

Curriculum Vitae

Qualifications

Ph.D: 'The Development of Prosodic Melody for Original Composition'

Ph.D in Original Composition from University Collage Cork, under the supervision of composer John Godfrey.

Concerning the transcription, translation and imitation of speech melody for use in original composition, with a primary focus on rhythm and its representation within musical notation for live, instrumental performance.

M.Phil: 'Spin Cycle',

M.phil in Music and Media Technologies from Trinity Collage Dublin, under the supervision of Composer Donnacha Dennehy and Owen Drum.

Involving the design and construction of an array of four surround-sound, rotating speakers and the composition of music for jazz orchestra, utilising these speakers in a live concert environment.

Current Employment

Assistant Lecturer (part-time), University College Cork: Developing, Teaching and Grading the following undergraduate courses:

- ▶ **Introduction to Jazz** (UG Erasmus students)
- ▶ **Jazz Improvisation and Performance** (UG Y1, Y2 & Y3)

Lecturer (part-time), Newpark Music Centre: Developing, Teaching and Grading the following undergraduate courses:

- ▶ **Music Technology** (UG Y4)
- ▶ **Music business** (UG Y4)
- ▶ **Composition** (UG Y1)
- ▶ **Introduction to MIDI** (UG Y1)

Live-Sound and Recording Engineer (freelance): I am hired frequently to record live concert performances primarily of Jazz and Contemporary music.

Web-Designer (freelance): Working with: PHP, MySQL, Javascript, AJAX, HTML and CSS. Most recently I have completed piano.ie a site for Jeffers' Pianos

Composition for Film and Theatre (freelance): I am currently working on a Documentary about the history of Concern for broadcast in September.

Areas of Expertise / Potential course topics

Jazz / Popular music:

- ▶ Jazz / Popular Composing and arranging styles
- ▶ Jazz Harmony, Theory, Reharmonisation and Analysis
- ▶ Ear training and rhythm studies
- ▶ Performance / Improvisation techniques
- ▶ Historical studies

Music Technology:

- ▶ MIDI, Audio and Media theory (*Maths & Practical*) (*how it works!*)
- ▶ Scoring music for performance: (*Sibelius, Finale etc..*)
- ▶ Digital Audio Workstations (*Cubase, Pro-tools, Logic, Reaper etc..*)
- ▶ Microphone placement, recording and performance techniques
- ▶ Live sound engineering techniques
- ▶ Studio and Live recording techniques
- ▶ Audio production techniques, mixing and mastering
- ▶ Csound, MaxMsp and general computer music programming

Practical subjects:

- ▶ Music theory and Ear training / rhythm studies
- ▶ Film music / Composition for mixed media
- ▶ Computer aided scoring and audio sequencing techniques

Music Business:

- ▶ Tour and Album production / management / organisation
- ▶ Understanding Arts Council grant applications
- ▶ Web Design and Development
(*PHP, MySQL, Javascript, AJAX, HTML & CSS*)
- ▶ Promotional tools: visual design, social networking, programming
- ▶ Writing press-releases and free promotional techniques

Composition:

- ▶ Traditional Composition, development of melody, structure and harmony
- ▶ Orchestration and Arranging
- ▶ Algorithmic composition
- ▶ Electro-acoustic composition

Twentieth Century Music:

- ▶ History / Review of Contemporary Music / Electro-Acoustic music
- ▶ Compositional styles: Minimalism / Serial / Experimentalism
- ▶ Graphic notation as a practical tool

Specialist Research topics:

- ▶ Prosodic melody, an investigation of speech melody and rhythm
- ▶ Surround sound techniques for multiple moving speakers

Education

2007 - 2010

Doctorate (PhD), UCC

I Recently completed a Doctorate in Original Composition in University College Cork under Composer John Godfrey. The focus of this study is the development and use of prosodic or speech melody in original composition for acoustic performance. My external examiner was Zack Browning, associate professor emeritus of music composition at the University of Illinois.

2007

Banff International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music

Selected to take part in the Banff International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music, Alberta, Canada. Studied and/or performed with Dave Douglas, Adam Benjamin, Han Bennink, Sylvie Courvoisier, Mark Feldman, Jerry Granelli, Oliver Lake, Giorgio Magnanensi, Misha Mengelberg, Mary Oliver, Clarence Penn, and David Krakauer among others. To take part I was awarded a Travel and Training award from the Irish Arts Council.

September 2004 - June 2006

Masters Degree (MPhil), Trinity College Dublin

Achieved an M.phil in Music and Media Technologies from Trinity College Dublin, under Dr. Dermot Furlong, composers; Donnacha Denny, Rodger Doyle and Fergus Johnson, Professor Michael Taylor and surround-sound specialist Liam Grant.

My final project involved composing for, designing and building a surround sound array of four rotating speakers, where speaker rotation rates could be computer controlled and synced to the music. The composition "*Spin Cycle*" was premiered in Dublin in June 2006.

August 2003

School of Improvised Music, New York

Trained at the School of Improvised Music summer school, New York, under the direction of Ralph Alessi and Ravi Coltrane. During this time I attended many workshops, performed with some of New York's finest musicians and received individual tutorials from Uri Caine and Vijay Iyer among others. To take part I was awarded a Travel and Training award from the Arts Council.

September 2002 - June 2003

Ronan Guilfoyle's Composition Course

This inaugural workshop - the first of its kind for jazz in Ireland, involved an in-depth study of the art of jazz and contemporary-classical composition with Ireland's leading jazz composer Ronan Guilfoyle.

September 1999 - June 2002

Newpark Music Centre

Studied for three years in Newpark Music Centre on their Jazz performance diploma program under Composer Ronan Guilfoyle. Received tuition in all aspects of Jazz performance, composition and arranging.

Since 1999 I have attended many lectures and master-classes in various aspects of music theory, composition, performance and musicology in Dublin, Cork, New York and Canada.

Teaching Experience

September 2007 – Present

Assistant Lecturer (*part-time*) in the School of Music, University College Cork as both an employee and as part of my student scholarship. In this time I have written my own undergraduate courses in the following:

Introduction to MIDI

A practical class introducing music technology to facilitate composition. This class was focused on the use of “Cubase” and “Reason” to record, edit, mix and sequence audio and midi.

Jazz history

A class in the history of Jazz, from its conception at the turn of the century, to classes in world and Irish contemporary Jazz.

Jazz improvisation and performance

An ensemble class, in which students learn Jazz compositions, how to arrange them and to improvise in the language of various jazz genres from swing and Be-Bop to hard-bop, modal Jazz and more open form styles.

Along with teaching, examining and grading these classes, I was also a teaching assistant to both Paul O'Donnell and John Godfrey, marking various papers and assisting with classes in creative sound synthesis.

September 2010 – Present

Lecturer (*part-time*) in Newpark Music Centre, Blackrock, Co. Dublin. I have written my own undergraduate courses in the following:

Music Business

Focusing on self-promotion, including web design, social networking, poster and flyer design, album production, press releases, copyright and many more topics.

Music Technology

A practical class in microphone and recording techniques, music production and computer-music technology.

September 2008 – Present

Creative Composition course

For three ten week terms a year I take a private class in “Creative Composition.” In this class students learn about various aspects of writing music as they prepare for a performance of their music by expert musicians in the final week. This has positively benefited many amateur composers through a greater understanding of the craft of composition and their meaningful engagement with experienced performers.

Teaching Experience (contd..)

2009

Composition Symposium talks

Delivered two talks at the National University Ireland Maynooth, Composition Symposium on the topics;

“The Development of Written Prosodic Melody for Live Performance.” & “Listening Forum: Contemporary Improvised Music in Ireland.”

This was a prestigious event featuring talks by some of the leading contemporary composers in Ireland and abroad, including Dr John Buckley, Donnacha Dennehy, Dr Grainne Mulvey, and Dr Fred Desena.

January – May 2005, 2006 & 2007

Music Appreciation and Performance, Transition year module

Hired by East Glendalough School in Wicklow town, to take a Transition year module in *“Music Appreciation and Performance”*.

In this class I worked with young adults, exposing them to new music and encouraging them to discuss and debate it in a meaningful and musical context. This proved very successful and I received excellent feedback from past students who have gone on to study music at third level.

September 2005 – April 2006

History Revision, a Ballymun Regeneration Project

As part of a commission from the Ballymun Regeneration Project, I was employed to take a weekly rehearsal and jazz education class in the *“Trinity Comprehensive”* secondary school in Ballymun. This Culminated in a public performance of *“History Revision”* (for 30-piece Jazz Orchestra) in the Arc Theatre, Temple Bar.

This proved to be a hugely challenging task due to the social and behavioral problems in the school. It was an extremely rewarding experience and taught me a huge amount about engaging a class and keeping the learning momentum going.

Creative Projects

September 2002 - Present

Fuzzy Logic Ensemble

Since September 2002 I have been continually writing for, performing with and promoting my group Fuzzy Logic Ensemble, Ireland's largest and longest running contemporary improvising ensemble.

I have written a large collection of extended compositions for this group that have been performed at numerous venues and arts festivals throughout Ireland.
www.fuzzylogicensemble.com

April & May 2010

Components Series

Curated the first "*Components Series*", a series of solo instrumental performances with a unique difference. A series of new works by Irish composers developed over six concerts. Each concert was recorded, the concert's recording was manipulated and used to accompany a musician at a subsequent performance in the series. This process was repeated each week so that the development could be followed through the series like a serial or a soap-opera.

The series was a huge success involving some superb musicians, there is an archive of the series recordings available at the website:
rynhart.com/components

2007 - Present

Web-Design

Designing and building websites typically for artists. Developing new online software for automating web updates and promotional tools for web-site owners, primarily artists with limited time: florianross.de / bastiongallery.com / ctlaudio.ie / irishcomposerscollective.org / fuzzylogicensemble.com / dylanrynhart.com

2007 - 2009

Mouthpiece album

Recorded and produced my second album with Fuzzy Logic Ensemble entitled "*Mouthpiece*." This album features the BBC New Generation artist Tom Arthurs and was conducted by the German pianist and composer Florian Ross. It features a succession of adventurous, extended ensemble works, the critics said:

"The voicings are rich, varied and there's a particularly deft sense of proportion to the development of texture and counterpoint" - **Ray Comiskey, Irish Times**

"Fuzzy Logic now rate among the most daring and original musical ensembles working in Ireland today" - **Cormac Larkin, Sunday Tribune**

"The shifting, multi-textured density of 'Mouthpiece' is very satisfying and characterises the album as a whole" - **Kevin Stevens, Journal of Music**

I was awarded over €40,000 in funding for this project from the Arts council, The Music Network and The Improvised Music Company.

Creative Projects (contd..)

2006

Bridgewood Ensemble in Atlanta, Georgia

Commissioned to write a suite for the Bridgewood Ensemble. "*Numb Itch Twitch Scratch Squeeze*" was written for Clarinet, Violin, and Cello and the Premier was held in Atlanta, Georgia in October 2006 at a concert of composer Zack Browning's music, this was followed by a series of concerts in Cork and subsequently by the highly acclaimed group Concord, in the National Gallery of Ireland.

Music for an award winning short film

Composed, recorded and produced the music for: "*Nun More Deadly*," a short film supported by the Waterford county council's Raymond Chandler script writing competition.

The film won:

- ▶ The audience award for best Irish short - Cork International Film Festival
- ▶ The award for best fictional film - Sligo Short Film Festival
- ▶ The Tiernan MacBride award for best Irish short - Galway Film Fleadh

Music for Theatre, Galway Arts Festival

Commissioned by the Galway Arts Festival to write and record music for the theatre production "*Dog Show Rex*." Written and directed by Garrett Keogh.

2005

Breaking Ground, Wind-band project

Commissioned by the Ballymun Regeneration Project's Breaking Ground Program, to write a Jazz Big Band style piece for both Fuzzy Logic Ensemble and the Trinity comprehensive school's Wind Band Project, run by Ron Cooney. The performance for this piece was on the 19th of March 2006 in the Arc Theatre, Temple bar square, Dublin.

Intro 05 with Guitarist Rick Peckham

Commissioned by the Improvised Music Company, to write music for their "*Intro 05*" tour, featuring internationally acclaimed guitarist Rick Peckham, leading a ten-piece band of young Irish jazz musicians. "*The Difference between Light and Hard*" was performed throughout a series of concerts in October 2005 and during that time Rick performed with Fuzzy Logic Ensemble and I at the Cork International Jazz Festival.

2004

New Hat Album

Recorded and produced the first Fuzzy Logic Ensemble Album "*New Hat*." This album features eight of my compositions. The critics said:

"Rynhart's signature is on the writing, tinged with some of Kenny Wheeler's quirkiness, it's adept, constantly engaging, full of colour and packed with incident" - **Ray Comiskey, Irish Times**

"Rynhart's deft arranging for this unusual line-up particularly impresses, recalling the master, Kenny Wheeler" - **Cormac Larkin, Sunday Tribune**

Honors and Awards

2009

Music Network Performance and Touring Award

Awarded funding for the "*Mouthpiece*" album launch in the National Concert Hall's John Field Room. The concert featured German Pianist and Conductor Florian Ross, English Trumpet player and BBC next generation artist Tom Arthurs performing with Fuzzy Logic Ensemble. Presented in association with the Improvised Music Company.

2007 & 2008

UCC Scholarship

Awarded a fee-waiver scholarship by the Department of Music in University College Cork, for my Doctoral studies.

Arts Council Project New-Work Award

Awarded funding for a unique and large-scale project to rehearse and develop my music in the Tyrone Guthrie Centre in preparation for recording the *Mouthpiece* album.

Music Network and I.M.C. Performance and Touring Award

Fuzzy Logic Ensemble *Mouthpiece* tour featuring Tom Arthurs, was awarded funding from two organisations for this nationwide tour.

Arts Council Bursary

Awarded a Bursary for the purchasing of equipment and to develop my New Music lecturing: a lecture series in Irish contemporary music.

2005

Best young Irish Jazz Artist

The Guinness Cork Jazz Festival presented me with their "*Best young Irish Jazz Artist*" award, this was the inaugural year for this award and it was presented by BBC Radio Producer Keith Loxam and Jazz Legends David Amram and Jon Faddis.

Music Spoken Here, Radio Documentary

Fuzzy Logic Ensemble recorded three of my compositions in the RTE Radio centre's studio one, for broadcast on the RTE 1 Radio series "*Music Spoken Here*". rte.ie/radio1/musicspokenhere

Professional Memberships

CMC Composer

Accepted for representation by the Contemporary Music Centre, Dublin. As a result they archive my compositions, making copies available to the public, and where possible, encouraging and facilitating performances of my music nationally and internationally.

cmc.ie

IMC Artist

My ensemble Fuzzy Logic were named IMC Artists, putting the Improvised Music Company, with the support of Culture Ireland and The Arts Council, in the position of manager or agent of the group. This new agency is the first of its kind in Ireland and has been instrumental in the progression of the ensemble and the development of our links throughout Europe.

improvisedmusic.ie

I am also a member of the following organisations:

The Irish Music Rights Organisation (IMRO)

- ▶ Protecting, promoting and developing the collection and distribution of music royalties

imro.ie

Recorded Artists Actors Performers (RAAP)

- ▶ Collecting and distributing performance royalties

raap.ie

The Irish Composers Collective (ICC)

- ▶ Dedicated to the advancement of contemporary music in Ireland

irishcomposerscollective.com

Notable Media Reviews

The Sunday Tribune

“One of the surest signs that the future of Irish Jazz is in safe hands has got to be the emergence over the last couple of years of composer Dylan Rynhart and his Fuzzy Logic Ensemble. Rynhart’s deft arranging for this unusual line-up particularly impresses, recalling the master, Kenny Wheeler. “

The Irish Times

“Rynhart’s signature is on the writing, tinged with some of Kenny Wheeler’s quirkiness, if not his lyricism; it’s adept, constantly engaging, full of colour and packed with incident. His use of counterpoint, though frequent, is crafted with clarity and variety. It remains a band utterly unlike anything else around, and full of surprises. “

The Journal of Music

“Rynhart writes music with a compelling balance of highly arranged orchestral passages and carefully chosen solos. And like Brookmeyer’s protégé Maria Schneider, he searches out non-traditional rhythmic and ethnic influences to create twenty-first-century music that is both sharply executed and expressively open-ended.”

References

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