

JACOB ADLER

Phone: 602-527-6085

Email: jacobadler@gmail.com

Website: jacobadler.us

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2009 - present *Faculty Associate at Arizona State University*

Advanced Rhythm - MTC 494/598
20th Century Music Theory - MTC 223
Intermediate Music Theory for Non-Music Majors - MUS 194
Fundamentals of Music Notation - MUS 100 (online)
Aural Perception - MTC 222 / MTC 223

2012 - present *Faculty at Paradise Valley Community College*

Music Theory 1 - MTC 105 / Aural Perception 1 - MTC 106
Music Theory 2 - MTC 155 / Aural Perception 2 - MTC 156
Music Theory 3 - MTC 205 / Aural Perception 3 - MTC 206
Music Theory 4 - MTC 255 / Aural Perception 4 - MTC 256
[Openscore Ensemble](#) (contemporary classical music) - MUP 181
Music Theory Independent Study - MTC 298
Introduction to Music Theory - MTC 101
Improvisation Ensemble - MUP 181

2019 - present *International Online Courses*

[Wheels Within Wheels Advanced Rhythm Course](#) (32 videos and textbook covering complex rhythm)
[Microtonality Crash Course](#) (8-week course on tuning systems and the mathematics of harmony)

2008 - present *Guest Lectures and Workshops*

- 2018 Manhattan School of Music, NYC, "Wheels Within Wheels" rhythm seminar for composition studio.
Shobhakar Studio, Brooklyn, NYC, "Wheels Within Wheels" 2-day rhythm workshop.
ASU West New Music Series, "Harmonic Labyrinths", microtonality lecture-performance.
- 2017 Brooklyn College CUNY, "Harmonic Labyrinths": Microtonality and Tuning Systems.
Shobhakar Studio, Brooklyn, NYC, "Wheels Within Wheels" 2-day rhythm workshop.
University of Alaska, Fairbanks, "Harmonic Labyrinths": Microtonality and Tuning Systems.
Phoenix, "Microtonality" private 3-week workshop.
STEAM Festival at Paradise Valley High School, Phoenix, "Electroacoustic Improvisation."
- 2016 Tempe, "Microtonality" private 3-month workshop.
PVCC Mathematics Symposium, "Mathematical Structures of Musical Harmony".
Experimental Arts Festival at PVCC, "Octophonic Surround Sound Installation".
- 2014 ASU Prisms Festival, "Charlemagne Palestine's Strumming Music" lecture-performance.
- 2013 Göteborg International Organ Festival, Sweden, "Soundlab: Adventures in Organ Improvisation".
ASU Prisms festival, "La Monte Young and the Magic of 7-limit harmony" lecture-performance.
Highland Jazz Festival, Gilbert, AZ, "Electroacoustic Improvisation" lecture-performance.
Arizona School for the Arts, Phoenix, AZ, "Electroacoustic Improvisation" lecture-performance.
ASU and PVCC, "Wheels Within Wheels" rhythm seminars.
- 2012 ASU, "Wheels Within Wheels" rhythm seminar.
- 2011 Darmstadt Institute at Issue Project Room, NYC, "Wheels Within Wheels" rhythm seminar.
- 2008 Akademia Muzyczna in Łódź, Poland, "Composing with Fractal Sequences".

2002 - present *Private Music Teacher*; 20 years of experience teaching individualized lessons in piano and organ performance, composition, improvisation, microtonality and tuning systems, theory and analysis, advanced rhythm, electronic music, and counterpoint.

SELECTED WORKS and COMMISSIONS

- 2021 Recipient of [New Music USA Creator Development Fund](#) grant to compose Triple Concerto for Sarod, Modular Synthesizers, Piano, and Orchestra.
Composed music for Wealthsimple's Super Bowl TV ad [Frankenstein](#) (941,000 views on Youtube).
- 2020 *Luminous Darkness* (60'), an album of compositions and improvisations for organ, hurdy gurdy, sarod, and rabab.
- 2019 *The Blind Watchmaker* (12') for five American Gamelan instruments tuned to 14-tone-per-octave 7-limit just intonation, piano, flute, violin, two clarinets, two electric guitars, and electronics. Commissioned by and premiered at Glendale Community College.
- 2018 [Distant Collisions of Dark Stars](#) (55') for 2 organs, orchestra, choir, 2 percussionists, piano and electronics. Commissioned by and premiered at 2018 Göteborg International Organ Festival, Sweden, performed by Haga Motettkör, Lundby Symphonic Orchestra, Jacob Adler (organ), Ilona Kubiacyk-Adler (organ). The piece was performed again at the 2019 Göteborg Organ Festival.
Prelude for Jenna and Rob (30') for 16 musicians spread throughout a desert trail loop. Commissioned by Jenna Rudo-Stern and Robert Kilman for their wedding ceremony in the McDowell Mountain Sonoran Preserve.
Music for 3 [film commercials](#), commissioned by Wealthsimple Inc (over 6 million views on Youtube).
For Rudy and Claire (17') for piano in 13-limit just intonation. Recorded in Phoenix.
- 2017 [Opus Claviblasticum](#) (60') for 4 percussionists, 3 pianos in 13-limit just intonation, organ, and 9 instrumentalists. Premiered at ASU Prisms Contemporary Music Festival by Crossing 32nd Street and friends.
Desert Hymnal (60') for 3 organs, modular synthesizers, hurdy gurdy, dilruba, rabab, violin, electronics, shaman. Collaborative concert premiered in the ASU Organ Hall, Tempe.
- 2016 *N-dimensional* (16') for 16 musicians in different tuning systems; geometric graphic score in higher dimensions. Premiered at St. Augustine's Church, Tempe, during a Microtonality concert I organized.
- 2015 [Buying a Home: Requiem for Robert Ashley](#) (60'), opera for 4 voices, piano, percussion, electronics. Premiered at the ASU Kerr Cultural Center, Scottsdale, and performed twice in January 2020.
Orchestration of *Sitar Concerto in Raag Gavati* (15') for sitar and orchestra. Collaboration with Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan, commissioned and premiered by the Queensland Symphony Orchestra in Brisbane, Australia. The piece was performed again by the Arizona State University Orchestra.
On the Sensations of Tone (60') for 3 organs, dilruba, hurdy gurdy, violin, electronics, piano, 2 perc, shaman. Collaborative concert premiered in the ASU Organ Hall, Tempe.
- 2013 *Art of the Drone* (60') for 19 musicians. Premiered at St. Augustine's Church, Tempe. Fundraiser concert for the assembly of the Walko pipe organ.
[7-limit Harmony](#) (8') for piano in just intonation. Premiered at ASU Prisms festival in lecture-performance, Tempe.
- 2012 [Kosmogonik](#) (6') for solo organ. Premiered at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Phoenix, by Ilona Kubiacyk-Adler.
[Yatayawahey](#) (100') for organ, piano, violin, and shaman. Album of performances recorded and performed live in the ASU Organ Hall.
- 2011 [Na krześle wszechświata szkło w kształcie chrząszcza wykrzywia się](#) (15') for 4 voices, organ, tanpura, and amplified sine waves. Commissioned by Orgelpark and VocaalLab Nederland. Premiered during Gaudeamus Music Week, Utrecht and Amsterdam, Netherlands.

- Everything is Illuminated* (60') for 3 organs, rabab, tabla, hurdy gurdy, violin, and shaman.
Collaborative concert premiered at the ASU Organ Hall.
- Sound design and music for two film [commercials](#), commissioned by 1000memories.com.
- 2010 [Hollerin' in the OrgelPark](#) (8') for 4 organs, 2 pianos, and laptop.
Winner of the organ composition prize at Gaudeamus Music Week 2010, Amsterdam.
- Harmonic Raga* (16') for sarod, tsimbl, tanpura, and string quartet.
Commissioned by the Phoenix Art Museum and ASU string dept. Premiered at the Phoenix Art Museum.
- W Szczerzyszynie chrzqszcz brzmi w trzcinie* (15') for 2 organs, tsimbl, tanpura, piano, and electronics.
Premiered by Zeelab at the Right Brain Rising festival at ASU.
- Malkaums* (12') for organ and sarod, collaboration with Anupam Shobhakar.
Recorded in the ASU Organ Hall, Tempe.
- 2009 [Otoacoustic Emissions](#) (75') for orchestra, choir, organ, piano, electronics, percussion, fire, incense.
Performed annually until 2019 on Halloween eve, St. Augustine's church, Tempe.
- Sound design and music for the Coraline and Levi's TV ad campaigns, commissioned by Weiden+Kennedy.
- Original music for two experimental films: "Slo-mo Juice", "Zombie's Day Off", Ignominious Productions.
- Living Room Music* (18') for piano, electone organ, and laptop.
Premiered by Zeelab, Phoenix.
- The rate at which the rate of change changes* (12') for 2 pianos.
Premiered by Zeelab, Tempe.
- 2008 *Yesterday's Seven Thousand Years* (75') for 2 organs, percussion, electronics, and 50 voices.
Commissioned by the 12th cent. Sollentuna Kyrka in Stockholm, Sweden, for All-Souls Day.
- Automata II* (12') for flute, percussion, and electronic fractal soundtrack.
Commissioned by ensemble Hesperides XXI, premiered at the Muziekgebouw, Amsterdam.
- [Who Wants a Body Massage?](#) (8') for piano and tenor saxophone.
Premiered at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam.
- Dance of the Kicius* (5') for solo organ; organ and piano; organ, piano, and 2 saxophones.
Premiered at the Waalse Kerk, Amsterdam.
- ...4/6, 5/5, 6/4, ...* (7') for 2 pianos and electronics.
Premiered by Zeelab at Musica Moderna Festival, Academy of Music in Łódź, Poland.
- Chromelodeon* (9') for organ and electronics.
Premiered by Zeelab at Musica Moderna Festival, Academy of Music in Łódź, Poland.
- Automata* (17.5') for 2 pianos and automechanical organ.
Premiered by Zeelab at Musica Moderna Festival, Academy of Music in Łódź, Poland.
- 2007 *Swoops down Outta the Kerk* (15') for 3 organs, electronics, and 12 wind players.
Commissioned by and premiered in the Oude Kerk, Amsterdam.
- 2006 *Automata* (26') for recorder, flute, 2 saxophones, 2 bass clarinets, 2 pianos, 2 electric organs.
Commissioned by recorder player Matthijs Lunenberg. Premiered in the Bachzaal, Amsterdam.
- 2004 *Chamber Suite* (20') for clarinet, bass clarinet, 2 accordions, and Transylvanian tsimbl.
Commissioned by Hillel Jewish Organization, winner of the Joan Frazer Memorial Award.

EDUCATION

- 2009 - 2011 Arizona State University
Masters in music composition, summa cum laude. Composition lessons with Jody Rockmaker, James Demars, and Roshanne Etezady.
- 2006 - 2008 Conservatorium Van Amsterdam, Netherlands
Organ Studies with Jacques van Oortmerssen and Pieter van Dijk, Karnatic Rhythm, Improvisation, Piano with Peter Besseling, Analysis, Keyboard Harmony, Electronic Music with Jos Zwaanenburg.
- 2004 EAMA Summer Music Institute at Ecole Normale de Musique, Paris, France
Composition lessons with Michel Merlet and Philip Lasser, Counterpoint, Keyboard Harmony, Analysis, Chorale, Orchestral Score Reading.
- 2002 - 2004 Arizona State University
BFA in music composition, magna cum laude. Piano lessons with Madeline Williamson.
- 2000 Istituto Michaelangelo, Florence, Italy
Piano lessons with Jane Camilloni, Italian language, history, and culture.
- 1998 - 2000 University of Arizona
Literature, Philosophy

SELECTED PERFORMANCES and CREATIVE PROJECTS

- 2023 Studio recording and live performances of K.S. Sorabji's piano nocturne, [Gulistan](#).
Live performances and video recording of O. Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time*.
- 2019 Directed and performed in the Openscore Ensemble production of Philip Glass' 4-hour opera *Einstein on the Beach* at the Phoenix Art Museum, in collaboration with theatrical and video artists.
Performed monthly new music concerts at monOrchid Gallery in downtown Phoenix.
Death Poems concert at the Kerr Center: piano music by composers on the brink of death (Scriabin, Busoni, Bach, Liszt), interwoven with electroacoustic improvisations with modular synthesizers.
- 2018 Guest Artist at ASU West New Music Concert Series; performed solo recital of composed and improvised music on piano tuned in 13-limit just intonation, and gave lecture on microtonality.
- 2017 Guest Artist at the New Music Series at University of Alaska, Fairbanks; two concerts and microtonality lecture.
Performed concert of Karnatic and Afghan music on piano in just intonation with veena, mridangam, rabab, violin, and tabla; Sampra Karnatic Dance Festival at Mesa Center for Arts.
- 2016 Organized Microtonality concert performing new compositions and music by Nicola Vicentino and James Tenney.
- 2015 *Bach's Labyrinth of Infinitely Curved Lines*, concert featuring performance of E minor Partita by JS Bach with electroacoustic improvisational interludes, Tempe Arts Center, St. Augustine's and Nativity Churches.
- 2014 *Time and Number* concert collaboration with Hindustani/Karnatic/Afghan musicians, Tempe Arts Center.
Charlemagne Palestine's hour-long "Strumming Music" for piano, performed at OME marathon, Mesa Arts Center.
Openscore Ensemble concert featuring the large-scale works of Julius Eastman, PVCC.
- 2013-21 Founder and director of Openscore Ensemble at PVCC, specializing in contemporary classical music (works by Ligeti, Reich, Glass, Eastman, Pärt, and member compositions); performances in venues around Phoenix.
- 2013-17 Frequent performer-lecturer at the ASU Prisms Festival: Microtonality, Minimalisms, Out of Time.
- 2013-17 Frequent performer at Phoenix Experimental Arts Festival (X-Fest), performing works by Stockhausen (Refrain, Originale), Perich (qsqsqsqsqqqq), Kyriakides (Telegraphic), and others.
- 2013/14 Performed *Music for 18 musicians* by Reich with Crossing 32nd Street at Phoenix Art Museum and PVCC.
- 2012 Designed iOS application *Clockwork* for iPhone: users create complex rhythms with a geometrical interface.
Organist for Mozart's Mass in C minor at La Casa de Cristo Lutheran and Scottsdale Bible Church, Scottsdale.
- 2011 Zeelab concert at the Issue Project Room in NY, collaboration with Iktus Percussion Quartet.
Directed the Pangean Orchestra (non-Western instruments) in concert at the AZ International Festival.
- 2010 Performed on tsimbl, accordion, and tanpura in the Pangean Orchestra, Symphony Hall, Phoenix.
Organized the ASU Birthday and Noise Festival flash mob, Tempe.
- 2008 Guest Artist at Musica Moderna Festival in Łódź, Poland. Zeelab concert of new music and composition lecture.
Solo organ recital on the famous Schnitger organ at Sint-Laurenskerk, Alkmaar, Netherlands.
Directed a large ensemble performing La Monte Young's Composition 1960 #7 in de Krijtberg, Amsterdam.
- 2007 Co-founder of Sonido 13, ensemble specializing in electroacoustic improvisations, performing concerts in the Oude Kerk, National Vakbondsmuseum, and Amsterdam Conservatory.
- 2006-8 Founder/director of Strange Loops ensemble; concerts at the Van Gogh Museum and Oude Kerk, Amsterdam.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2001 – present *Director, Conductor, Manager, and Concertizing Artist* in ensembles specializing in improvisation and contemporary classical music. Ensembles include Zeelab, Openscore Ensemble, Integers Are For Counting, Sonido 13, Crossing 32nd Street, Pangean Orchestra, Toch Yiddish choir, Taraf Degrief, Qais and the Qosmonauts, Strange Loops, and other collaborations. Instruments include piano, organ, Transylvanian tsimbl dulcimer, accordion, tanpura, and electronics.
- 2005 – present *Church Organist/Pianist*, performing classical music and improvisations every Sunday, and conducting ensembles at St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church, Tempe, 2008-2018; St. Andreas-Lukas Ziekenhuis Chapel, Amsterdam; St. Augustinus Kerk, Vijfhuizen; First Church of Christ the Scientist, Amsterdam; BergKerk, Amersfoort; Dopsgezindekerk, Wormerveer; St. Odulphuskerk, Assendelft; Vincentiuskerk, Amsterdam, 2006-2008; Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation, AZ, 2005-2006.
- 2013 – present *Professional Organ Tuner*, servicing pipe organs in Tucson and Phoenix. Clients include Grace St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church, All Saints Episcopal Church, Episcopal Church of the Nativity, Pinnacle Presbyterian Church. Trained in organ building and tuning in the Netherlands.

PUBLICATIONS / AWARDS

- 2021 Recipient of [New Music USA Creator Development Fund](#) grant to compose Triple Concerto for Sarod, Modular Synthesizers, Piano, and Orchestra.
- 2011 [Wheels Within Wheels](#), self-published rhythm textbook, sold in 50 countries. It provides tools for performing complex rhythmic phrases and polyrhythmic ratios, especially those found in Western contemporary classical music, Indian classical music and jazz. It is currently used as the textbook for the Advanced Rhythm class at ASU, and it has been adopted for use at McGill University, Montreal and the Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati. More info and videos at www.advancedrhythm.com.
- 2010 Winner of the Gaudeamus Organ Composition Prize for *Hollerin’ in the Orgelpark*, Amsterdam; selected by jury members Helena Tulve (Estonia), Donnacha Dennehy (Ireland), and Roderik de Man (Netherlands). Cash prize plus composition commission performed during Gaudeamus Muziekweek 2011, Amsterdam and Utrecht.
- 2009 - 2011 Scholarships and Teaching Assistant awards from ASU during graduate studies.
- 2004 Winner of the Joan Frazer Memorial Award for composition, Hillel Jewish Organization. Cash prize plus composition commission incorporating Jewish folk music and tsimbl dulcimer.

SOFTWARE PROFICIENCY

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| Finale (music notation) | Midjourney (AI generative art) |
| Reason (synthesizer/sequencer) | Analog Lab (Arturia synthesizers) |
| Adobe Audition (audio editing/mastering) | Google Workspace Suite (productivity) |
| Adobe Photoshop (image editing) | Microsoft Suite (office tools) |
| Da Vinci Resolve (video editing) | Zoom (remote meetings) |
| ZynAddSubFx (synth for alternate tunings) | Screencast (desktop recording) |
| Scala (tool for alternative tunings) | Nodebox (generative design, data visualization) |

REFERENCES

Kimberly Marshall
Professor of Organ at Arizona State University
Email: kimberly.marshall@asu.edu
Phone: 480-965-1227

Yannis Kyriakides
Professor of Composition at Royal Conservatory of The Hague, Netherlands
Email: yannis@kyriakides.com
Phone: +31 70 315 15 15

Christopher Scinto
Division Chair, Fine and Performing Arts at Paradise Valley Community College
Email: christopher.scinto@paradisevalley.edu
Phone: 602-787-6686