

**Larisa K. Montanaro**  
**Singer, Educator, Composer**  
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**EDUCATION**

**The University of Texas, Austin, Texas**

D.M.A. in Voice Performance, 2004

Dissertation: "A Singer's Guide to Performing Works for Voice and Electronics"

**The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas**

M.M. in Voice Performance, 1996

**State University of New York at Potsdam, Potsdam, New York**

B.M. in Musical Studies, 1994

Thesis: "The History and Development of Electronic Music: An Outline"

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Studio Voice, Austin, Texas, 1996-present**

- Teach individual voice lessons to classical and commercial singers

**Certified "Music Together" Teacher, Armstrong Community Music School, Austin, Texas, 2005 – present**

- Teach music and movement to children under the age of five and their parents
- Also provide general music instruction as needed (i.e. outreach programs for 6-12 year olds)

**Private Voice Instructor for Crockett High School, Austin Independent School District (Texas), 2006 - present**

- Maintain a studio of 11 students
- Prepare students for District, Regional and Statewide Competitions, talent shows and musicals

**Guest Lecturer, Clinton Community College, Plattsburgh, New York, 2003 - present**

- Teach chapter on electronic music for an online Music Appreciation course for S.U.N.Y.
- Prepare listening examples, write lecture for topic, participate in online discussions

**Vocal Arts Lab/Research Assistant at The University of Texas at Austin, 1999 – present**

- Maintain the Vocal Arts Lab and equipment
- Conduct community outreach workshops for visiting high school and college students and classes, Austin Lyric Opera artists, and members of the community
- Assist professor with voice pedagogy class, **Techniques of Vocal Performance**
- Assist professor in creating a new course, **Technology in Applied Voice Study**
- Research and purchase new equipment and resources as needed
- Create help sheets, tutorials, and worksheets to aid others in the use of equipment
- Have working knowledge of recording techniques (video and audio)
- Conduct research into areas related to voice and technology
- Assist professor with grant writing related to the lab
- Assist in production of series of CD-ROM's directed at speech and singing in collaboration with the Department of Theater and Dance
- Assist in creation of Texasings website. This website is devoted to teaching beginning singers about the voice. Topics include: care of the voice, resources, the singing self, and the physics of sound.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE (continued)**

**Guest Lecturer**, State University of New York, Potsdam, 2005

- Gave open-forum lecture on singing modern music, working with electronics, and composing for electronics and voice (as part of guest artist series)

**Private Voice Instructor** for Leander Independent School District (Texas), 2002 – 2003

- Maintain a studio of 25 students
- Prepare students for District, Regional and Statewide Competitions
  - Prepare students for school talent shows and musicals

**Guest Lecturer**, University of Texas at Austin, Multi-disciplinary course in Convergent Media, 2000 & 2002

- Taught audio technology to engineers, digital artists, dancers, and musicians
- Specifically covered video tracking systems, MAX/MSP programming, Pro-Tools, Final Cut Pro, and various digital signal processing programs

**Guest Lecturer**, Society of Composers, Inc. Regional Conference, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 2001

- **Composing for the Voice: Standard and Extended Techniques**

**Guest Artist**, AuSable Valley Central School, Clintonville, New York, 2001

- Coached and conducted middle school and high school choirs

**Guest Lecturer**, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, Ohio, 2000

- **Composing for the Voice: Standard and Extended Techniques**

**Teaching Assistant**, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, 1996-1998

- Taught **Voice Lessons** to undergraduate voice students and non-major voice students

## **RESEARCH**

**Posture and the Effectiveness of the Alexander Technique for Singing**, 2006

- currently studying our video and audio data for a future article

**"The Female Approach: A Comparison of Formant Structure through the Soprano's Passaggio"**, 2005

- co-authored with Professor Darlene Wiley, University of Texas at Austin

**"Some Thoughts on Tonal Image"**, 2005

- co-authored with Professor Darlene Wiley, University of Texas at Austin
- article to be published in the Nov/Dec. issue of the Journal of Voice

## **MASTERCLASSES & WORKSHOPS**

- **Paul Sperry Masterclass in modern music**, Austin, Texas, 2000
- **"Techne and Eros" Workshop**, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 1999 (composition) with Artists in Residence: Morton Subotnick, Joan LaBarbara, Woody Vasulka, Steina Vasulka, Jim Crutchfield, and David Dunn
- **Early Music Workshop with Laurie Stras and Richard Wistreich**, Austin, Texas, 1999
- **Morton Subotnick Masterclass**, Austin, Texas, 1998 (composition)
- **Private Lesson with Joan LaBarbara**, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 1998

## PERFORMING EXPERIENCE

### **Commercial Vocalist**

- Lead/Back-up singer for several Austin bands, including The Dime Store Poets (folk/pop), The Rust Tones (R&B/Roots music), Walter Tragert (pop/soul), The Michael Clay Band (country; no longer a member), Watchband (cover band), Larisa Montanaro Jazz Trio; since 2002
- Lead and Back-up vocalist for studio work (Top Hat Studios, The Aerie, Merel Bregante's studio, ASM Studio, Alta Vista, Rootball Studio, Ady Hernandez' studio); since 2003

### **Specialist in Modern/Contemporary Music**

- Credited with premiering the works of over 14 living composers, 1993-present
- Dozens of pieces of modern art music performed, since 1992

**Regular Soloist with the Texas Early Music Project**, Austin, Texas, under the direction of Daniel Johnson, since 1996

**Soloist with St. Mary's Cathedral**, Austin, Texas, under the direction of Jeffrey Jones-Ragona, fall 2001 (substituting for regular soloist while she was out of the country); continue to act as substitute when needed

**Soloist with New Music Ensemble**, University of Texas at Austin, under the direction of Dan Welcher, since 1994 (including performances for guest composers, Michael Torke and Jean-Claude Risset)

## AWARDS & RECORDINGS

- The Rust Tones, **Tales from the Bar**, 2006 (recorded by Ady Hernandez)
- Brandon Jenkins, **VII**, 2006 (vocals recorded at Top Hat Studios)
- The Dime Store Poets, **Electric Rhymes**, 2005 (produced by Gurf Morlix)
- The Dime Store Poets, **Any Color That You Please**, 2004 (produced by Chet Himes and Billy Mutschler)
- **Mood Shifts** (released by Capstone Records), "Hollow Ground II", by Tom Lopez
- **First prize** in the Russolo Foundation's 24th International Competition of Electroacoustic Music Russolo, 2002, for composition "Inside the Ride" (Italy)
- **Honorable Mention** in the 27th International Electroacoustic Music and Sonic Art Competition at Bourges in the category of music for dance, 2000, for composition "Walking" (France)
- **Music from SEAMUS, Volume 7**, "Hollow Ground II", by Tom Lopez

## SELECTED PERFORMANCES

**PERFORMANCES TOO NUMEROUS TO COUNT THROUGHOUT AUSTIN'S CLUB SCENE**, Including shows at **The Saxon Pub**, **Threadgills**, **Broken Spoke**, **B.D. Riley's**, **Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo**, **Momo's**, Private Parties, Country Clubs, Fundraisers, and House Concerts. 2002-present.

**MENDING THE CIRCLE**, by Paul Steinberg, a piece for voice and electronic tape, State University of New York at Postdam, December 2005; and at the Society for Composers, Inc. National Conference, San Antonio, September 2006.

**PROJECT AURORA: INCANDESCENCE**, an interactive dance, music, and video work choreographed and performed by Charlotte Craff and Shelley Hardin with an interactive video component by Wei Yei, and music by Larisa Montanaro, April 2005 (music commissioned by the Aurora Project)

**QUESTIONS OF TRAVEL**, by Leslie Hogan, performed by Larisa Montanaro and the UT New Music Ensemble, University of Texas at Austin, 2004 (premiere with composer present)

**INVISIBLE**, by Jean-Claude Risset, for voice and tape, UT at Austin, 2003 (with composer present)

**TRANSMIGRATION OF ANGELS**, performed and composed by Larisa Montanaro, commissioned by choreographer, Laura Cannon, Austin, TX, 2003 (premiere)

**SELECTED PERFORMANCES (continued)**

**RECITAL OF MODERN MUSIC**, Featuring works by John Corigliano, Neil Flory, Kristi McGarity, and George Crumb, 2002

**MADRIGALS, BOOK II**, by George Crumb, at the National Flute Convention, Washington D.C., 2002

**LAUGHTER, FEAR, AND POSSIBLY RAGE**, Interactive Media Installation, co-created with video artist Alicia Berger, Commencement Art Gallery, Tacoma, WA, 2001 (premiere)

**AUTOMATED BODY PROJECT**, performed and composed by Larisa Montanaro, commissioned by Sharir + Bustamante Danceworks, Austin, TX, 2001 (premiere)

**FOUR PROVERBS**, by Michael Torke, New Music Ensemble, University of Texas at Austin, 2001 (with composer present)

**CURRENTS AND STREAMS**, by Tom Lopez, Salt Lake City Dance Repertory Theater, Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center, Salt Lake City, UT, 2001 (premiere)

**D-U-O-S**, performed and composed by Larisa Montanaro, commissioned by Sharir + Bustamante Danceworks, Austin, TX, 1998 (premiere)

**REFERENCES**

1. Darlene Wiley, Professor of Voice and Director of Vocal Arts Lab, University of Texas at Austin
  - dwiley@mail.utexas.edu
  - 512-471-0745
2. Rose Taylor, Professor of Voice, University of Texas at Austin
  - rtaylor@mail.utexas.edu
  - 512-471-0746
3. Dan Welcher, Professor of Composition, University of Texas at Austin
  - dwelcher@mail.utexas.edu
  - 512-471-0943