

Curriculum Vitae

Saman Shahi

BaMus, MaMus University of Toronto, Composition, *Faculty of Music '10, '12*

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Qualifications:

- Master's degree from the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto in Composition.
- Co-founder and Executive Director of ICOT since 2011.
- Music Director at Peterborough Concert Band
- Canadian Opera Company After School Opera program Composer- Lead Teaching Artist
- Active pianist, composer, conductor and educator.

Composition:

- **“Microlocking II”** For Electric Guitar Solo- 21C Guitar festival- February 2021- Portugal
- **“Bagatelle”** for players of Scarborough philharmonic- Virtual performance-November 2020
- **“Suspended Doorways”** commissioned by Whispering river orchestra-September 2020
- **“In Paralysis”** Co-composed and premiered (virtually) for at Westben Residency 2020
- **“Caravan Rhapsody”** Commissioned by Scarborough Philharmonic Orchestra and Canadian Sinfonietta- February 2020
- **“Battle of Apoosh”** Electronics for the Opening of Tirgan 2019 festival. July 2019
- **“Songs of a Wandering Soul”** For Voice and chamber ensemble. **Finalist for the Kaleidoscope Orchestra's international Call for Scores 2021**
- **“Dance of the Majnoon”** commissioned by Trioanfang, May and September 2019, and February 2020 Switzerland
- **“Interlude”** Commissioned by Toronto Multicultural orchestra, March 2019
- **“In Search of”** commissioned by Spectrum Music for Choir and Jazz trio, February 2019 Toronto, Hamilton.
- **“New Horizon”** for Scarborough Philharmonic Winds, March 2019
- **“The Journey: Notes of Hope”** an Opera by ICOT. November 2018, Toronto
- **“Rumi Fables”** alongside ICOT and Ladom Ensemble, Agha Khan Museum, September 2018, Nuit Blanche, Ottawa Chamberfest 2019.
- **“Etude No.1”** Piano Solo, performed 6 times in Canada, Iran and USA 2017-2020
- **“Smog”** Commissioned and Performed by the West Buck Choir, April 2018, Toronto, Pensylvania. Repeat performances: Cantabile chamber singers and Hart house chorus in 2019.
- **“Microlocking”** Commissioned by the junctQin keyboard collective, March 2018 in Waterloo, August 2018 Toronto.
- **“Orbit”** for voice and piano- Commissioned by Fabian Arcinaga-Toronto February 2018.
- **“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
- **“Rhythmicization”** for Windsor Youth Symphony February 18th 2016- Windsor, repeat performance by Windsor Symphony Orchestra April 7th 2017

- **“Concerto for Peace”** for String Orchestra/full orchestra , solo soprano, Tar and Tombak. Two performances : January 2017 Ottawa, 13th Strings, and June ²⁰¹⁷ Toronto Orchestra Toronto- Commissioned with ICOT
- **“Lullaby on a Cold Winter Night”** for Sarv Academy String Orchestra, Toronto 2017.
- **“Zaagros”** Piano concerto performed by Glenn Gould School New Music Ensemble, 2016

Piano:

Solo:

- An Evening with Fikret Amirov, 2013
- Borrowed Tunes, 2017
- In Search of Polarity (Ontario tour, 3 performances) 2019.

Chamber and Orchestral:

Rogue Duo:

- Violin Piano ensemble with Bijan Sepanji.
- 5 performances in Toronto 2017-19 including Tirgan Festival, Timothy Eaton concert Series and Sarv Academy NachtmusiK series.
- 2017 Residency at the University of Tehran in 2018, including a call for scores for new works, masterclasses and two performances.

Collaborative:

- “New Sounds From an Ancient Land” with the studio of Peter Stoll
- Chamber Concert with Cellist Alice Kim, Clarinetist Bahar Tavasoli, 2017
- Keyan Emami's DMA Composition Recital-2016
- Bahar Tavasoli's Clarinet Recital- 2015

Orchestral and Choral:

- Toronto Multi-cultural orchestra, 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.

Conducting:

- Guest conductor with Whispering river orchestra, September 2020
- Music Director at Peterborough Concert band
- Guest Conductor at Village Voices October, 2019
- “Persian Home...Story of Love” with Hami Canada September, 2019
- Tirgan Nowruz Festival Opening concert, 2018
- “Tribute to Farhad” at the Richmondhill Centre for the Performing arts, 2016

Professional involvements:

- Member of the Canadian League of Composers, SOCAN and the Canadian music centre.
- Executive director and co-founder at the ICOT.
- Multi Time Juno Awards and East Coast Music Awards Judge
- Mentor and juror for the Scarborough Philharmonic's 2019 Young Composer workshop and Unitatis String 2020 Workshop
- FACTOR and other granting bodies Jury member since 2017.
- Board member at Alliance of Canadian New Music (ACNM) and Musicworks magazine.

Awards and Recognitions :

- Finalist for the Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra's international call for scores 2021 (**Songs of a Wandering Soul**)
- Whispering River Orchestra 2020- Riversong commission Award
- 2018-19 Four Recording Grants from Toronto Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council and FACTOR- Breathing in the Shadows Debut Composition Album
- 2017-20 Five Creation/Commissioning Grants from Canada Council for the Arts, Toronto Arts Council and Ontario Arts Council.
- 2019 Second prize winner at the Canadian Amateur Musicians' Association (CAMMAC) Call for scores for song cycle **“Orbit”**.
- 2018 Canada Council for the Arts Travel 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

Teaching:

- Canadian Opera Company After School Opera program Composer- Lead Artist- 2019
- 14 years of teaching experience in Piano, theory, composition, ear training, vocal, choral and ensemble coaching to ages ranging from 4 to 80 in both group and private settings.
- Two time guest lecturer at the University of Tehran in 2017 and 2019 at the Faculty of Music for seminars and workshops and performances.

Discography:

- “Breathing in the Shadows”- Debut Composition Album, 2020- Leaf Music-Roles: Composer/Pianist
- “Microlocking II”- Single Release, 2020- People PlacesRecords-Role: Composer
- “My Unfaltering Memories of You”- Works of Dr. Amin Honarmand, 2019- Mahoor Records- Role: Pianist
- “Bushes and Bombshells”- Works of Ivana Popovic, 2019- Long Play Records- Roles: Pianist
- “Passage”- Circle Music Band, 2018- Self produced- Roles: Keyboardist/Arranger
- “Persian Piano Night”- Iranian-Canadian Composers of Toronto, ICOT's Debut album, 2018- Pardis Records- Roles: Composer/Pianist
- “My Enigma”-Circle Music Band, 2018- Self produced- Roles: Keyboardist/Arranger

Online Content:

- Educational YouTube Series on personal Channel 2021
- Flight 752 Tribute – Performance and recording of Chopin's Funeral March 2021
- Canadian Opera Company and Sistema Toronto “Change of Heart” Short Opera 2020
- Two virtual performances with the Peterborough Concert Band
- Canadian League of Composers 2020 Webinar Series- July 2020 (Grant Writing)
- Canadian Opera Company After School Opera Program 2020 Web Series: Opera Makers
- Regent Park School of Music: 2020 Music Theory Series
- Himeh Academy: Online lectures/courses (beg. and adv.) on Minimalism 2020
- SEED Foundation online Storytelling series – Incidental Music 2020
- “Tribute to Shajarian” Movie – Arrangements of folk songs 2020
- Confluence Concerts – Arrangements of folk Songs 2020