

Gregory M. Small

Educator • Pianist • Trumpeter • Writer

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Education

Master of Music, Jazz Studies (piano) • University of Maryland, College Park • 2008

- Completed advanced coursework in jazz history, theory, arranging, and composition
- Performed extensively in large and small ensembles
- Explored the influence of French composer Claude Debussy on American jazz pianist Bill Evans in graduate thesis
- Performed works by Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock, Denny Zeitlin, Bronislau Kaper, Kenny Barron, and original compositions for graduate recital (in solo, trio, and quartet formats)

Bachelor of Science, Psychology • Towson University • 2004 • Top 10% of Class

- Completed coursework in abnormal psychology, human development, statistics and research methods, and others
- Examined the relationship between manic depressive episodes in Beethoven and the quantity vs. quality (as measured by frequency of works performed and recorded) of his compositional output in required thesis

Bachelor of Arts, Music Performance (trumpet) • Shepherd University • 2002 • Cum Laude

- Received applied lesson credits in both piano and trumpet
- Completed coursework in music theory, history, and aural skills, in addition to extensive large and small ensemble performing experience in the context of a liberal arts education
- Performed works by Johann Nepomuk Hummel, Alexander Arutunian, Franz Strauss, and Rene Berthelot for senior recital

Summer Festivals, Workshops, and Conferences

- Atlantic Brass Quintet Seminar - SUNY at Buffalo, 2002
- International Association of Jazz Educators National Conference - New York NY, 2001
- International Association of Jazz Educators Regional Conference - York PA, 2000
- International Association of Jazz Educators National Conference - New Orleans LA, 2000
- National Wind Ensemble - New York NY, 2000
- Boston University Tanglewood Institute
 - Atlantic Brass Quintet Seminar, 1999
 - Trumpet Workshop, 1998

Master Class Performances

- Dr. E. Ron Horton (piano, 2008)
- Vardan Ovsepien (piano, 2003)
- Rex Richardson (piano, 2002)
- Walt Weiskopf (piano, 2002)
- Bala (trumpet, 2002)
- Martin Hackleman (trumpet, 2001)
- St. Louis Brass (trumpet, 2000)
- Boston Brass (trumpet, 2000)
- Fred Hughes (piano, 2000)
- Ingrid Jensen (piano, 2000)
- Bill Watrous (piano, 1999)
- Atlantic Brass Quintet (trumpet, 1999 & 2002)
- Joseph Foley (trumpet, 1998)
- Steven Emery (trumpet, 1998)
- Jeffrey Curnow (trumpet, 1998)

Instructors

- Jon Ozment (piano) - University of Maryland, College Park - 2007-2008
- Chris Gekker (trumpet) - University of Maryland, College Park - 2006-2007
- Ron Elliston (piano) - University of Maryland, College Park - 2006
- Phil Snedecor (trumpet) - Towson University - 2004
- Tim Murphy (piano) - Towson University - 2003
- Frank Gazda (trumpet) - Shepherd University - 2001
- Fred Hughes (piano) - Shepherd University - 1999-2002
- Wayne Cameron (trumpet) - Peabody Preparatory & Shepherd University (1994-2002)
- Todd Butler (trumpet) - Music and Arts - 1991-1992
- Joyce Keedy (piano) - Private studio - 1990-1997

Teaching Experience

Private Piano and Trumpet Instructor

- Music and Arts - Ellicott City MD, Laurel MD, Timonium MD - 2002-present
 - Full-time since 2023
 - Currently teaches approximately 45 weekly piano and trumpet students in-person and online via the Zoom platform
 - Helped facilitate company-wide transition from in-studio to online lessons conducted through the Zoom platform in March-April 2020 and throughout the pandemic
 - Prepares students for a diversity of performing responsibilities, including recitals, school concerts, auditions, and recordings
 - Communicates regularly with parents regarding child's musical and overall development
 - Assists with detail-oriented administrative tasks of scheduling, curriculum development, lesson program promotion, billing, and referrals
- Private Home Studio - Baltimore MD - 2018-present
 - Teaches occasional piano and trumpet lessons to members of the community

- Available for in-person and virtual lessons
- All About Music - Carney MD - 2005-2006
 - Taught approximately 10 weekly piano and trumpet students, regularly communicating with parents and assisting with administrative work as needed
- Musician's Institute of Baltimore - Parkville MD - 2002-2005
 - Taught approximately eight weekly piano and trumpet students, regularly communicating with parents and assisting with administrative work as needed
- Shepherd University Preparatory - Shepherdstown WV - 2002
 - Taught several area middle and high school trumpet students

Representative Sample of Method Books/Technique Development/Repertoire Used

- Nancy and Randall Faber, James Bastien, and John Thompson piano method books, encompassing fundamentals, repertoire, technique, and theory
- Keith Snell - Essential Repertoire Series for Piano
- Piano works of Bach, Handel, Clementi, Mozart, Schumann, Chopin, Bartok, and others
- Charles-Louis Hanon - Technical Studies for Piano
- Aloys Schmitt - Preparatory Exercises for the Piano
- Edna-Mae Burnam - A Dozen a Day for Piano
- Popular music including rock, Broadway, gospel, movie soundtracks, and video game music
- The Real Book, Volumes 1, 2, and 3
- Jamey Aebersold Play-Along Recordings
- The Jazz Piano Book - Mark Levine
- The Jazz Theory Book - Mark Levine
- Creative Jazz Improvisation - Scott Reeves
- Getchell - Practical Studies for Trumpet, Volumes 1 and 2
- Clarke - Technical Studies for the Cornet
- Schlossberg - Daily Drills and Technical Studies for the Trumpet
- Arban - Complete Conservatory Method for Trumpet

Performance Experience

Interim Pianist • Babcock Presbyterian Church • 2019-2020

- Accompanied choir and congregation in weekly service music featuring a blend of traditional and contemporary worship music
- Performed solo piano music for prelude, offertory, and postlude, featuring the music of Bach, Handel, Brahms, Scriabin, Chopin, Faure, and others
- Incorporated improvisational transitory music to create a natural flow between components of the service

Freelance Musician • Mid-Atlantic • 1994-present

Concert Series and Festival Appearances

- Summer Sunday Concert Series at Harborplace (with Ravita Jazz) - 2023
- Video Game Music Live - Prince George's Community College (with PGCC Jazz Faculty) - 2023
- College Music Society Regional Conference - Prince George's Community College (with Ravita Jazz) - 2023

- Art in the Park - Café Mezzanotte (with Ravita Jazz) - 2022
- Havre de Grace Jazz & Blues Fest - Pennington Street Stage (with Baltimore Jazz Alliance) - 2022
- Free Fall Baltimore - An die Musik LIVE! (with Ravita Jazz) - 2021-2022
- Live! Concert Series on the Plaza - Woodrow Wilson Plaza (with Grasso-Ravita Jazz Ensemble) - 2021-2022
- Quarantine Concert Series - An die Musik LIVE! (live stream concert with the Grasso-Ravita Jazz Ensemble) - 2021-2022
- Ward Virts Concert Series - College of Southern Maryland (with the Grasso-Ravita Jazz Ensemble) - 2019, 2022
- Benny C. Morgan Recital Series - College of Southern Maryland (with Jazz One) - 2018
- Free Fall Baltimore - An die Musik LIVE! (with Jazz One) - 2015-2019
- Jazz in the Garden - National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden (with Swingtopia) - 2014
- Second Sunday Concert Series - Ashland Presbyterian Church (solo piano) - 2014
- Silver Spring Jazz Festival - Veteran's Plaza - (with Songbook Jazz Quintet, opening for headliner Branford Marsalis) - 2013
- Music and Meditation Lenten Concert Series - Towson Presbyterian Church (solo piano) - 2012-2014
- Music in Mind - University of Maryland (with Chris Gekker, trumpet; Linda Mabbs, soprano; Chris Vadala, saxophone; Dr. Robert Gibson, bass) - 2011
- Tuesday Concert Series - Church of the Epiphany (with Chris Gekker, trumpet) - 2009
- Calvin Jones Jazz Festival - University of DC (with University of Maryland Jazz Ensemble) - 2007-2008
- Concordia Chamber Players Concert Series - Cradle Valley Farm (with Chris Gekker, trumpet and Michelle Djokic, cello) - 2008
- Baltimore-Washington JAZZFest - Historic Oakland Mansion (with the Gregory Thompkins Quintet) - 2007

Faculty Recital Guest Accompanist

- Dr. Philip Ravita, bass - College Music Society: *New American Songbook* - 2023
- Jazz Faculty - Prince George's Community College - 2023
- Dr. Philip Ravita, bass - Mount St. Mary's University - 2023
- Jazz Faculty - Prince George's Community College - 2022
- Dr. Philip Ravita, bass - College of Southern Maryland - 2022
- Dr. Philip Ravita, bass - Mount St. Mary's University - 2021
- Jazz Faculty - Prince George's Community College - 2021
- Jazz Faculty - Prince George's Community College - 2019
- Dr. Philip Ravita, bass - College of Southern Maryland - 2019
- Jazz Faculty - Prince George's Community College - 2018
- Dr. Jonathan Cresci, trumpet - Frederick Community College - 2016
- Timothy McKay, percussion - Howard Community College - 2015
- Dr. Jonathan Cresci, trumpet - York College of Pennsylvania - 2014
- Chris Gekker, trumpet - University of Maryland, College Park - 2011

Professional Collaborations as Pianist and/or Trumpeter - Representative List

- Chris Gekker - trumpet

- Chris Vadala - saxophone
- Dr. Robert Gibson - bass
- Linda Mabbs - soprano
- Lena Seikaly - mezzo-soprano
- Reginald Cyntje - trombone
- Benny Russell - saxophone
- Darryl Brenzyl - saxophone
- Stephen Harouff - organ
- Dr. Lynn Trapp - organ
- Len Langrick - organ
- Gregory Thompkins - saxophone
- Jari Villanueva - trumpet
- Dr. Brent Madsen - trumpet
- Scott Paddock - saxophone
- Nucleo Vega - drums
- Dr. Timothy Powell - saxophone
- Michelle Djokic - cello
- Daniel Marcellus - drums
- Songbook Jazz Quintet
- Ravita Jazz
- Reginald Cyntje - trombone
- Grasso-Ravita Jazz Ensemble
- Potomac Jazz Project
- Baltimore Jazz Consortium

Venues Performed as Pianist and/or Trumpeter - Representative List

- Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, College Park MD
- Mansion at Strathmore, Bethesda MD
- Equitable Building, New York NY
- Takoma Station, Washington DC
- Annapolis House of Delegates, Annapolis MD
- National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden, Washington DC
- Inner Harbor Ampitheater, Baltimore MD
- Engineer's Club, Baltimore MD
- Towson Presbyterian Church, Towson MD
- Jesuits Colombiere of Roland Park, Baltimore MD
- Historic Oakland Mansion, Columbia MD
- Frank Arts Center, Shepherdstown WV
- Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center, Columbia MD
- An die Musik LIVE!, Baltimore MD
- Sulgrave Club, Washington DC
- Church of the Epiphany, Washington DC
- Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring MD
- Governor Calvert House, Annapolis MD
- Antrim 1844, Taneytown MD

- Willard InterContinental Hotel, Washington DC
- Overhills Mansion, Catonsville MD
- Normandie Farm Restaurant, Potomac MD
- The Wharf, Washington DC

Recordings

- *Oriana* (Ravita Jazz) - Contributing composer, pianist - 2022
- *Jagged Spaces* (Grasso-Ravita Jazz Ensemble) - Contributing composer, pianist - 2020
- *Gun Show* – Pianist and trumpeter on film soundtrack directed by Emmy-winning filmmaker, Richard Chisholm - 2019
- *Highlights from Baltimore Jazz Consortium: Live at Edenwald* (with Gregory Thompkins, saxophone; Shawn Simon, bass; Chuck Ferrell, drums) - Viewable on YouTube - 2019
- *Highlights from Solstice* (with Chris Gekker, trumpet) - Viewable on YouTube - 2013
- *Highlights from Songbook* (with Chris Gekker, trumpet) - Viewable on YouTube - 2013
- *Singularity* - Composer, pianist - Recorded on Fundamental Sounds label and available from all digital distributors - 2011
- Chopin: *Etude in f minor* - Available on gregsmall.net - 2009
- Bach: *3 Part Invention in G Major* - Available on gregsmall.net - 2009
- Numerous jazz standards for various configurations - Available on gregsmall.net - 2009-present

Audition Experience

- 2009 - Finalist - United States Naval Academy Concert Band/Jazz Ensemble piano audition

Articles and Publications

- *Hannah Mayer - From California to Peabody* (Artist Profile, Baltimore Jazz Alliance Newsletter, Summer 2022)
- *27 Lanterns* (Poetry Compilation, self-published on Amazon, 2021)
- *How Alfred Won* (Novella, self-published on Amazon, 2017)

Memberships

- Maryland State Arts Council Touring Roster - 2023-present
- College Music Society - 2023-present
- Baltimore Jazz Alliance - 2021-present
- Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI) - 2020-present
- International Trumpet Guild - 1998-present

References

- Chris Gekker
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- Dr. Timothy Powell
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- Dr. Philip Ravita
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- David LaVorgna
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