

L. Steve Butler

Steve Butler
Music Building
Room 111
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Education

2012 M.A.	Applied Orthodox Theology, University of Balamund, Lebanon
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-Present

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 wi8.07fdlm

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.

Committee Assignments

2012-2013	IRB Committee
2008-2012	Chair, Academic Resources Committee
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)

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 theat

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

Professional Organizations and Conferences

Represented the Westmont College department of music at the national NASM conference in Boston, MA in November, 2011.

Worked 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

Honors/Awards/Commissions

2011

Commissioned by Westmont College to compose a fanfare for the 75th anniversary of the college.

2010

Commissioned by Westmont Music Department to compose the cantata "Hymns

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 predetermine

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 Erlyne 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

2000-2013

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.

1995-2013

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.