Tar player, arranger and conductor.

### **Composition:**

- **“Microlocking”** Commissioned by the junctQin keyboard trio through Toronto Arts Council, and Ontario Arts Council March 2018 in Waterloo, August 2018 Toronto.
- **“Three Songs”** performed in Toronto February 2018. Commissioned by Fabian Arcinegas based on poetry by Jelena Ciric.
- **“Breathing in the Shadows”** Song cycle performed in Toronto, Halifax, Philadelphia Winter of 2018. Commissioned by Maureen Batt through Ontario Arts Council.
- **“Land”** film score in 2017 Montreal World Film Festival, August 2017
- **“Body Answer” and “Smile”** for mezzo Soprano and Piano, April 25<sup>th</sup> 2017 , New York, May 7<sup>th</sup> Toronto
- **“Rhythmicization”** for Windsor Youth Symphony February 18<sup>th</sup> 2016- Windsor, repeat performance by Windsor Symphony Orchestra April 7<sup>th</sup> 2017
- **“Concerto for Peace”** for String Orchestra/full orchestra , solo soprano, Tar and Tombak. Two performances : January 27<sup>th</sup> Ottawa, 13<sup>th</sup> Strings, and June 18<sup>th</sup> Toronto Orchestra Toronto- Commissioned with ICOT
- **“Lullaby on a Cold Winter Night”** for String Orchestra, SARV String ensemble, Toronto June 12<sup>th</sup> 2017
- **“Zaagros”** Piano concerto performed in Canadian Opera Company's Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre by Glenn Gould School New Music Ensemble, December 13<sup>th</sup> 2016
- **“Elegy for the falling leaves”** performed in Toronto by Ladom ensemble May 26<sup>th</sup> 2016
- **“Feverd Ashes”** performed in Toronto, Philadelphia, New York with Maureen Batt, Cheryl Duval as part of “Crossing Borders: Blurred Relaities” concert series. March-May 2016
- **“Scherzo”** for Solo Guitar at the Canadian Music Centre as part of Class Axe composition workshop. December 17 2015.
- **“Chaotic Dream”** winner of the 15 minutes of fame presented in Vox Novous for Piano solo. New York, October 24 2015 as part of the 15 year Vox Nvous Festival.
- **“Mingling Leaves”** for Piano solo on June 13<sup>th</sup> at the Canadian Music Centre and August 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Tirgan 2015 in Toronto.

- **“Trio in Chaargah”** Performed 17 times from January to May of 2015, commissioned by the National Ballet of Canada.
- **“Overture”** and **“Postlude”** performed by ICOT orchestra and Soprano Zorana Sadiq on December 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 as part “Secret of Solstice” concert.
- **“5 Tableaux of Khosrow and Shirin Ballet”** for the National Ballet of Canada’s YOUdance and Cathedral Bluff Symphony orchestra. May 24<sup>th</sup> 2014
- **“3 Quatrains for Men’s Chorus”** for the Canadian Men’s chorus, CBC Glenn Gould Studio May 24<sup>th</sup> 2014.
- **“When We Fall”** for the Canadian Contemporary Music workshop, CCMW April 2013.
- **“Variations based on a distracted melody”** for Contact Ensemble, June 2013.
- **“Operatic Narrations of Arash the Archer”** as the Opening ceremony of the 2013 Tirgan Festival. A Collaborative opera with ICOT. July 2013.
- University of Toronto New Music Festival 2013 as well as the Toronto Electroacoustic Symposium in the Summer of 2013 , Clarinetist Peter Stoll performed **“Dialogue in Afshari”** for Clarinet Bb solo and tape.
- Commissioned by the Northdale concert band for **“Petite Suite”**. Premiered under my own baton in October of 2012.
- ICOT’s second concert “New Music New Poetry” in September of 2012 included a premier of **“Gardens of Wonder”** for tape.
- One of the four composers of **“Rob Ford; the Opera”**, which premiered in January of 2012 in Toronto.

### **Piano:**

- **Festivals:** Toronto Beaches Jazz Festival, Tirgan Festival, Hamilton Philharmonic New Music Festival “What Next” 2014, Nuit Blanche 2013, University of Toronto New Music Festival 2011.
- **Ensembles:** Iranian National Orchestra and Choir, Toy Piano composers, Gamut Ensemble (Large Ensemble and Chamber) , ICOT Orchestra , Del o jan Choir, Sarv Choir, Blythwood juniors choir, Toronto Metro Big Band, Circle Music band, Claude Watson Concert orchestra, Margaritas Chamber ensemble, Circle Music Band.
- Accompanist for the Del o Jan choir and Blythwood Junior school and Sarv Choir.

### **Conducting:**

- Tirgan Nowruz Festival Opening concert, 2018
- “Tribute to Farhad” at the Richmondhill Centre for the Performing arts, Summer 2016
- Northdale Concertband, Winter performance, October 2012.
- Gamut Ensemble Conductor in Residence, 2011-12

### **Professional involvements:**

- Professional Member of the Canadian League of Composers, CLC.
- Professional Member of SOCAN.
- Associate Composer with the Canadian Music Centre, CMC.

- Executive Manager and co-founder at the Iranian-Canadian Composers of Toronto, ICOT.
- Toronto Creative Music lab, TMCL 2018 selection panel.
- Invited lecturer at the University of Tehran's Fine Arts faculty, May 2016 and May 2018 as Composer as well as Pianist.
- Jury member for recording grant at the Ontario Arts Council, January of 2015.
- Workshops given at Larurier University Faculty of Music (Kitchener ON) and Sarv Academy ( Toronto)
- Composer in Residence ( as well as Affiliate conductor) for the Northdale Concert band, directed by David Bourque in 2011-12.
- Assistant conductor for Gamut ensemble in 2011-12.
- Works have been read by Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal ECM+ and the University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra.
- Works have been performed by National Ballet of Canada, Glenn Gould School New Music Ensemble, Orchestra Toronto, Thirteen Strings, Windsor Symphony Orchetsra, junctQin Keyboard trio, Windsor youth Symphony, Canadian Men's Chorus, Cathedral Bluffs Symphony Orchestra, Gamut ensemble, Northdale Concert Band, Piano Pinnacle Duo, ICOT, Musica Reflecta, Ton Beau String Quartet and Tirgan Festival

#### **Media:**

- BBC Farsi interviewed ICOT for a broadcast in 2013.
- Countless interviews made with ICOT in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal by local newspapers and TV programs.
- Mention of the sensational “Rob Ford: An operatic Life” in talk shows or podcasts on Global TV and CBC.

#### **Awards and Recognitions :**

- 2018 Canada Council for the Arts Travel Grant
- 2018 Ontario Arts Council commissioning grant
- 2018 Toronto Arts Council Creation Grant
- 2017 Ontario Arts Council, Commissioning Grant
- 2016 Canada Council for the Arts, Professional Musician grant
- 2015 Selected composer Vox Novous festival/Call for scores in New York
- 2015, Ontario Arts Council, Chalmers grant for professional development
- 2013, 2015 Tirgan Festival, Distinguished artist
- 2012 selected composer for the Canadian Music Center/Canadian League of Composers mentorship project award.
- 2011 Winner of the Piano Pinnacle call for scores in Vancouver, BC.
- 2011 Beach Family scholarship for professional development.
- 2010 Klein Family Award.
- 2009 William Erving Fairclough Award
- 2009 Kiwanis Gold in both Solo and Chamber composition competition.
- 2006 Hart House Student Composer's concert/competition, First place.
- 2004 Claude Watson's Elected Piano Student of the year.