

## L. Steve Butler

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### **Education**

1994 D.M.A.	Composition, University of South Carolina
1991 M.M.	Composition, University of South Carolina
1988 B.A.	Composition, College of Charleston, S.C.

### **Experience**

1995-2006

Associate Professor of Music at Westmont College. Teaching duties include the four levels of music theory courses and labs for music majors and minors as well as teaching all levels of applied music to students of private composition. Other courses taught in alternating sequence are Orchestration, Form and Analysis, and Basic Musicianship. Chair of the music department since fall semester 2003.

2006

Organized and hosted a performance of art songs, "American Giants: Paul Laurence Dunbar and Langston Hughes" at Westmont College by Darryl Taylor, the founder of the African American Art Song Alliance.

2005

Organized and hosted a performance and master class by Petar Jankovic, a Serbian international award winning classical guitarist.

2004

Organized and hosted a performance and master class by American Pianist Heidi Louise Williams, Associate Professor of piano from Southern Illinois University Carbondale School of Music.

2001

As Chairperson for the regional meeting, I organized the Western Regional Chapter of the Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers on January 25-26, 2001. All meeting events were held on the campus of Westmont College. Highlights of the meeting included a composer-to-composer session with film composer Kevin Manthei and Donald Wilson, a performance of selected members' works, as well as peer sessions to review scores and recordings. I organized every aspect of the meeting including the "call for scores", judging the submissions, all correspondence with composers, contracting the performers, organizing the rehearsals, writing the publicity, designing the programs, and organizing the

refreshments. I made the live recording and completed the studio post-production of the compact disc of the attending composers' works.

#### 1996-Present

Near the completion of each semester since 1996 I have advised the student composers in a public concert of original works. These concerts involve the composers at every level of the art. The process of realizing a public performance involves much more than simply composing the music. We have to find musicians who are willing to take time out of their always already busy schedules and learn a new piece of music. To exacerbate this difficulty, the music is often more complex than traditional music, thus requiring even more of the average musician. We must organize all aspects of the performances, with topics including, but not be limited to: publicity, programs, refreshments, stage and theater management, as well as sound recording and studio post-production.

#### 1990-Present:

Progressive background in computer generated music, Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI), and digital/analogue recording techniques. Although I have ample experience in the traditional aspects of composition, in recent years I have been concentrating more on technological trends in creating music. I have worked in a variety of recording situations, from live performance to multi-track studio mixing, with experience in digital as well as analogue audio and video. The technological aspect of my instructional work at Westmont covers a broad array of reasonably sophisticated hands-on equipment.

#### 1996

Twelve days in the wilderness of the Sierra Nevada Mountains as faculty representative for eight first year students during "Inoculum".

#### 1991-94

Graduate-Assistantship for teaching "Introduction To Music" to undergraduate non-music majors. During four years of teaching I was responsible for two sections of 150 students each, while simultaneously carrying a full academic schedule of graduate classes. Except for annual meetings and evaluations, I worked entirely unsupervised and my responsibilities included all aspects of the teaching environment. I worked with publishers and the University Book Store in selecting and ordering an appropriate textbook and audio materials. Based on University policies, I created a syllabus that was comprehensive in presenting exactly what the students' responsibilities would be, as well as what they might expect from me. Along with lectures and usual classroom discussions, I organized numerous presentations with expert professionals to demonstrate a variety of topics ranging from the human voice to electric guitars, along with "mini-concerts" which allowed the students to interact with performers in an environment that would not be possible in the general recital or concert performance. I wrote all tests and was responsible for each step of the students' progress, from enrollment to final grades. There were many instances in which I had to make decisions for appropriate disciplinary action based on a student's behavior, academic progress, and even

cheating and dishonesty. There were also situations that involved students with great physical handicaps requiring special consideration, as well as foreign nationals and a broad spectrum of multi-cultural backgrounds. The experience gained while working in this environment certainly enhanced my understanding of approaching academic issues in teaching situations.

1980-86

Prior to resuming my academic pursuit in music and composition, I worked internationally as a professional Captain of magnificent sailing yachts. This time was productive, particularly the knowledge and insight gained from participation in those endeavors with U.S. Senators, Supreme Court Justices, Presidential Cabinet Members, High-Finance Investment Bankers, and world famous personalities. My experience in this area necessitated years of supervision, diplomacy, and decision-making in an extraordinary variety of circumstances, and sometimes under the extreme pressure of life-threatening situations. My daily activities were immersed in the administration of numerous responsibilities in a multi-cultural and multi-national environment. From English Royalty to Turkish Laborers, I have a tremendous background in dealing intimately with persons of almost every class, race, creed and religion.

### **Committee Assignments**

2006-2007	Academic Resources Committee
2003-2004	Academic Review Committee
Fall 2003	Secretary for Personnel Committee
1999-2003	Secretary for FITC
1999-2002	Member of CATC
2000-2001	Member of ad hoc Napster/Network Investigation Committee
1997-1999	Member of ad hoc Multi-media Committee
1996-1998	Secretary of Athletic Committee
1996-1998	Secretary of Faculty Meetings
1995-1999	Music Advisor for the editor of the "Phoenix", for which we recorded the first compact disc of original musical compositions by Westmont students in the spring of 1996

## **Publications, Performances, Shows, Discography**

Since my appointment to Westmont in 1995, I have signed contract for 23 different works that are published exclusively through:

Sunhawk Corporation (now known as FreeHandMusic.com)  
7720 39th Avenue N. E.  
Seattle WA 98115

List of compositions, performances and recordings of original works:

March 2007: Eight performances of "The Clouds", incidental electronic music for the play by Aristophanes, commissioned by John Blondell and the Westmont College Festival Theatre.

December 2006: Performance of "Canticle of Mary", a setting of the "Magnificat" from the gospel of Luke. The primary ensemble is orchestra, college choir, 4 soloists, men's chorale, and women's chorale, along with harp, handbells, harpsichord, and organ. Scheduled at First Presbyterian Church, Santa Barbara, CA

November 2006: Performance of "Dance", an electro-acoustic work for dancers (in collaboration with choreographer Victoria Finlayson) at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

May 2006: Performance of "Three Pieces for Violin" by Orin Hildestad on the Trinity Concert Series, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Santa Barbara CA

October 2005: Performance of "Peace" for tenor, cello and piano, Faculty Recital at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

December 2004: Performance of "Kenosis" a multi-media presentation of the 24-poem song cycle for soprano, mezzo-soprano, tenor, baritone, piano, readers and percussion at Center Stage Theater, Santa Barbara, CA.

December 2004: Premier Performance of "Song of Zachariah" for choir and large orchestra at First Presbyterian Church, Santa Barbara, CA

March 2004: Premier Performance of "Psalm 50" for large orchestra, organ, and two choirs at Trinity Episcopal Church, Santa Barbara, CA.

January 2004: Performance of "Peace" for tenor, cello and piano at the Western Regional Conference of the Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers at The Masters College in Santa Clarita, CA

April 2004: Two performances of "Earth", for dancers, computer and synthesizer (in collaboration with choreographer Erylyne Whiteman, Santa Barbara) at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

April 2004: Two performances of "Convergence" an electro-acoustic work for dancers (in collaboration with choreographer Victoria Finlayson) at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

November 2003: Two performances of "Convergence" an electro-acoustic work for dancers (in collaboration with choreographer Victoria Finlayson) at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

May 2003: Performance by Steve Butler of "ICXC NIKA" for Yamaha Disklavier, Macintosh Powerbook, Yamaha EX5, Vibraphone, Xylophone, Glockenspiel, Mark Tree, Sleigh bells, Orchestra Bells, Suspended Cymbal, Rain Stick, 2 Octaves Handbells, Triangle, Powered Amplification System, in Santa Barbara at The Contemporary Arts Forum

April 2003: Two performances of "Earth", for dancers, computer and synthesizer in collaboration with choreographer Erylne Whiteman, at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

December 2002: Two performances of "Rejoice" for Chamber Choir at Trinity Episcopal Church in Santa Barbara CA

May 2002: Performance of "Peace" for tenor, cello and piano at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

February 2002: Performance of "Grace", for large orchestra, children's choir, adult choir, and four soloists at Trinity Episcopal Church in Santa Barbara CA

October 2001: Eight performances of a choral ensemble arrangement with digitized instrumentation of "Advance Guards" as incidental music for "Top Girls", a collaboration with John Cochran of the theater department at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

September 2001: Performance of seven "Musical Sketches on a Faculty Art Show" Live improvisation by Ron McCarley with digitally projected electro-acoustic compositions by Steve Butler. 1) "Poe" 2) "Boxed, Color-Energy I" 3) "Four Chinese Goldfish & Koi" 4) "La Entrada" 5) "Communion" 6) "Girl in Tokyo" 7) "Eve's Tree" at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

April 2001: Performance of "Psalm 8" for a cappella chamber group at Trinity Episcopal Church in Santa Barbara, CA

January 2001: Performance of "Three Pieces from Kenosis" at the Western Regional Chapter of the Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers, Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

October 2000: Eight performances of original vocal music for "Much Ado About Nothing", a collaboration with John Blondell, winner of an Independent Theatre Award at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

September 2000: Two performances of "Kenosis" a 24-poem song cycle for soprano, mezzo-soprano, tenor, baritone, piano, readers and at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

August 2000: Released a CD of electronic and acousto-electronic works, "Close Reach" with MP3.COM, 4790 Eastgate, San Diego, CA

April 2000: Performance of "Transcendence" for flute, clarinet, and percussion by the Westmont Windancers (collaboration with my wife and choreographer, Sierra Boatwright Butler) at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

April 2000: Performance of "Our Father", for chamber orchestra, baritone and soprano at the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara CA

March 2000: Two performances of "Triple Fugue in B-minor" for organ by Carson P. Cooman in Rochester, NY

February 2000: Released a CD with The Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers, for my choral work, "New Martyrs of Russia", on their 2000 compilation CD, "From Everlasting to Everlasting", Houghton NY

January 2000: Released a CD of chamber pieces and other works titled, "Synaxis", with MP3.COM, 4790 Eastgate, San Diego, CA.

September 1999: Interviewed by Donald Bryson and aired on WFLI Christian Radio in Memphis, Tennessee

June 1999: Dance performance of digitally condensed version of "Synaxis", a collaboration with dancer and choreographer, Sierra Boatwright Butler at the Lobero Theater in Santa Barbara CA

April 1998: Two performances of "Uncaged" a prepared piano work for dancers (in collaboration with choreographer Victoria Finlayson) at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

November 1997: Two performances of "Convergence" an electro-acoustic work for dancers (in collaboration with choreographer Victoria Finlayson) at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

November 1997: Two performances of "Synaxis" for violin, cello, and piano, and "Transcendence", for flute, clarinet, and percussion (collaboration with visual artist Thekla Hammond of San Francisco) at Center Stage Theater, Santa Barbara, CA

March 1997: Three performances of "Vesperal Psalm" for children's chorus (one performance in Santa Barbara and two in San Francisco)

November 1996: Performance of "Mirage" for tenor and piano at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

November 1996: Performance of "Russian Eulogy Overture" for flute, oboe, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, piano, and string quartet at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

April 1996: Three performances of "Fire", "Earth", "Air", "Water", and "Elements", for dancers, computer and synthesizer (collaboration with choreographer Erylyne Whiteman, performances in Santa Barbara and Pasadena)

October 1995: Two performances of "Psalm 34" for tenor, clarinet, and piano at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

April 1996: Performance of "Russian Eulogy" for a cappella choir at Trinity Episcopal Church in Santa Barbara, CA

November 1995: Performance of "The Stranded Girl's Stiletto" for woodwind quintet at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

September 1995: Performance of "Triple Fugue in B-minor" by computer and synthesizer at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA

April 1993: Performance of "Pascha" for women's chorus in Columbia, SC

March 1992: Performance of "Ploy of Man's Perspiring" for percussion ensemble in Columbia, SC

November 1991: Performance reading of "Creation" for symphony orchestra in Columbia, SC

November 1991: Performance of "The Way of Dreams" for solo guitar in Columbia, SC

November 1991: Performance of "Mirage" for tenor and piano in Columbia, SC

November 1991: Performance of "War and Peace 1991" for ballet dancers, computer and synthesizer (collaboration with choreographer Jeremiah Bagunu) in Columbia, SC

June 1991: Performance of "Orchestral Inflorescence" for chamber orchestra in Columbia, SC

February 1991: Performance of "Big Kids Travel Down Slip Stream Journeys" for flute and piano in Columbia, SC

May 1990: Performance of "Escapades" for clarinet, marimba, and bassoon in Columbia, SC

March 1990: Performance of "Confession for Two Pianos" for two pianos in Columbia,

SC

November 1989: Performance of "Event For Oboe and Cello" for oboe and cello in Charleston, SC

November 1988: Performance of "Guitarras Imaginarius" for two guitars in Charleston, SC

### **Professional Organizations and Conferences**

Currently working with the incoming President of the College Music Society to host a Regional College Music Society meeting at Westmont for Spring 2008.

Led a discussion group and attended the College Music Society's "Brevard Conference on Music Entrepreneurship" at Brevard Music Center in North Carolina from July 14-16, 2006.

Presented a research paper on the "Integration of Form in Composition Pedagogy" at the National Conference of the College Music Society in San Francisco, CA, in November 2004.

Member of the American Composers Forum

Member of, and the New Memberships Chairperson, for the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Composers Forum. Represented the LACF at the 2003, 2004, and 2005 Ojai Festivals

Member of the College Music Society

Member of the American Music Center

Member of the National Association for Composers in the US

Member of the Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers, and Chairperson for the Western Regional Chapter

Hosted the Western Regional Chapter of the Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers at Westmont College in January 2001.

Attended the "God and the Academy" conference and the national meeting of the Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers in Atlanta, Georgia. I was there officially, to be recognized as a contributing composer for the 2000 compilation CD, "From Everlasting to Everlasting" in July, 1999.

Assisted in the planning of, and attended, the Southern California Christian College and University Music Faculty Conference at Westmont College

1991-Present

Member of Pi Kappa Lambda, an honor society for musicians

1994-Present

Member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP)

1994-1996

Member of the Society of Composers International

1997

Presented four seminars on music theory at the Western Liturgical Music Conference in San Diego

1996

Attended two day workshop sponsored by the College Music Society on, "Evaluation of Tonal Motion", at San Francisco State University

Performance of original works at Western Regional meeting of "Christianity and Literature" conference at Westmont College

1995

Attended a two day conference of the Southern California Christian College and University Music Faculty in San Diego

### **Honors/Awards/Commissions**

2007

Judged over 100 hymns by 91 composers for Pepperdine University's "The Ascending Voice: An International Symposium of Sacred A Cappella Music".

Commissioned by Westmont Theater Department to compose original music for "The Clouds".

2006

Commissioned by Westmont Music Department to compose "Canticle of Mary" for orchestra, four choirs and four soloists for the 2006 Christmas Concert

Commissioned by choreographer Victoria Finlayson for "Dance" an electro-acoustic work for dancers

Recipient of an ASCAP Award: ASCAP Awards for composers are determined annually by distinguished members of the national music community. The panelists are neither members nor employees of ASCAP and thus are completely independent in their determinations as to which members shall receive awards.

The classification of my work is for composers of works traditionally considered to be in the field of Concert Music. The primary basis for Panel determinations is the activity generated by each member's catalog, particularly with regard to recent commissions and performances.

2005

Commissioned by Orin Hildestad for "Three Pieces for Violin" for the Trinity Concert Series, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Santa Barbara

Recipient of an ASCAP Award: (see above)

2004

Commissioned by Westmont Music Department to compose "Song of Zachariah" for Choir and Orchestra.

Recipient of an ASCAP Award: (see above)

2002-2003

Commissioned by Jim Conally to compose and perform for the Nine by Nine concert, a work based on nine predetermined notes presented by nine composers.

Recognized for "Zoom" in the Austrian Prix Arts Electronica 2002

Recipient of an ASCAP Award: (see above)

Commissioned by Westmont Music Department to compose "Rejoice" for a cappella chamber group.

2001-2002

Commissioned by the Westmont Board of Trustees with additional funding from the American Composers Forum for the premier performance of "Grace", written for the inauguration of Westmont's 7th President, Stanley D. Gaede, "Grace" is scored for 53-piece orchestra, children's choir, adult choir, and four soloists

Recipient of an ASCAP Award: (see above)

2000-2001

The Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers included my choral work, "New Martyrs of Russia", on their 2000 compilation CD, "From Everlasting to Everlasting".

Recipient of an ASCAP Award: (see above)

Commissioned by Westmont Theater Department to compose original vocal music for "Much Ado About Nothing"

Featured on the front page of the Life section of Santa Barbara News-Press for ASCAP award.

1999

Awarded a grant by the Santa Barbara Dance Alliance for a performance collaboration with my wife, dancer and choreographer, Sierra Boatwright Butler

Recipient of an ASCAP Award: (see above)

Faculty development award for work on a large-scale orchestral work and to draft the piece in Digital Performer™, a complex system of software/hardware for audio processing and multi-track hard disc recording.

Commissioned by Westmont Music Department to compose a setting of "Psalm 8" for a cappella chamber group.

1998

Recipient of an ASCAP Award: (see above)

Commissioned by choreographer Victoria Finlayson for "Uncaged" a prepared piano work for dancers

1997

Commissioned by the Santa Barbara Children's Chorus to compose a sacred acapella piece for the Golden Gate International Children's Choral Festival competition

Awarded a grant by the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission for "Synaxis"

Awarded a grant by the Westmont College Provost and the Westmont College Public Relations office for "Synaxis"

Awarded a grant by the Contemporary Arts Forum for "Synaxis"

Awarded a grant by the Esperia Foundation for "Synaxis".

Faculty development award for setting selected poems from "Kenosis", a 24 poem song cycle in collaboration with poet Randall VanderMey

Commissioned by choreographer Victoria Finlayson for "Convergence" an electro-acoustic work for dancers

Commissioned by visual artist Thekla Hammond to compose "Synaxis" and "Transcendence".

1996

Featured and reviewed in The Journal of the Diocese of the West, OCA

Commissioned by choreographer Erylne Whiteman for "Fire", "Earth", "Air", "Water", and "Elements", for dancers, computer and synthesizer

Interviewed and photographed for the Santa Barbara News Press, reflecting current works in composition at Westmont College.

1995

Awarded grant by Westmont College for the development and implementation of an Electronic Music Studio for the study of Music Theory and Composition

1991-94

Selected by the South Carolina Endowment for the Arts as an intern for three consecutive summers with South Carolina Educational Television and Radio to provide technical assistance in recording and preparing national broadcasts for Spoleto Festival USA

1992

Awarded a grant from the Richland/Lexington County Arts Council in conjunction with the South Carolina Arts Commission for participation in the 1992 Conductor's Institute. The Institute accepts approximately thirty conductors and only six composers from a national pool of applicants for an intensive training program with guest artists and a professional orchestra. As a composer, I was selected to write a piece for chamber orchestra, work with a conductor on technical interpretation, and had the task of conducting the rehearsals and subsequent performance

1991

Awarded grant from the Richland/Lexington County Arts Council in conjunction with the South Carolina Arts Commission for a production and performance of recent compositions and performance of one of the chamber pieces for the local morning program on WIS-TV

### **Community Involvement**

2000-2006

Each summer since 2000 I have spent 4-6 weeks teaching children, ages 6-11, how to sail small craft for the Santa Barbara Sailing Center.

1995-2006

I have been an active member of St. Athanasius Orthodox Church as a choir member, cantor, and ecclesiarch for organizing all of the Sunday Epistle readings. I have developed an acolyte training program to teach the boys and young men of

the church how to serve in the sanctuary, and have been a general mentor and teacher for them since my arrival in 1995.

2005

Adjudication for an essay competition by young student violinists at the MacCallum Studio in the Music Academy of the West.

2001

Presented the acolyte training seminar at St. Timothy's Orthodox Church in Lompoc.

1999

Presented the acolyte training seminar at St. Andrew's Orthodox Church in Riverside.

1998

Member of the panel of judges for a competition for a violin duet composition by young student composers at the MacCallum Studio in the Music Academy of the West

1997

The production of "Synaxis" at the Contemporary Arts Forum included Thekla Hammond and myself giving an afternoon lecture-demonstration for local elementary, middle, and high school students.