

Stanford



Nicholas Virzi

Lecturer

Stanford Introductory Studies

Bio

BIO

Dr. Nick Virzi (b. 1991) is a composer from New York City living in the San Francisco Bay Area, California. His recent work explores the mystical nature of music through imagistic representation, orchestration of complex numerical systems, and use of original natural sound recordings. In addition to composing, Nick is a field recording artist, electric guitarist, conductor, researcher, and educator. He also hosts the international composer interview series *Composer OverTime*.

Nick's music has been performed throughout the USA and internationally by established artists such as cellist Séverine Ballon (France), soprano Tony Arnold, the Los Angeles Percussion Quartet, the JACK Quartet, the Spektral Quartet, Splinter Reeds, Quince Contemporary Vocal Ensemble, Ensemble Liminar (Mexico), Distractfold (United Kingdom), the Ekmeles Vocal Ensemble, the TAK Ensemble, and Ensemble Dal Niente. His work has been featured at such venues as the Juilliard School at Lincoln Center, the Center for New Music in San Francisco, and the Royal Academy of Music in Aarhus, Denmark. His recent commissions include a new work for *Line Upon Line Percussion* from the Novalis Music and Art Festival, along with artist residencies at the Kopa#ki Rit Nature Preserve in Osijek, Croatia.

He has participated in such international festivals as *Gaudeamus Muziekweek* (The Netherlands), and *Impuls* (Austria), and *New Music on the Bayou* (Louisiana), including fellowships granted by the *Imani Winds Chamber Music Festival* (New York City), the *Cortona Sessions for New Music* (Italy), the *soundSCAPE Composition and Performance Exchange* (Italy), and the *New Music for Strings Festival* (Denmark). He has presented his work at the *Conrad Prebys Music Center* at UC San Diego, the *Center for New Music and Audio Technologies (CNMAT)* at UC Berkeley, the *College of Creative Studies* at UC Santa Barbara, as well as the *American Beethoven Society* at San Jose# State University, the *California Interdisciplinary Consortium of Italian Studies (CICIS)* at the *Italy's Centers and Peripheries Conference* hosted by Stanford University, and the *Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States (SEAMUS)* at the *SEAMUS 2021 Virtual National Conference*.

As a field recording artist specializing in natural sound, Nick has held artist and research residencies at wilderness locations throughout California, such as the *Sagehen Creek Field Station* in Sagehen Experimental Forest, the *Landels-Hill Big Creek Reserve* in Big Sur, and the *Poto Festival* in Grass Valley. He has presented his research in soundscape ecology and bioacoustics at NYU's *Steinhardt School* as part of the *Precarious Sounds/Sounding Sanctuary Conference* (New York City), *The Catholic University of America* at the *Eleventh International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts and Responses* (Washington, D.C.), and the *Centro Cultural Vila Flor* at the *Ninth International Conference on the Constructed Environment* (Guimarães, Portugal).

Dr. Virzi is currently a Lecturer in the Department of Music and H&S Dean's Fellow at Stanford University. His research is based at the *Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA)* and *Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve*. He completed his D.M.A. in Music Composition at Stanford University, where he studied

with Mark Applebaum and Brian Ferneyhough. He also completed his B.M. at the SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Music, where he studied with Du Yun, Huang Ruo, Laura Kaminsky, and Suzanne Farrin.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Lecturer, Stanford Introductory Studies

HONORS AND AWARDS

- H&S Dean's Fellow, School of Humanities and Sciences (2021-22)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- D.M.A., Stanford University , Music Composition (2019)
- B.M., SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Music , Music Composition (2014)

Teaching

COURSES

2021-22

- "sic": Improvisation Collective: MUSIC 156 (Win)
- "sic": Improvisation Collective: MUSIC 156Z (Win)
- Electronic Music Composition: MUSIC 123E (Spr)
- Introduction to Creating Electronic Sounds: MUSIC 101 (Win)
- Undergraduate Seminar in Composition: Pitch Design: MUSIC 123B (Spr)
- Undergraduate Seminar in Composition: Rhythmic Design: MUSIC 123A (Win)
- Wild Sound Explorers: MUSIC 16AX (Sum)
- Wild Sound Explorers: MUSIC 223 (Spr)

2020-21

- Wild Sound Explorers: MUSIC 16AX (Sum)