

Dr Jonathan Higgins

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Composer of electronic and instrumental music with a strong research portfolio. Extensive experience teaching music in both HE and FE in subject areas ranging from composition and music technology to the history of western music.

Education

- PhD Music Composition** – City, University of London Sep 2017 – May 2022
- Research title: Composing with Noise - utilising noise as a transformative and generative tool for creative sound practice
 - Supervised by Dr Tullis Rennie
 - Funded by the City, University of London Fee Waiver
- MA Sonic Arts** – The University of Sheffield Sep 2015 – Aug 2016
- Received Distinction
 - Funded by the Julian Payne Scholarship, Sheffield Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme and The Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust
- BMus Music** – The University of Sheffield Sep 2012 – Jun 2015
- Received Class One Honours
 - Awarded Philip John Lord composition prize, Mrs Stewart Blake dissertation prize and Pro Vice Chancellors Commendation
- A Level** – The Sixth Form College Farnborough Sep 2010 – Jul 2012
- Music Technology (A), Performing Arts (A), Music (B) and Computing (B)
- GCSE** – St John the Baptist Secondary School, Woking Sep 2008 – Jul 2010
- Received 6 A*, 3 A and 1 B including A* grades in Maths, English and Science

Professional Affiliations

- Associate Fellow** – AdvanceHE (formally HEA) May 2020

Teaching Experience

- Visiting Lecturer** – City, University of London Sep 2018 – Ongoing
- Teaching across both the BMus Music and BSc Music, Sound and Technology courses**
- Revising and designing course structures and assessments
 - Planning and delivering lectures
 - Managing the use of online learning environments to support student learning
 - Providing one-to-one tutorials offering feedback and support
 - Leading reading groups and other group tutorials
 - Marking and moderating a wide range of written and practical assessments
- Module Leader: *Interactivity for Music and Sound*** (Year 2 BSc) Jan 2023 – Jun 2023
- Teaching approaches to creating interactive music using Max MSP
 - Covered advanced areas such as machine learning; integrating JavaScript and Node.js; and 2D and 3D rendering in Jitter
- Module Leader: *Music, Sound and Technology*** (Year 1 BSc) Jan 2023 – Mar 2023
- Introductory first year module covering a diverse range of uses of technology for music and sound creation
 - Covered areas such as: field recording, sound and cinema, noise and ambient music
- Module Leader: *Composition: Studio*** (Years 2 and 3, BMus and BSc) Sep 2021 – Nov 2021 & Jan 2020 – May 2020
- Teaching practical and theoretical approaches to studio composition
 - Delivered practical workshops on creative recording practice using Logic Pro
- Module Leader: *Electronic Dance Music*** (Years 2 and 3, BMus and BSc) Sep 2021 – Nov 2021

- Teaching the development of electronic dance music through its geographic, political and socio-cultural contexts
- Utilised blended teaching combining in person lectures with online seminars

Reading Group Lead: *Western Music in Context* (Year 1, BMus) Sep 2020 – Jun 2022

- Facilitating and encouraging critical conversation between students on set topics relating to the history of western music

Reading Group Lead: *Music, Sound and Technology* (Year 1, BSc) Sep 2020 – Jun 2022

- Facilitating and encouraging critical conversation between students on set topics relating to creative studio practice
- Worked with module leader to develop and update set readings
- Ran short workshops on referencing and research techniques

Co-Module Lead: *Critical Listening* (Year 1, BMus and BSc) Sep 2018 – Dec 2018

- Introductory first-year undergraduate module teaching a broad range of analysis techniques, acoustics, psychoacoustics, and music theory & Dec 2021

Lecturer in Sound – Morley College London May 2022 – Ongoing

Teaching a range of courses at both HE and FE level as well as unaccredited evening courses

- Designing course content and assessments
- Delivering lectures and seminars
- Managing the use of online learning environments to support student learning
- Marking written and practical assessments

Module Leader: *Sound Art* (Unaccredited) May 2022 – Ongoing

- Exploring different approaches to Sound Art including fixed media composition, sound sculpture, soundscapes and live electronics processing

Module Leader: *Mixing and Mastering Techniques* (Year 2 HND & Unaccredited) May 2022 – Ongoing

- Course that develops students from basic mixing techniques to and advanced sound processing and mastering

Module Leader: *Composing for Film and Media* (Year 2 HND & Unaccredited) May 2022 – Ongoing

- Practical course covering composition techniques for film, television and video games

Module Leader: *Sound Design for Film and Media* (Unaccredited) Sep 2023 – Ongoing

- Practical course in sound design covering foley, sound effects and ADR for film, television and video games

Module Leader: *Music and Sound for Film and Media* (HNC) Sep 2022 - Ongoing

- A wide scoped course covering the basic application of music and sound in various forms of contemporary media

Module Leader: *Exploring Sound Materials* (Year 3, BA) Sep 2022 – Jul 2023

- Experimental sound art module for final year degree students resulting in a practical submission

Module Leader: *Creative Software Techniques* (Year 1, HND) Sep 2022 – Jul 2023

- Introductory module for Music Performance students covering basic music technology skills

Module Leader: *Creative Synthesis* (Year 1, HND) Sep 2022 – Jan 2023

- In depth synthesis module for first year Music Production students covering a range of advanced synthesis techniques

Module Leader: *Applied Sound Principles* (Year 1, HND) Jan 2022 – Jul 2023

- Introductory module for first year Music Production students providing an overview of the role of acoustics in music creation

Teacher, A Level Music Technology – Guildford County School Sep 2018 – Aug 2020

- Planned and delivered all teaching on the Music Technology A Level course
- The course covered a broad range of topics including recording, mixing, mastering, composition, digital signal processing, critical listening and music technology history
- Provided support for students with coursework and applications to university

Taught and assisted on the BMus music course

Workshop Leader: Composition (Year 1)

- Led instrumental composition workshops with two first year undergraduate groups
- Workshops focused on students playing each other's compositions and providing group feedback
- Facilitated discussion and provided compositional support offering feedback and guidance on composition and notation

Teaching Assistant: Sound Recording (Years 2 and 3)

- Assisted with set up and recording of practical teaching sessions on the second year Sound Recording module

Additional Work Experience

Application Advisor – City University of London

Sep 2020 – Jan 2021

- Provide one-to-one support to students on job applications, looking at CVs, cover letters and application forms
- Suggest places to research potential job routes and open applications
- Marked coursework essays for the undergraduate Careers and Employability module

& Jan 2022

Manchester Opera Project – Technical Director

May 2014

- Liaised with composers, festival staff and local hire companies to arrange required audio-visual equipment
- Organised, set up and operated sound and lighting equipment

& Apr 2017 – Aug 2017

Intern – Steelworks Recording Studio

Apr 2015 – Jan 2016

- Mixed and edited recordings using Logic Pro X, Pro Tools and Melodyne
- Set up microphones for a variety of different recording sessions
- Produced sampler instruments using Logic Pro X for use in house
- Performed maintenance and troubleshooting on studio equipment

Publications

DAAM (label)	Remix for the upcoming <i>Tactic Faculty</i> release by Polygone	TBC 2023
DAAM (label)	Fixed media composition <i>Coda</i> release on <i>Bivouac of the Avant-Garde: vol 2</i>	Nov 2022
Front & Follow (label)	Fixed media composition <i>a_single_point</i> released on <i>Rental Yields</i> compilation	Nov 2022
Flaming Pines (label)	Album of fixed media compositions titled <i>Good thanks, you?</i> released as a CD and digital download	Oct 2022
Classical Remix (label)	EP titled <i>Sechs kleine Klavierstücke</i> containing remixes of Schoenberg's suite of the same name	Jul 2022
Organised Sound	Paper titled 'More than an instrument: improvising with failing playback media'	Aug 2021
Fractal Meat Cuts (label)	EP titled <i>Bootlegs</i> composed using modified CD players. Released as a limited-edition CD and digital download	Dec 2019
ICMA – Array Journal	Review of concerts at the <i>International Computer Music Conference</i>	Fall 2017

Commissions & Funding

Marchus Trust	Awarded funding in order to record <i>Man in Regent Street</i> and to cover performers fees	May 2021
PRS Foundation	Awarded funding from 'The Open Fund' to compose <i>Man In Regent Street</i> , a new piece for voice, electronics and paper	Jan 2021
Sound and Music	Commissioned as part of 'Interpreting Isolation' Grants from the British Music Collection to compose <i>Wallpaper</i>	Jul 2020
20 21 Concerts	Commissioned to compose a piece for three sopranos, piano and electronics using the text <i>Requiem</i> by Anna Akhmatova	Sep 2017

City, University of London	Awarded PhD Fee Waiver to complete research into methods for utilising noise in the compositional process	Sep 2017
ICMA	Received funding to attend and present a fixed media piece <i>Stratum</i> at the International Computer Music Conference 2016 in Utrecht	Sep 2016
The University of Sheffield	Awarded Julian Payne Scholarship partially funding tuition fees for MA in Sonic Art	Sep 2015
The Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust	Received support partially funding tuition fees for MA in Sonic Art	Sep 2015
The University of Sheffield	Awarded scholarship from the Sheffield Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme supporting living costs during MA in Sonic Art	Sep 2015

Public Broadcasts

Radio Station	Piece(s)	
Resonance Extra DAB, UK	After, Polar, and Before	22 nd Jan 2023
Camp Radio, Online, France	Window	3 rd Dec 2022
Resonance Extra DAB, UK	Polar	22 nd Nov 2022
Camp Radio, Online, France	Reynols	19 th Nov 2022
Camp Radio, Online, France	01, and Slate	31 st Oct 2022
Resonance Extra DAB, UK	Before, Window, and 01	25 th Oct 2022
FBI Radio 94.5 FM, Sydney, Australia	01, and sckt	23 rd Oct 2022
Resonance Extra DAB, UK	Sehr Langsam	8 th Oct 2022
Resonance Extra DAB, UK	Polar	27 th Sep 2022
Resonance Extra DAB, UK	Reynols, and After	21 st Sep 2022
Hollow Earth Radio KHUH 104.9 FM Seattle, USA	sckt	6 th Sep 2022
Camp Radio, Online, France	01	5 th Sep 2022
WFMU 91.1 & 91.9 FM New Jersey and NYC and 90.1 & 91.9 FM Hudson Valley, USA	Reynols	4 th Sep 2022
Colaboradio, 88.4 FM Berlin and 90.7 FM Potsdam, Germany	Slate	31 st Aug 2022
CJMP 90.1 FM, Powell River, Canada	Slate	27 th Aug 2022
Resonance Extra DAB, UK	sckt	31 st Jul 2022
Resonance Extra DAB, UK	[stop]	15 th Jul 2021
BBC Radio 4, UK	Wallpaper	2 nd Sep 2020
BBC Radio 4, UK	Wallpaper	31 st Aug 2020
Foodhall Community Radio Sheffield, Online, UK	Wallpaper	9 th Aug 2020
Radio Thamesmead RTM, London, Online, UK	[stop]	12 th Apr 2020
KEPW 97.3 FM Eugene, Oregon, USA	»	28 th Dec 2019
NTS Radio, Online, UK	[stop]	3 rd Dec 2019
Colaboradio, 88.4 FM Berlin and 90.7 FM Potsdam, Germany	[stop]	20 th Nov 2019
Resonance 104.4 FM and DAB, UK	[stop]	19 th Nov 2019
CJMP 90.1 FM, Powell River, Canada	[stop]	16 th Nov 2019
Resonance 104.4 FM and DAB and Resonance Extra DAB, UK	[stop]	16 th Nov 2019
WTUL 91.5 FM New Orleans, USA	»	15 th Nov 2019
Acoustic Frontiers, CKCU FM 93.1 Ontario, Canada	Fractured	31 st Jul 2017

Performances

Polar (2022) fixed media

- City, University of London 24th May 2022

Squeaky Gates (2021) miniature for orchestra

- Huddersfield Town Hall, Yorkshire, performed by the Orchestra of Opera North 27th Jan 2022

Man in Regent Street (2021) for soprano, live electronics, and paper

- City, University of London, London 15th Nov 2021
- Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, Birmingham 21st Oct 2021
- LABYRINTH Triptych, Alte Muenze, Berlin 15th & 16th Oct 2021
- Final of 7th John Cage Interpretation Award, Halberstadt, Germany 19th Sep 2021
- City Summer Sounds, live stream 10th Jun 2021

Wallpaper (2020) fixed media composition for playback online and via phone hotline

- International Computer Music Conference, Limerick, Ireland 7th Jul 2022
- CMMAS EI Festival Visiones Sonoras, Mexico, Livestream 23rd Sep 2021
- Beast Feast, live stream 22nd Apr 2021
- Phone hotline, 0330 818 0351 Jul 2020 – Dec 2022

Glitch Turntablism (2018 – Ongoing) improvisation utilising modified CD players

- Sonorities, Belfast 9th Apr 2022
- Noise Quest, online live stream 29th Jul 2020
- Sounds Like THIS, Leeds 14th Mar 2020
- Safehouse, The Verdict, Brighton 29th Jan 2020
- Steep 16, The Intimate Space, London 28th Sep 2019
- Constructions 2, TACO, London 24th Aug 2019
- Sonic Electronics, The Others, London 7th Aug 2019
- The Spirit of Gravity, The Rossi Bar, Brighton 1st Aug 2019
- Hatch, Sheffield 20th Jul 2019
- City Summer Sounds, London 20th May 2019
- Liquid Sky, Berlin 11th May 2019
- Splitting the Atom, Green Door Store, Brighton 10th Feb 2019
- Photography Late, Jewish Museum, London 7th Feb 2019
- Wild Within, Guest Projects Hackney, London 28th Jul 2018
- CUEE, Iklectik, London 5th Apr 2018

Vitiation (2019) for classical guitar and live electronics

- Royal Academy of Music, London, performed with Alex Hart 14th Jun 2019

Uncovered Creature (2018) remix of Lilja María Ásmundsdóttir's *Lurking Creature*

- City Summer Sounds, London 7th June 2018

Akai 4000D (2018) fixed media composition for diffusion

- BFE/RMA Research Students Conference, Sheffield 12th Jan 2019
- Sonic Exchange, University of Greenwich, London 2nd Feb 2018

Requiem (2017) song cycle for three sopranos, piano and electronics

- 20 21 Concerts, Pushkin House, London performed with Mimi Doulton, Sian Dicker, Patricia Auchterlonie and Krystal Tunnicliffe 9th Oct 2017

Seethe (2017) fixed media composition for diffusion

- Cities and Memory, Protest and Politics Sound Map, online 7th Aug 2017
- Listening Room, Sonorities Festival, Belfast 17th Apr 2017

Schutzwall (2017) chamber opera for two sopranos and live electronics

- Tête à Tête Festival 2017, RADA Studio Theatre, London, performed with Mimi Doulton and Ella Taylor, set design by Lily German 12th Aug 2017
- Manchester Opera Project, Engine House, Manchester, performed with Mimi Doulton and Ella Taylor, set design by Lily German 19th Jul 2017
- Rough for Opera 15, Cockpit Theatre, London, performed by Mimi Doulton Ella Taylor and Alex Gowan-Webster 7th Mar 2017

Fractured (2016) fixed media composition for diffusion	
- NoiseFloor, Staffordshire University	2 nd May 2017
City of Falling Angels (2016) fixed media remix for diffusion	
- Sounds Like THIS, Leeds	19 th Mar 2017
- Sound Junction, Sheffield	25 th Nov 2016
Torpor (2016) fixed media composition for diffusion	
- Sines and Squares Conference, Manchester	19 th Nov 2016
Stratum (2015) fixed media composition for diffusion	
- International Computer Music Conference, Utrecht	13 th Sep 2016
- Sound Junction, Sheffield	13 th May 2016
Matryoshka (2015) for piano and live electronics	
- Manchester Opera Project, Engine House, Manchester	29 th Jul 2017
- Netherhall House, London, performed by the Edison Ensemble	24 th Feb 2017
- Schott Recital Room, London, performed by the Edison Ensemble	20 th Feb 2016
- Present Tense, Upper Chapel Sheffield, performed by the Edison Ensemble	24 th Oct 2015
- Firth Hall, Sheffield, performed with Jay Platt	21 st May 2015
Inaudible Soundscapes (2015) fixed media composition for diffusion	
- International Computer Music Conference, Texas	28 th Sep 2015
Digital Spaces (2015) fixed media composition for diffusion	
- iFIMPaC, Leeds	10 th Mar 2016
Drum Solo (2014) 4.1 channel fixed media composition for diffusion	
- NoiseFloor, Staffordshire University	30 th Apr 2015
- Metanast, Nexus Art Café, Manchester	22 nd Sep 2014
- International Computer Music Conference, Athens	18 th Sep 2014
- Sound Junction, Sheffield	2 nd Apr 2014

Installations

Dada, Gabsus (2018) binaural time-lapse recorded in the Kuna Yala region, Panama	
- Wild Within, Guest Projects, London	Jul 2018 – Aug 2018
7 miniatures in stereo (2018) fixed media pieces played over small distributed speakers	
- 20 21 Perception, APT Deptford, London	May 2018
Disinter (2016) fixed media composition	
- Viseu Rural 2.0 Exhibition, Casa da Ribeira, Portugal	Nov 2016 – Mar 2017
Untitled Suite (2015) modified self-playing piano and fixed media playback	
- Hallam Tower, Sheffield	Oct 2015
Digital Spaces (2016) fixed media composition	
- The Art of Wandering, 25 Chapel Walk, Sheffield	Jul 2015

Residencies & Affiliations

Wild Plum Arts Residency – The Red House, Aldeburgh	Aug 2020
Sound Hub Associate – London Symphony Orchestra	Oct 2017 – Oct 2019
La Wayaka Current Residency – Kuna Yala Region, Panama	Apr 2017 – May 2017
Composer in Residence – Furnace Park Project, Sheffield	Dec 2014 – Aug 2015

Prizes

Opera North, Minute Masterpieces – <i>Squeaky Gates</i> selected as a winner	Oct 2021
Jury Award – Binaural/Nodar Viseu Rural 2.0 Electroacoustic Music Competition for <i>Disinter</i>	Nov 2016
Philip John Lord Prize – The University of Sheffield for highest overall mark in composition	Jun 2015
Mrs Stewart Blake Prize – The University of Sheffield for highest overall mark in dissertation	Jun 2015
Runners Up Prize – USSS Electroacoustic Competition for <i>Fragments</i>	Nov 2014
Shortlisted – Nonclassical 10 Remix Contest for <i>Neiderau (Remix)</i>	Oct 2014

Software & Technical Skills

Audio

Proficient:

- Reaper, Logic Pro X, Pure Data, Max Msp, Ableton Live, Max for Live, Composers Desktop Project, Izotope RX, MuseScore

Familiar:

- Pro Tools, Cubase, The Ambisonic Toolkit, Melodyne, Supercollider, Sonic Visualiser

Other

Proficient:

- Mac OSX, Windows, Ubuntu, Photoshop, Microsoft Office, Latex, DaVinci Resolve, Git

Familiar:

- Debian Linux, Final Cut Pro, KiCad, LTSpice, Arduino IDE, Python