

Thomas M. Swafford, Ph.D.
violinist, composer, educator

862 E 17th St Apt D3
Brooklyn, NY 11230
(206) 719-5385
tswaf@hotmail.com
www.tomswafford.com

EDUCATION

- 2001-2002 Post-doctoral studies in composition
Royal Conservatory, The Hague, Netherlands
Principle teacher: Louis Andriessen
- 1995-2001 M.A., Ph.D. music composition
University of California, Berkeley
Principle teachers: Olly Wilson, Edwin Dugger,
Richard Felciano
Additional studies with: Edmund Campion, Cindy Cox,
Steve Coleman, Andrew Imbrie and T.J. Anderson
Dissertation: *Night Terrors*, for orchestra
- 1991-1995 B.A. music, clinical psychology
Tufts University, Medford, MA
Principle teacher: John McDonald

HONORS, AWARDS, COMMISSIONS

- 2012 Brooklyn Arts Council Community Arts Fund Grant
- 2008 National Endowment for the Arts, for “Anthropomorphic,” a musical, with
lyricist Tim Young and The Puppetry Arts Theatre
- 2008 Seattle Philharmonic Cello Choir, “Tango Izquierda” (commission)
- 2008 Tufts University New Music Ensemble, “Bad Old Songs” (commission)
- 2006 4Culture Grant, Seattle, WA
for recording and performance of a trio with pianist Gust Burns and Montreal
based clarinetist, Lori Freedman
- 2005 CityArtist Grant, Seattle, WA
to produce a composition concert
- 2005 Jack Straw Foundation Artist Support Program,
Seattle, WA
for recording a CD *Golden Crackers*, and composition *Dubious Diversions*
- 2003 Music Northwest, Seattle, WA *Bonnie George Campbell* (selected score)
- 2001 Charles Ives Scholarship,
American Academy of Arts and Letters
- 2001 Alfred Hertz Memorial Traveling Fellowship,
U. C. Berkeley
- 1997,1998 Bella Zellerbach Cross Scholarship
- 1997 Roslyn Schneider Eisner Prize for Composition
- 1996 Helen Williams Wallace and Morton Walker Scholarship
- 1996 Departmental Block Grant Fellowship
- 1994 Tufts University Concerto Competition (violin)
performed my violin concerto with the Tufts Orchestra, 1995
- 1994 Mabel Daniels Prize for music, Tufts University, 1994
- 1990 Soloist award (piano), Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival

SELECTED RECENT PERFORMANCES

- August 5, 2011 *Finger Games* (composer)

THOMAS M. SWAFFORD

- The Cell, New York, NY
- May 12, 2011 *Your (so called) 'Music'* (violin, composition, presentation)
LaGuardia Community College, Queens, NY
- May 8, 2011 *Mostly Solos*
composition concert
The Stone, New York, NY
- April 23, 2011 The Tom Swafford Trio
with Michel Bisio, bass and Matt Crane, drums
University of the Streets, New York, NY
- Jan. 21 and Mar. 18, 2011 Detour New Music Ensemble (violin, composition)
Galapagos, Brooklyn NY
- March 19, 2010
and Nov. 15, 2009 *The Real (?) Me*
composition concert
Roulette, NYC (2010) and Douglass Street Collective, Brooklyn (2009)
- January 8, 2010 *String Power* (violin/composer/arranger)
12 piece string ensemble led by Swafford
compositions and folk, rock and jazz arrangements
Galapagos, Brooklyn, NY
- October 4, 2008 *Ivesiana* by T.J. Anderson (violin)
with Jason Coleman, cello; John McDonald, piano
Call and Response: Festival in Honor of T.J. Anderson
Tufts University, Medford, MA
- January 8, 2009 *Cipher* (violin)
improvisation ensemble with Tari Nelson-Zagar, violin; Jesse Canterbury and
Greg Sinibaldi, clarinets
Is that Jazz? experimental music festival
The Chapel at Good Shepherd Center, Seattle, WA
- November 28,29, 2009 *Guster* (violin/arranger)
Beacon Theatre, New York, NY
- January 21, 2010 *Potbelly Gumbo* (fiddle)
country, bluegrass, Cajun music
The Jalopy Theatre, Brooklyn, NY
- RECORDINGS**
- 2011 *Secret Curve* (violin)
Ron Anderson's PAK
Tzadik
- 2011 *Aram Bajakian's Kef* (violin)
arrangements of Armenian folk music and originals
Aram Bajakian, guitar, composer; Shanir Ezra Blumenkranz, bass
Tzadik
- 2011 *The Stone Operation* (violin)
Mischief Brew
Fistolo Records

THOMAS M. SWAFFORD

- 2010 *Hurray for You!* (violin, voice, synthesizer, toy instruments, compositions)
Made in response to the *RPM Challenge*. Musicians are challenged to write and
record a complete album in the month of February.
self released
- 2009 *7th Ave* (violin, composer, arranger)
solo violin CD of folk songs, jazz and classical arrangements and original
compositions created over a year of performing in the New York City subway
stations, particularly the 7th Ave B and Q stop in Park Slope, Brooklyn.
self released
- 2010 *Listen* (violin)
Emanuel and the Fear
Paper Garden Records
- 2008 *Shipwrecked in a Bottle* (violin)
Meisce
Fistolo Records
- 2007 *Stonehouse Songs* (violin)
Jarrad Powell, composer, Jessika Kenney, vocalist
Present Sounds Recordings
- 2005 *Cistern* (violin)
Line Records
- 2004 *Doublends Vert*, (violin)
Present Sounds Recordings
- 2004 "Imposition" (composer)
Intrada (Ryan Hare, bassoon)
Present Sounds Recordings
- 2002 *American Singles* (violin, arranger)
SweetLou, Weekend Furlough Records
- 1995 "Window" (violin) on *Parachute* (Guster),
Reprise Records
- 1995 "Passion Play" (violin/arranger)
Papas Fritas, Minty Fresh Records

MEMBERSHIPS

ASCAP
American Music Center
College Music Society