

## Emily Doolittle - Composer - Curriculum Vitae

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Citizenship: Dual U.S./Canada

### Education:

Princeton University, Ph.D. in composition, 2007; composition studies with Barbara White, Steve Mackey, Paul Lansky, Peter Westergaard, Paul Koonce, Judith Weir, Steve Everett; oboe with Matt Sullivan  
Dissertation title: *Other Species' Counterpoint: An Investigation of the Relationship Between Human Music and Animal Songs*  
Dissertation advisors: Barbara White and Scott Burnham  
Koninklijk Conservatorium (the Hague, Netherlands); post-graduate studies in composition, 1997-99; composition studies with Louis Andriessen. Martijn Padding  
Indiana University, M.Mus. in composition, 1995-97 (received 1999), composition studies with Don Freund; minor in music theory  
Dalhousie University, B.Mus. in composition and theory, 1995, composition studies with Dennis Farrell, Steve Tittle; oboe with Suzanne Lemieux  
Visiting student: University of Helsinki (fall, 2002); Harid Conservatory (1992-93)

### Employment:

#### Current Employment:

Freelance composer:

- I've been supporting myself as a freelance composer since 2004.
- In the past year I've received commissions and grants from the Canada Council; the Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Quebec; the Conseil des Arts de Montréal.
- In the past two years I've had performances by Orchestre Métropolitain du Grand Montréal; Talespin (Austria); Meduse (Canada); New Millenium Ensemble; Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal; Esprit Orchestra (ON); Albany Symphony; Alizé (QC); Pamela Reimer (piano, QC); Rachel Iwaasa (piano, BC); Janice Jackson (soprano, NS); Patrician Green (soprano, ON); Emily Eagen (NY/Holland) and others.

### Teaching:

Private teacher of theory, composition, piano, oboe, part-time, 1990-present

Princeton University, Teaching Assistant, 2000-02

Courses taught: undergraduate theory, harmony, ear training; music appreciation

The British School in the Netherlands, 1998-99

Courses taught: music theory, ear training, analysis (A level and International Baccalaureate programs)

Indiana University, Associate Instructor, 1995-97

Courses taught: undergraduate theory, harmony, counterpoint, ear training; honors theory

Oboe Instructor, Maritime Conservatory of Music, 1991-92, 1993-95

Guest clinician, various

Composition workshops and masterclasses at Alliance for Canadian New Music Projects (Ottawa, 2007);

Projekt Savremene Muzike (Mostar, Bosnia, 2004, 05, 06); University of Puget Sound (2006)

### Research Interests:

**Music and Nature:** The relationship between bird, whale, and other animal songs and human music; Evolutionary origins of human music.

**Interdisciplinary dialogue and collaboration:** Music and storytelling; Music and science; Music and visual arts.

**Community:** Community music-making; Music/art and political activism.

**New Music Education:** Introducing "new music" to children and non-musicians; Composing for children.

**Other Employment and Administrative Experience:**

Assistant Artistic Director (volunteer position), Projekt Savremene Muzike, Bosnia, September, 2004-present  
Assisting in the development of a new music festival in Mostar, Bosnia. Presenting free new music concerts. Running free composition and improvisation workshops for children. Coordinating donations of instruments for the conservatories in Mostar. Fund-raising to assist the music teachers there.

Music-Makers Residency, Banff Arts Centre, February-March 2005  
Collaboratively developed an hour-long music/theatre work introducing children to classical music. Toured this work to 19 schools across Alberta.

Young Artist Coordinator, Scotia Festival of Music, May-June 2005, part-time 1994-97  
Organized student chamber music program. Formed ensembles, chose repertoire, programmed concerts.

Organizer (unpaid), Concert Tot en Met, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1997-99  
In collaboration with other young composers, presented 5-7 concerts per year. Concert Tot en Met continued until 2004.

Assistant Administrator, Ecoles d'Art Américains, Fontainebleau, France, summers 1996-99  
Assisted in organizing student program.

Accompanist, Halifax Unitarian Church, 1988-92

**Recognition:****Awards, Fellowships, and Honours:**

Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Quebec/Centre for Contemporary Arts, 3 month residency at the CCA, Glasgow (Scotland), (2007)

Finalist, Prix Opus for . . . *and some fireworks*, Création de l'année (premiere of the year), Conseil québécois de la musique (2006/07)

ASCAP Standard Awards (2000-2007)

Canada Council Development Grant to write 20 short piano pieces for children (2005)

Canada Council Travel Grant to participate in Banff Winter Residency (2005)

Nova Scotia Arts Council Professional Development Grants (2004, 1999-2000)

Kappa Kappa Gamma Foundation of Canada Award for Graduate Women (2003)

Composer-in-residence for Oregon East Symphony (2002-2003)

Naumberg Fellowship, Princeton University (1999-2000, 2002-2003)

Roger Sessions Fellowship, Princeton University (2000-02)

Composer-in-residence at Scotia Festival of Music (May 27-June 10, 2001)

ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composers Awards (2001, 2000)

Generation 2000 project, Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal (1999-2000)

Nova Scotia Talent Trust Awards (1998-99, 1995, 1992-93)

Fulbright Scholarship to study in Amsterdam with Louis Andriessen (1997-98)

Joseph H. Bearns Prize (Columbia University) for "Weather Songs" (1997)

Full teaching assistantship at Indiana University (1995-97)

Dalhousie University Medal in Music (1995)

Dalhousie Alumnae Association Music Award (1995)

**Selected Commissions and Performances:**

**social sounds from whales at night** (2007); for soprano and tape; Canada Council commission for Helen Pridmore

**and some fireworks** (2007); Conseil des Arts de Montréal commission for Orchestre Métropolitain du Grand Montréal (2006/2007); 7 performances (Montreal)

**20 piano pieces for children** (2006); written with the support of a Canada Council Development Grant (performances in Canada, USA, Bosnia)

**Why the parrot repeats human words** (2005); for narrator, clarinet, viola and percussion; Canada Council commission for Meduse; 11 performances (Canada, England, Vienna)

**Le loup, la chèvre, et le chevreau** (2005); for soprano, tenor, 8 flutes and cello; Nova Scotia Arts Council commission for Ensemble Alizé, Montreal; 2 performances (Montreal)

**Go Down, Moses** (2005); commissioned by the Albany Symphony; 3 performances (USA)

**all spring** (2004); for soprano, flute, clarinet, violin, bass and percussion; Canada Council commission for Motion Ensemble; 15 performances (Canada, USA)

**green/blue** (2003); commissioned by the Oregon East Symphony; 3 performances (USA)  
**music for magpies** (2003); for viola da gamba with quarter-tone frets; for Karin Preslmayr; 3 performances (Netherlands, Canada)  
**col** (2002); for violin and marimba; Netherland-America Foundation commission for for Entropy duo (2002); 5 performances (Canada, USA)  
**Child's Play** (2002); for soprano and piano; Nova Scotia Arts Council Creation Grant for Janice Jackson and Eve Egoyan (2002); 9 performances (Canada, China)  
**minute etudes, book II** (2002); for solo piano; commissioned by Ben Binder; 9 performances (Canada, USA, Bosnia)  
**Dance** (2001); FIRST MUSIC commission for the New York Youth Symphony; 2 performances (USA)  
**green notes** (2001); Canada Council commission for Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra; 1 performance  
**Virelais** (2001); for soprano and viola da gamba; Nova Scotia Arts Council Creation Grant for "Virelais" for Janice Jackson and Thomas Georgi; 8 performances (Canada, USA, England, Germany)  
**four pieces about water** (2000); for 9 instruments; Ensemble Contemporain de Montreal, "Four Pieces About Water" (2000); 15 performances (Canada, USA)  
**night black bird song** (1999); for 2 piccolos/flute and 3 percussion; SCI/ASCAP commission for "night black bird song" for New York University New Music Ensemble; 5 performances  
**Airs of Men Long Dead** (1999); for mezzo-soprano and piano; for Patricia Green; 10 performances (Canada, USA, Bosnia, Netherlands)  
**minute etudes, book II** (1998); for solo piano; for Ruth Rose; 29 performances (Canada, USA, France, Bosnia, Netherlands, Finland, Australia)

#### **Residencies:**

Blue Mountain Center (June/July, 2006, September, 2002)  
 Ucross Foundation (March, 2006)  
 Banff Centre for the Arts, Long-Term Residency (winter 2005); Short-Term Residency (July, 2001)  
 MacDowell Colony (fall 2004)  
 Banff Centre for the Arts, Leighton Studios Residency (2002, 2001, 2000)

#### **Short courses and workshops:**

National Arts Centre Young Composers Program (one of 5 young Canadian composers selected) (2005)  
 Soundstreams/David Earle Composer/Choreographer Workshop (May, 2004)  
 Generation 2000, Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal (one of 5 young Canadian composers selected) (2000)  
 International Young Composers Conference (Apeldoorn, Holland, 1999)  
 R. Murray Schafer's "Environmental Music Week" (1993)

#### **Publications and Recordings:**

##### **Recordings:**

"Airs of Men Long Dead", *The Ice Age and Beyond*, Patricia Green, Blue-Griffin Recording and CMC, to be released February 2008  
 "Weather Songs", Concertzender Live 02 CD *Dutch New Music*, Muziekgroep Nederland, 2004  
 "night black bird song", Society of Composers, Inc. CD *Milestones*, Capstone Records, 2002

##### **Publications:**

"I Am", 19 Piano Pieces for Children, published by Oceanna Music, 2007  
 "Turning," published in Northern Lights Level 2B, Canadian National Conservatory of Music, 2007

##### **Publications Accepted:**

"Crickets in the Concert Hall", *TRANS: Transcultural Music Review* special edition on Zoomusicology, edited Dario Martinelli, upcoming June, 2008

##### **Publications in Preparation:**

Analysis of hermit thrush song from a musical point of view, in collaboration with Dr. Tecumseh Fitch, St. Andrews University  
 Analysis of musician wren song from a musical point of view, in collaboration with Dr. Henrik Brumm, Max Planck Institute for Ornithology  
 Solicited article on "zoomusicology" for special zoosemiotics edition of *Sign System Studies*, edited by Dario Martinelli

**Public Presentations:****Refereed Papers:**

Canadian University Music Society Conference, Vancouver, upcoming June 2008  
Harvard Graduate Symposium, "The Whole World Sings", 2004  
McGill Graduate Musicology Symposium, "Other Species' Counterpoint", 2004  
PCPC (Cornell University), "Other Species' Counterpoint", 2004

**Guest Lectures and Invited Presentations:**

McGill University, invited lecturer on animal songs and on my music, (anthropology and musicology), 2007  
English Language Arts Network, Montreal, invited panelist on successful grant writing, 2007  
St. Andrews University, presentation at weekly Acoustic Communication study group, 2007  
Orchestre Métropolitain du Grand Montréal, pre-concert talks about my music (in French), 2007  
University of Puget Sound, invited speaker on animal songs and on my music, 2006  
Conservatoire de Montréal, presentation on animal songs and on my music (composition seminar) 2004

**Interviews:**

CBC Ideas (Canada-wide public radio broadcast), *The Secret Voice of Nature*, interviewed about animal songs and music by George Tombs, 2007  
CKUT (Montreal), *Free Radicals: Science and Culture*, interviewed about animal songs and music and my own compositions by Robyn Fadden, 2007

**Performance Experience:**

**Oboe:** I have had extensive experience playing in youth, university, and semi-professional orchestras and chamber ensembles. Though a career as a professional oboist is not my goal, I perform as time allows. Recent projects have included playing with a klezmer band, recording several tracks for an indie-rock CD (Dave Martel, Montreal), and playing on a concert and CBC broadcast at Scotia Festival (2005).

**Piano:** Since I was 14, I've worked on and off as an accompanist at various churches, as well as occasionally accompanying singers and instrumentalists. More recently, I've been playing traditional Cape Breton piano.

**Choral:** I have had extensive experience singing in youth and professional choirs, including the San Francisco Girls Chorus, the Nova Scotia Provincial Youth Choir and Koor Nieuwe Muziek (Amsterdam's New Music Choir).

**Violin:** I am active as an amateur fiddler: I've studied and played Scottish, Cape Breton, Quebec, Appalachian, Afghan, and Klezmer music. Though I am not "professional" level, playing fiddle gives me access to a number of music-making cultures quite different from that of the classical musical world in which I am primarily trained.

**Other:** Since 1993 I have been a member of R. Murray Schafer's collaborative composition project "And Wolf Shall Inherit the Moon." The members of this project meet throughout the year and for a week every summer to work together on creating a non-traditional music/dance/theatre work. My participation has included writing and performing music, and acting in various dramatic presentations.

**Community Service:**

Conseil d'Administration (Administrative Council), Les Artistes Pour la Paix, since 2004  
Jury Member, Canada Council Commissioning panel, 2005

**References:**

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