

Eli Epstein

**Performer, Educator,
Conductor, Author**

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Orchestral Musician

Affiliated Horn 2005-2022

Boston Symphony Orchestra and Boston Pops

Andris Nelsons, James Levine and Keith Lockhart, Music Directors

Principal Horn 2000-2012

Aspen Chamber Symphony

Robert Spano and David Zinman, Music Directors

Second Horn 1987-2005

The Cleveland Orchestra

Christoph von Dohnanyi and Franz Welser-Möst, Music Directors

Second Horn 1979-1987

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

David Zinman, Music Director

Educator

New England Conservatory 2010-present

College Faculty, chamber music coach, wind/brass/

percussion sectional and Brass Orchestral Rep

conductor, Entrepreneurial Musicianship.

New England Conservatory Prep	2009-present
Brass Chair of the Preparatory School; faculty of NEC at Walnut Hill; Director of the NEC Youth Brass Ensemble.	
The Boston Conservatory at Berklee	2005-2026
Professor of Horn, chamber music coach, wind sectional conductor, Creative Musician and Brass Pedagogy instructor.	
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2017-2021
Affiliated Artist	
On Dream Ensemble—Hyundai Motor Foundation	2025
Faculty	
Music Academy of the West	2005-2013
Faculty	
Aspen Music Festival and School	2000-2012
Faculty	
Abreu Fellows Program New England Conservatory	2009-2010
Seminar Director	
The Philadelphia Orchestra	2009-2010
Pre-concert lecturer	

Boston Symphony Orchestra	2006-2008
Educational Department	
Educational outreach concerts presenter	
Pre-concert talks to schoolchildren grades 3-12.	
Indiana University School of Music	Fall 2005
Guest faculty	
The Cleveland Institute of Music	1989-2005
Horn Professor	
Cleveland Orchestra Instrumental Faculty	1998-2004
Kent/Blossom Summer Chamber Music Institute	

Classroom Educator

Brass Orchestral Repertoire Class	2023-present
New England Conservatory	
A reading class for works from the standard orchestral repertoire of major brass section literature. Instruction in all areas of professional performance: preparation, tone production, ensemble, and interacting with colleagues and conductors.	
Entrepreneurial Musicianship	2013-2024
New England Conservatory	
This class is based on a vision of a world in which music	

plays a vital role, and in which musicians are agents for change in their communities and across the globe. This class is intended as an exploration of the skills, values and practices that are essential to creating a successful, fulfilling and sustainable career.

Brass Pedagogy

2012-2023

Boston Conservatory

Course objectives are to comprehensively explore all aspects of brass pedagogy; to absorb core principles that will form the basis of our lifelong evolution as brass teachers and performers; to expand our awareness of the different roles of the music teacher; and to get practice at and improve our skills as creative teachers.

The Art of Practice and Performance

2010-present

New England Conservatory Preparatory School

This course addresses natural responses to stress, dealing with fear, building courage, harnessing the mind, and recovering from mistakes. Students are asked to participate in focused journaling, relaxation and centering routines, mental rehearsal, adversity training, and performing.

The Creative Musician

2006-2020

Boston Conservatory at Berklee

Course objectives are to explore our personal goals in music, to expand our awareness of what is possible to do as musicians, to cultivate our own creativity, and to realize our potential as imaginative performers, teachers, and creative beings.

Career Skills for Musicians

2005-2009

Boston Conservatory

“Career Skills” prepares students to seek, fill, and devise opportunities for careers as musicians in the future by learning and experiencing the necessary perspectives, attitudes and skills to pursue and maintain satisfying and sustainable careers in the broad area of music.

Innovator

Eli Epstein Horn Intensive

1999-present

Creator, administrator and leader of 5-day experiential workshop, which includes master classes, faculty and participant recitals, mock audition, Q/A sessions, MRI Horn video presentations, and discussions on the audition process and performance anxiety management strategies. Intensive has been housed at Boston Conservatory, Music Academy of the West, and Brevard Music Center.

Inside Out Concerts

2002-2020

Advocating the idea that music can be a meaningful and uplifting force in society, Eli Epstein has created and presented many [Inside Out](#) programs designed to help people actualize their own potential to enjoy music by accessing their memories and activating their imaginations. In 2009, he won Grand Prize in the Entrepreneur the Arts Contest for Inside Out, and appeared on TV with William Shatner on Heartbeat of America. Inside Out Programs have been presented in Cleveland, Boston, Memphis, Arkansas, Arizona, at

the Southeast and Northeast Regional Horn Workshops, Music Academy of the West, and the Chenango MusicFest at Colgate University. Series housed since 2006 in the historic Arlington Street Church, Boston.

Master Classes/Recitalist

International Horn Society Conference 55 Montreal	2023
International Horn Society Conference 53[online]	2021
International Horn Society Conference 52[online]	2020
New England Conservatory	2004, 2018, 2020, 2023, 2026
Berklee College of Music Berklee Teachers on Teaching	2020
International Horn Society Conference Ghent, Belgium	2019
International Horn Society Conference Ball State University	2018
International Horn Society Conference Ithaca	2016
University of Virginia	2016
Arizona State University	2016

International Horn Society Conference Los Angeles	2015
Florida French Horn Festival	2015
International Horn Society Conference London	2014
The Juilliard School	2006, 2009, 2013
Music Academy of the West	2005-2013
Interlochen Horn Institute	2012
Kendall Betts Horn Camp	2012, 2014
Boston Conservatory Summer Brass Intensive	2012
Cleveland Institute of Music (Creative Careers in Music)	2011
Glenn Gould School, Royal Conservatory	2010, 2004
The Colburn School	2009
New World Symphony	1999, 2008
Curtis Institute of Music	2008, 2009
Northeast Regional Horn Workshop	2008, 2013, 2014

Southeast Regional Horn Workshop	2007
Indiana University School of Music	2005
Arizona State University	2005
Boston Conservatory of Music	2005
Boston University	2004
Aspen Music Festival and School	2000-2011
University of Illinois	2002
International Horn Society Symposium at University of Georgia	1999
Royal College of Music (London)	1999
Royal Northern College of Music	1999
Royal Scottish Academy of Music	1999
Castellan Conservatory of Music (Spain)	1999
University of Michigan (Ann Arbor)	2006, 1999

Soloist

Mozart Horn Concerto K. 447 Mid-South Horn Conference—Wichita State University	2018
Bach Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 Chameleon Arts Ensemble—Boston	2016
Britten Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings Boston Conservatory Orchestra, Rockland Osgood, tenor Bruce Hangen, conductor	2010
Frank Martin Concerto for Seven Wind Instruments Aspen Chamber Symphony Michael Stern, conductor	2009
Elliott Schwartz's Twilight Arrival Boston Conservatory Wind Ensemble Eric Hewitt, conductor	2007
Schumann Konzertstück The Cleveland Orchestra Pinchas Steinberg, conductor	2005
Bach Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 The Cleveland Orchestra John Nelson, conductor	2001

Schumann Konzertstück	1997
The Cleveland Orchestra	
Christoph von Dohnányi, conductor	

Bach Brandenburg Concerto No. 1	1995
The Cleveland Orchestra	
Leonard Slatkin, conductor	

Mozart Sinfonia Concertante for Winds K. 297b	1974
The Philadelphia Orchestra	
William Smith, conductor	

Mozart Horn Concerto K. 412	1970
The Philadelphia Orchestra	
Mason Jones, conductor	

Mozart Horn Concerto K.447	1969
The Philadelphia Orchestra	
William Smith, conductor	

Chamber Musician

Inside Out Concerts, Artistic Director	2002-present
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NEC Prep Faculty Brass Quintet, founding member	2011-2023
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Various chamber ensemble concerts at venues such as Jordan Hall, Severance Hall, Blossom Music Center, Tanglewood, Philadelphia's Academy of Music, Kennedy Center, Aspen Music Festival, Music Academy of the West, and The Cleveland Institute of Music. Collaborations with the Borromeo String Quartet, Brentano String Quartet, Chameleon Arts Ensemble, Emmanuel Music, Radius Ensemble, and Walden Chamber Players.

Conductor

New England Conservatory Brass Repertoire Class	2023-present
New England Conservatory Youth Brass Ensemble	2009-present
Music Director	
New England Conservatory	2006-present
Winds/Brass/Percussion sectionals on major orchestral repertoire	
Boston Conservatory at Berklee	2015-2016
Orchestral Repertoire Class guest conductor	
New England Conservatory Brass Ensemble	2013
Verdi La Forza del Destino Overture	
New England Conservatory Recital Orchestra	2012
Mozart Horn Concerto K. 412 with Jennifer Hyde	
Britten Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings	
New England Conservatory Woodwind Ensemble	2012
Mozart "Gran Partita"	
Dvorak Serenade No. 2 in D minor, Op 44	

Boston Conservatory Brass Ensemble	2012
Handel Water Music	
Bruckner Motets	
Holst The Planets	
Inside Out Orchestra	2011
Music Director	
Mozart Violin Concerto No. 4, K. 218 with Julianne Lee, violin	
Mozart Symphony No. 29, K. 201	
Fundacion Orquesta Sinfonica Juvenil de Guanare Ensamble de Metales Venezuela	2010
Guest conductor	
Music Academy of the West	2008
Guest conductor	
Strauss Sonatina "From an Invalid's Workshop"	
Longy School of Music	2007
Guest Conductor	
Boston Conservatory	2006
Copland Appalachian Spring	
Inside Out Program: Exploring Music through Imagination, and Imagination through Music	

Music Academy of the West 2006

Dvorak Serenade No. 2 in D minor, Op. 44

Cleveland Institute of Music 1999-2005

Brahms Serenade No. 2

Hindemith Der Schwanendreher, Rebecca Gitter, violist

Milhaud The Creation of the World

Discography

Eli Epstein: Orchestral Excerpts for Low Horn (2026 Remaster) 2026

Eli Epstein, horn and commentator.

Purchase from Apple iTunes.

Stream on Spotify, Apple Music, Medianet/Audible, Pandora, Qobuz, Tidal, and YouTube Music

Eli Epstein: Orchestral Excerpts for Low Horn 2014

Eli Epstein, horn and commentator. Eli Epstein Productions, 2014, MP3 file, downloadable from iTunes, cd baby, and Amazon.

Cleveland Orchestra Recordings 1987-2005

Christoph von Dohnányi, Pierre Boulez, and Vladimir Ashkenazy, conductors

Major orchestral works of Bartok, Beethoven, Berg, Berlioz, Birtwistle, Brahms, Bruckner, Busoni, Copland, Debussy, Dvorak, Ives, Janacek, Lieberman, Lutoslawski, Mahler, Mendelssohn, Messiaen, Mozart, Mussorgsky, Prokofiev, Ravel, Rachmaninoff, Ruggles, Schoenberg, Schumann, Shostakovich, Smetana, Stravinsky, Richard Strauss, Tchaikovsky, Varese, Webern, and Wieniawski, and Wagner Ring Operas on Telarc, Teldec, London/Decca, and Polygram (DGG).

Author

Epstein, Eli K., "John Simonelli: A Tribute," The Horn Call, Journal of the International Horn Society, Volume LVI, No. 3 (April, 2026): 56-59.

Epstein, Eli, Eli Epstein's Horn Playing from the Inside Out eBook: A New Way to Learn (trailer), [video file] retrieved from <https://youtu.be/b5C6IrmfGnQ>, recorded June 2021, posted July 2021.

Epstein, Eli, Horn Playing from the Inside Out eBook: A New Way to Learn, [video file] hornsociety.org, International Horn Society Symposium 53, posted August 2021.

Epstein, Eli. Horn Playing from the Inside Out, A Method for All Brass Musicians: Third Edition eBook. Apple Books: Eli Epstein Productions, 2021.

Epstein, Eli, Healthy Horn Habits: How to Survive and Thrive in a Demanding Profession, [video file], hornsociety.org, International Horn Society Symposium 52, posted August 2020.

Epstein, Eli, Breathing and Breath Support, [video file] retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2LccA6A_M1s&feature=youtu.be. Recorded August 2018, posted April 2019.

Epstein, Eli, Radical Practicing, [video file] retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Enz9jIeYbU>. Recorded August 2017, posted August 2017.

Epstein, Eli, Relaxation Before Performance, [video file] retrieved from <https://youtu.be/1j5iVdg08-A>. Recorded July 2017, posted July 2017.

Epstein, Eli. Horn Playing from the Inside Out, A Method for All Brass Musicians: Third Edition. Boston: Eli Epstein Productions, 2016.

Epstein, Eli and Iltis, Peter. MRI Horn Videos: Pedagogy Informed by Science, Episode 1: Introduction to the RT-MRI Horn Project. [video file] retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LTMe38uOaT8>

Recorded January 2016; posted June 2016.

Epstein, Eli and Iltis, Peter. MRI Horn Videos: Pedagogy Informed by Science, Episode 2: The Role of the Tongue and Jaw in Pitch Placement

[video file] retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Cz5HoQ1fCI>

Recorded January 2016; posted June 2016.

Epstein, Eli. Eli Epstein performs and teaches Mahler 3 excerpt, [video file] retrieved from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4rx479utE0w>

Recorded July 2014; posted July 2015.

Epstein, Eli K., Technique Tips, Jeffrey Agrell, Series Editor: "Finger Breathing: Intuitive and Natural Horn Biomechanics," The Horn Call, Journal of the International Horn Society, Volume XLV, No. 2 (February, 2015): 39-41.

Epstein, Eli. "Horn Playing from the Inside Out, A Method for All Brass Musicians: Second Edition" Boston: Eli Epstein Productions, 2014.

Epstein, Eli. Horn Playing from the Inside Out: Finger Breathing, [video file] retrieved from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ArerPfHbkEk>

Filmed June 2013; posted June 2013.

Epstein, Eli. The Creative Hornist, Jeffrey Agrell, Series Editor: "Beyond the Notes: Authentic Expression," excerpt from Horn Playing from the Inside Out. The Horn Call, Journal of the International Horn Society, Volume XLIII, No. 2, (February, 2013): 47-48.

Epstein, Eli. Technique Tips, Jeffrey Agrell, Series Editor: “Dynamics!” excerpt from Horn Playing from the Inside Out. The Horn Call, Journal of the International Horn Society, Volume XLIII, No. 2, (February, 2013): 75-76.

Epstein, Eli. “Horn Playing from the Inside Out, A Method for All Brass Musicians.” Boston: Eli Epstein Productions, 2012.

Epstein, Eli. “Power Practicing.” The Horn Call, Journal of the International Horn Society, Vol. XXXIX, No.3, (May, 2009): 50-52.

Epstein, Eli. “Musicianship from the Inside Out.” Boston Symphony Orchestra Musicians in the Schools. 2008.

Epstein, Eli. “Tackling Shostakovich Five.” The Horn Call, Journal of the International Horn Society, Vol. XXIX, No. 1, (November, 1998): 75-77.

Reviews

Book and Music Reviews: Horn Playing from the Inside Out: A Method for All Brass Students [sic], 3rd Edition by Eli Epstein, eBook. By Abigail Pack, University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The Horn Call, Journal of the International Horn Society, (October, 2022)

“New eBook Edition of a Great Resource for Brass Players.” By Colin Dorman, August 4, 2021. <https://colindorman.com/horn/new-ebook-edition-of-a-great-resource-for-brass-players/>

“Review update: Horn Playing from the Inside Out, Third Edition eBook.”

By John Ericson, July 24, 2021. <https://www.hornmatters.com/2021/07/review-update-horn-playing-from-the-inside-out-third-edition-ebook/>

“095 Eli Epstein: Music Making from the Inside Out,” Mind Over Finger Podcast with Renee Paul-Gauthier, March 26, 2021.

“Looking Closer at the Topic of Breath Support with Eli Epstein,” by John Ericson Horn Matters, May 11, 2019.

<http://hornmatters.com/2019/05/looking-closer-at-the-topic-of-breath-support-with-eli-epstein/>

“Horn Pedagogy Videos and More from Eli Epstein,” James Boldin’s Hornworld, April 30, 2019. <https://jamesboldin.com/2019/04/30/horn-pedagogy-videos-and-more-from-eli-epstein/>

“Episode #19: Mid-South Regional Horn Workshop Featured Artist: Eli Epstein,” Pathways with Adam Wolf Podcast, November 17, 2018.

“Classical Music Brought to Life in Intimate Experience of Epstein’s ‘Inside Out Concert,’” by Johnathan D. Kindall. The Daily Free Press, January 26, 2017. <http://dailyfreepress.com/2017/01/26/classical-music-brought-life-intimate-experience-epsteins-inside-concert/>

“Review—MRI Horn Videos: Pedagogy Informed by Science.” James Boldin’s Hornworld, June 28, 2016.

<https://jamesboldin.com/2016/06/28/review-mri-horn-videos-pedagogy-informed-by-science/>

“Book and Music Reviews: Orchestral Excerpts for Low Horn, by Eli Epstein.” By W. Peter Kurau, The Horn Call, Journal of the International Horn Society, Volume XLVI, No. 1, (October, 2015): 90-91.

“Recording Review: Orchestral Excerpts for Low Horn, by Eli Epstein.” James Boldin’s Horn World, November 19, 2014.

<http://jamesboldin.com/2014/11/19/recording-review-orchestral-excerpts-for-low-horn-by-eli-epstein/>

“Interview and Video: Epstein on Finger Breathing” By John Ericson in Horn Matters, July 9, 2013. <http://hornmatters.com/2013/07/interview-and-video-epstein-on-finger-breathing/>

“The Week in Review: Eli Epstein’s New Video...” James Boldin’s Horn World, June 24, 2013. <http://jamesboldin.com/2013/06/24/the-week-in-review-eli-epsteins-new-video-a-radio-interview-and-more/>

Resources: Books, “Horn Playing from the Inside Out: A Method for All Brass Musicians by Eli Epstein.” Teaching Music Magazine, NAFME, April 2013.

“Review: Horn Playing from the Inside Out.” By John Ericson in Horn Matters, January 19, 2013. <http://hornmatters.com/2013/01/review-horn-playing-from-the-inside-out-part-i-introduction/>

“Music and Book Reviews: Horn Playing from the Inside Out: A Method for All Brass Musicians by Eli Epstein.” By Peter Kurau, The Horn Call, Journal of the International Horn Society, Volume XLIII, No. 2, (February, 2013): 78.

“Review: Horn Playing from the Inside Out, by Eli Epstein.” James Boldin’s Horn World, October 1, 2012. <http://hornworld.me/2012/10/01/review-horn-playing-from-the-inside-out-by-eli-epstein/>

“Eli Epstein Teaches Music from the Inside Out,” by Matthew E. Campbell, The Aspen Times Festival Focus, July 13, 2009.

“[Feeling music's special powers](#)” By Milva DiDomizio, The Boston Globe, February 7, 2008.

[“IN CONCERT: Method man: Could Eli Epstein be the Stanislavski of classical music instruction?”](#) By Ted Mills, Santa Barbara News-Press, March 16, 2007.

[“Beyond the notes: Eli Epstein helps players, audience connect emotionally”](#)By Tom Jacobs, Santa Barbara News-Press, August 5, 2005.

[“Breathing meaning into classical program”](#) By Donald Rosenberg, Cleveland Plain Dealer, November 9, 2002

Competitions

Entrepreneur the Arts Contest	2009
Grand Prize Winner for Inside Out Concerts	
TV appearance with William Shatner on Heartbeat of America	

Education

Bachelor of Music Magna cum Laude	1979
Eastman School of Music	