

# Curriculum Vitae

## Saman Shahi

**BaMus, MaMus** University of Toronto, Composition, *Faculty of Music '10, '12*  
Samanshahi@gmail.com / 647-868-1367/ <http://www.samanshahimusic.com>

### **Qualifications:**

- Juno-Nominated Composer, Conductor and Pianist.
- 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 - Teaching Artist

### **Composition:**

- **"I could not See to See"** for Acepalla SATB choir - Commissioned by the Nyíregyházi Cantemus Kórus in Hungary – Performance June 2023
- **"Streams of the Unconscious"** for Percussion Quartet and Electric Guitar – Commissioned by Soundstreams – Co-composed by ICOT - Performed April 2023
- **"Eroded"** for Chamber ensemble – Commissioned by ICOT orchestra as part of the "Recurrence" album. Slated for release Fall 2023
- **"Before the Last Meter"** Opera- Commissioned by Atlanta Opera (96 Hour Opera Project). Premiered in Atlanta, June 2022.
- **"Oasis I"** for String Quartet. Commissioned by Scarborough Philharmonic and Odin Quartet. Recorded 2022 for a 2023 commercial release.
- **"Beneath the Purple Sky"** for SATB choir- Commissioned by University of Regina Chorus Three performances in Regina and Winnipeg in 2022 and 2023.
- **"Microlocking III"** For Solo Accordion and electronics – Recorded to be released in 2021
- **"Wavered"** For Solo Alto Saxophone – 1:2:1 Residency – May 2021 - Virtual
- **"Microlocking II"** For Electric Guitar Solo- 21C Guitar festival- February 2021- Virtual
- **"Bagatelle"** for players of Scarborough philharmonic- Performance-September 2022
- **"Suspended Doorways"** commissioned by Whispering River orchestra-September 2020  
*Selected for Toronto Symphony's 2021 Explore The Score – Repeat Performance Sinfonia Toronto*
- **"In Paralysis"** Co-composed and premiered (virtually) for at Westben Residency 2020
- **"Caravan Rhapsody"** Commissioned by Scarborough Philharmonic Orchestra and Canadian Sinfonietta- February 2020
- **"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. Repeat Performance: Ottawa 2022 (Ottawa Pops Orchestra)
- **"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"** Ladom Ensemble, Agha Khan Museum, September 2018, Nuit Blanche, Ottawa Chamberfest 2019.

- **“Etude No.1”** Piano Solo, performed 8 times in Canada, Iran and USA 2017-2022
- **“Smog”** Commissioned and performed multiple times by the West Buck Choir in USA.
- **“Microlocking”** Commissioned by junctQin keyboard collective. March 2018, Waterloo.
- **“Orbit”** for voice and piano- Commissioned by Fabian Arcinegas-Toronto February 2018.
- **“Breathing in the Shadows”** Song cycle performed in Toronto, Halifax, Philadelphia in 2018. Commissioned by Maureen Batt. ***JUNO-NOMINATED in 2022 FOR Classical COMPOSITION OF THE YEAR Category.***
- **“Rhythmicization”** for Windsor Youth Symphony February 2016- Windsor, repeat performance by Windsor Symphony Orchestra April 2017

## **Piano:**

### **Solo:**

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

### **Concert Series / Festivals:**

- Toronto Symphony Orchestra's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House 2022, Toronto Summer Music Festival 2022, Watershed Music theatre Symposium 2021/2022, Wilfrid Laurier Noon Hour Concert Series 2022, Princess Margaret Hospital Music in the Atrium Series 2021, Tirgan Festival 2015-2019, St. Anne's “Spring” Music series 2021, Hamilton Philharmonic “What Next” festival 2016, Nuite Blanche 2015.

## **Conducting:**

- “50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert” Array Music – Music Director
- “A Window to a Dream” Music Director – CI 360 production, September 2022, Toronto.
- “Zuleykha” Music Director-Toronto Summer Music Festival 2022 (**Loose Tea Music Theatre**)
- Guest Conductor-Atlanta Opera, 96 Hour Opera Project-June 2022
- Guest Conductor- Canadian Amateur Musicians' Association 2022 Reading Session
- Music Director for “Inertia” opera – Loose Tea Theatre, Opera in Reach – August 2021
- Guest conductor with Whispering river orchestra, September 2020
- Music Director at Peterborough Concert band (2020-Present)
- “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 and Media Involvements:**

- Member of the Canadian League of Composers, SOCAN and the Canadian music centre
- Executive Director and Co-Founder at the ICOT
- Featured on CBC, BBC Farsi, PBS (Georgia), Radio Télévision Suisse, VOA Farsi
- Juno Awards, East Coast Music Awards, FACTOR, Ontario Arts Council, SOCAN Foundation Young Composers Award 2022, and Friends of Canadian Music 2022 Jury
- Mentor composer: Scarborough Philharmonic and Toronto Strings Composition Workshops
- Published in the University of West London's Conservatory Hand book, Grade 5 piano
- Inclusion in the Royal Conservatory 2022 Piano Syllabus with two pieces in Grades 7,9
- Board member at Alliance of Canadian New Music (ACNMP) and Musicworks magazine

### **Awards and Recognitions :**

- Finalist for Atlanta Opera's "96 Hour Opera Project" Competition in 2022
- **2022 JUNO-Nominated for "Best Composition of the Year" Category** for "Breathing in the Shadows (Leaf Music 2020)
- Selected composer for Ottawa Pops Orchestra's Call for scores in 2022
- Selected composer for **Toronto Symphony Orchestra's 2021 Explore the Score – (Suspended Doorways)**
- Finalist for the Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra's international call for scores 2021 (**Songs of a Wandering Soul**)
- Whispering River Orchestra 2020- Riversong commission Award
- 2019 Second prize winner at the Canadian Amateur Musicians' Association (CAMMAC) Call for scores for song cycle "**Orbit**"

### **Teaching:**

- Canadian Opera Company- Teaching Artist- 2019-Present
- 17 years of teaching in Piano, theory, composition, ear training, vocal, choral and ensemble coaching to all ages in 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:**

- "Recurrence" - Composition Album, 2023 – ICOT's Second commercial album - Leaf Music - Roles: Composer/Pianist
- "Microlocking" - Composition Album, 2021-People|Places|Records-Roles: Composer
- "Breathing in the Shadows"- Debut Composition Album, 2020- Leaf Music-Roles: Composer/Pianist [**JUNO-Nominated Song Cycle**]
- "My Unfaltering Memories of You"- Works of Dr. Amin Honarmand, 2019- Mahoor Records- Role: Pianist
- "Bushes and Bombshells"- Works of Ivana Popovic, 2019- LPR- Roles: Pianist
- "Persian Piano Night"- ICOT's Debut album, 2018- Pardis Records- Roles: Composer/Pianist

### **Online Content:**

- GO COMPOSE North America's online courses 2021
- 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