

# Amy Scurria, Composer

www.amyscurria.com

[amyscurria.composer@gmail.com](mailto:amyscurria.composer@gmail.com) / (919) 308-0301

Music published by Theodore Presser Company and Adamo Press

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### EDUCATION

- Duke University** - Durham, NC 2007-2015
- PhD in Music Composition
    - \* Thesis: *Pearl*, an opera based upon Hawthorne's *Scarlet Letter* with libretto by Carol Gilligan and Jonathan Gilligan; and an article entitled "Gender and Modern Opera: A Survey of the Literature on Gender and Music and its Application on Paula Kimper's opera, *Patience and Sarah*"
- La Schola Cantorum** - Paris, France 1999
- Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University** - Baltimore, MD 1996-1998
- Masters of Music Composition
- Shepherd School of Music at Rice University** - Houston, TX 1991-1995
- Bachelor of Music Composition
- Aspen Music Festival Composition Program** - Aspen, CO 1994
- Westminster Choir College Composition Program** - Princeton, NJ 1990

### COMMISSIONS

- Durham Symphony Orchestra**, Durham, NC 2020
- Scenes from Pearl* for full orchestra
- Premiere postponed due to Covid-19. Originally premiere scheduled for April of 2020 with Durham Symphony Orchestra, William Curry, Conductor
- Women's HOPE Chorale**, St. Louis, MO 2019
- Follow Your Voice* for SSAA choir
- Premiered February 16, 2020 by the Women's HOPE Chorale of St. Louis, Leanne Latuda, Conductor
- Fort Wayne Philharmonic and Sigma Alpha Iota** 2009
- What the Soul Remembers* for Orchestra
- Premiered October 10, 2009 by the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Andrew Constantine, Conductor
- Long Leaf Opera Company and The Arts Center** 2009
- Esperanza Rising* for piano, violin, cello, soprano, mezzo-soprano, and tenor
- Premiered June 5, 2009 at Frank Porter Graham Elementary School, Chapel Hill, NC

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## COMMISSIONS (cont.)

- Richmond Symphony** 2005  
*Wildcats of Deep Run High Alma Mater* – Orchestration
- Premiered at Deep Run High
- Private Commission** 2005  
*i thank you God for most this amazing* for SATB choir and organ
- Commissioned for performance by the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church Choir
- Philadelphia Orchestra & Minnesota Orchestra** 2003  
*We Are Met at Gettysburg* for full orchestra composed by Amy Scurria and Steve Heitzeg
- Premiered by the Philadelphia Orchestra, Giancarlo Guerrero, conductor; Temple University Prep Children’s Choir, Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, Philadelphia, PA on January 4, 2003. Nine subsequent premiere performances by the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Minnesota Orchestra
- Youth Pro Musica** 2003  
*What is the Beginning?* for SSAA choir with optional soloist
- Premiered by Youth Pro Musica, 2003
- Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church** 2003  
*In His High Service* for SATB choir in honor of Jeffrey Brillhart
- Premiered by the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church Choir, Jeffrey Brillhart, Conductor
- Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church** 2002  
*Thou Who Art Over Us* in honor of Jack Moon
- Premiered by the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church Choir, Jeffrey Brillhart, Conductor
- Shepherd College Concert Choir, Scott Williamson, Director** 2001  
*Press Onward* for SATB choir
- Premiered by Shepherd College Choir, Scott Williamson, Conductor
- SHE, NYC** 2001  
*Blossoms* for SSAA choir
- Premiered by SHE, Sally Hoskins, Conductor
- Vermont Youth Orchestra** 2001  
*Blessings of Liberty* for full orchestra
- Premiered by the Vermont Youth Orchestra, Troy Peters, Conductor
- Private Commission** 2001  
*Hagar’s Prayer* for soprano, piano and trumpet
- Premiered at the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

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## COMMISSIONS, cont.

**Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church** 1999

*Salmo 100* for SATB choir

- Premiered throughout Brazil by the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church Choir, Jeffrey Brillhart, Conductor

**Martha Smith** 1994

*Variations on Reflection* for solo piano

- Premiered by Martha Smith in Washington, D.C.

## EMPLOYMENT

**Self Employed Composer** 1994-Present

**Composition, Theory, Piano Teacher** 1996-Present

**Professor, Teaching and Research Assistant, Duke University, Durham, NC** 2007-2015

- Professor of Music
  - Introduction to Music Theory (Spring, 2015)
  - Introduction to Music Theory (Spring, 2014)
- Teaching Assistant and Lecturer
  - Duke University Food Course (Spring, 2015)
  - Theoretical Practice of Tonal Music, Theory Lab Instr. & Lecturer (Fall, 2014)
  - Composers of Influence, Teaching Assistant and Lecturer (Spring, 2013)
  - Theoretical Practice of Tonal Music II, Theory Lab Instr. & Lecturer (Spring, 2012)
  - Music and Modernism, Teaching Asst. and Lecturer (Fall, 2011)
  - Jazz, Teaching Assistant and Lecturer (Spring, 2011)
  - Music Copyist (Fall, 2010)
  - Hip-Hop / Rap Music Appreciation, Teaching Assistant (Spring, 2010)
  - Music, Sound and Style (Spring, 2009)
  - Teaching Assistant for Professor Anthony Kelley - Theoretical Practice of Tonal Music (Fall, 2008)

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## **EMPLOYMENT (cont.)**

**Concert Composer - International** 1992 - present

- Commissions from Philadelphia Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, Vermont Youth Orchestra, Youth Pro Musica, Sigma Alpha Iota as well as others (*See above for full list of commissions*)
- Founder and owner of Adamo Press Publishing 2000 - present
- Commercial Composer - National 2005
  - Composed music for Twin Lakes Hospital commercial in Leitchfield, KY in collaboration with Group Nine Marketing Company, Louisville, KY

**Education, Marketing, Advertising and Service Director, Richmond Piano** 2005-2007

- Created and maintained website
- Developed and ran education program
- Created ads and facilitated marketing for the company
- Piano sales
- Served as service manager

### **Paralegal**

- LeClair Ryan, P.C. - Richmond, VA 2004-2005
  - Tort Litigation Paralegal: Medical Malpractice
- Swartz Campbell, LLC - Philadelphia, PA 2003-2004
  - Paralegal: Workers Compensation, Employment, and Insurance

**Music Education Partnership Coordinator -** 1999 - 2003

### **Settlement Music School, Philadelphia, PA**

- Integrated music instruction for children ages 7-13 in Philadelphia Public Schools
- Interviewed and hired music instructors for the program
- Prepared financial reports detailing year end and projected budgets
- Collated information necessary for grant requests to justify private and government funding

**Music Teacher** 1994 - present

- Private piano and composition teacher in Houston, TX, Baltimore, MD, Philadelphia, PA, Richmond, VA, and Durham, NC
- Children's Music Workshop teacher based on Orff and Kodaly methods

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## **EMPLOYMENT (cont.)**

### **Publishing**

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### **Music Publisher Assistant to the President**

1998-1999

- Hildegard Publishing Company, Havertown, PA

### **Music Copyist**

1994 - present

- Various projects for independent composers
- Contracted copyist for the Women's Philharmonic to revive the music of Florence Price
- Copyist with the American Opera Projects to publish works by composer, Lola Williams
- Copyist for the Amy Beach Organ Concerto

### **Pre-Concert Talks / Presentations**

- ***Pearl the Opera*** 2013-2014
  - *Pearl* Workshop Performance at Shakespeare and Company, Lenox, MA
  - *Author, Author* – panel discussion at Shakespeare and Company
  - *The Travelers 411 Radio Show* with Stephanie Abrams
- ***What the Soul Remembers*** Pre-concert talk 2009
  - Pre-concert talk for premiere
  - *Symphony 101 Lecture* with conductor Brad Thatchuk sponsored by the Fort Wayne Philharmonic
- ***We Are Met at Gettysburg*** 2002-2007
  - Pre-concert presentation for the Richmond Symphony 2007
  - *Musically Speaking* - Presentation at Lindley Elementary School, grades 2-5 2003
  - Pre-concert presentations and interviews at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia, PA and Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis, MN 2003
  - Post concert Meet the Composers Presentation 2003
  - Production of CD with interviews distributed to children in public schools throughout Philadelphia, PA 2002
  - <https://www.mcall.com/news/mc-xpm-2003-01-02-3462067-story.html>
  - Bus Tour to Gettysburg - Gettysburg, PA – Presentation of *We Are Met at Gettysburg* 2002
  - Roundtable with Richard Moe, Author at the Union League in Philadelphia, PA 2003

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## **EMPLOYMENT (cont.)**

- ***We Are Met at Gettysburg (cont.)***
  - *We Are Met at Gettysburg* - Presentation at the Minnesota History Center in Minneapolis, MN 2003
  - *We Are Met at Gettysburg* - Presentation at the YWCA in Minneapolis, MN 2003

### ***Press Onward*** 2001

- Guest Composer in Residence at Shepherd College in Shepherdstown, WV 2001
- Performances of works throughout the week including premiere performance of *Press Onward*, commissioned by Shepherd College
- Conducted masterclasses with composition students
- Live Panel Discussion
- Post premiere Q&A

### ***Beyond All Walking*** 1998-1999

- Pre-Concert Talk – *Beyond All Walking* Premiere Tweeter Center (formerly the E-Center), Camden, NJ

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- Duke University Evan Frankel Fellowship Recipient
- Duke University Aleane Webb Dissertation Research Award
- Duke University Summer Research Fellowship Recipient
- Inducted as Sigma Alpha Iota Honorary Member
- NPR highlights and interviews in Philadelphia, PA, Richmond, VA, New England Public Radio, Minneapolis, MN, Fort Wayne, IN, and other radio stations.)
- Screening of the 2012 workshop of Pearl the Opera at the Feminist Theory and Music Conference at Hamilton College in NY (2013) with Q&A afterwards: “FTM 20-21: New Voices in the New Millennium”
- 1998 Haddonfield Young Composers' Competition
- ASCAPPlus Award Recipient, 1999–present
- Winner of Haddonfield Young Composers Competition for *Beyond All Walking*, 1998
- Music highlighted at National Convention for Women in the Arts, Rice University, 1996

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## LIST OF COMPOSITIONS

### **Published by Theodore Presser Company**

- *A Prayer* - SATB Choir 1999
- *And He Shall Be Like a Tree* - SATB Choir 1999
- *Beyond All Walking* - full orchestra 1998

### **Published by Adamo Press**

- *Alice*, an opera for soprano, mezzo-soprano, 2 tenors, bass , piano (2020-present)
- *Scenes from Pearl for full orchestra* (2020)
- *Follow Your Voice - SSAA Choir* (2019)
- *Beyond A Lullaby* - a children's album (worldwide sales) (2016)
- *Pearl* – full length opera (work in progress with librettists Carol Gilligan and Jonathan Gilligan) (2015)
- *Listen, Friends* – SATB choir (2011)
- *Two Become One* – solo piano (2010)
- *What the Soul Remembers* – full orchestra (2009)
- *Shannon's Wedding March* – solo piano (2009)
- *Esperanza Rising* – chamber opera for 3 soloists, vln, vlc, piano (2009)
- *La Loba* – chamber orchestra (2008)
- *Tiamat* - trombone, euphonium, tuba (2008)
- *Adaptations* - solo piano (2007)
- *something borrowed, something blue* - solo piano (2007)
- *i thank you God for most this amazing* - SATB choir and organ (2005)
- *We Are Met at Gettysburg* - full orchestra (2003)
- *What is the Beginning?* - SSAA choir (2003)
- *In His High Service* - SATB choir (2003)
- *Thou Who Art Over Us* - SATB choir and organ (2002)
- *Press Onward* - SATB choir (2001)
- *Blossoms* - SSAA choir (2001)
- *Blessings of Liberty* - full orchestra (2001)
- *Hagar's Prayer* - soprano, trumpet and piano (2001)
- *Advent* - soprano and piano (2000)
- *Salmo 100* - SATB choir (1999)
- *Amen* - 8 Amens for SATB Choir (1999)

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## LIST OF COMPOSITIONS (cont.)

- *Passion for Guitar* (1998)
- *Five Haiku* - soprano, baritone and chamber orchestra (1998)
- *Fugue and Chorale* - for String Orchestra (1997)
- *Impromptu* - tenor and piano (1995)
- *Rains Alive* - tenor and piano (1995)
- *Games Children Play* - solo violin (1995)
- *Variations on Reflection* - solo piano (1994)
- *A Winter of Flowers* - song cycle (four songs) – soprano and piano (1994)
- *A Wedding March for Jacqueline* - organ and trumpet (1994)
- *Fantasy for Piano* - solo piano (1993)
- *Duo for Clarinet and Horn* (1993)
- *Vocalise* - solo piano (1992)
- *Furchte Dich Nicht* - flute, trumpet, two violins, viola, cello, and double bass (1991)
- *After Tomorrow* - solo piano (1991)
- *Unforgettable Moments* - solo piano (1990)
- *Class of '91* - solo piano (1990)
- *Silent Words* - solo piano (1990)
- *Charlotte* - solo piano (1989)
- *Simple Thoughts* - solo piano (1989)
- *The Irish Song* - solo piano (1988)
- *Untitled* - solo piano (1988)
- *A Fork in the Road* - solo piano (1987)
- *Sometimes in the Evening* - solo piano (1987)