

# Daniel Reza Sabzghabaei (دانیال رضا سبزقباہی)

## Composer/Vocalist(ASCAP)

### Education

- (2017-) – (DMA) Doctoral student, Sage Fellow, and TA at Cornell University, studying with Roberto Sierra, Marianthi Papalexandri-Alexandri, and Kevin Ernste.
- (2017) – (MM) The Peabody Conservatory of The Johns Hopkins University: composition.
  - Inducted into the *Epsilon Omicron Chapter of Pi Kappa Lambda* by the Peabody faculty.
- (2014) – (BM) University of North Texas: composition, minor in theory.
  - Graduated *summa cum laude* as a Distinguished Honors Scholar.
- Past composition teachers have included: Kevin Puts, Panayiotis Kokoras, Joseph Klein, William Coble, Kirsten Broberg, and Andrew May.
  - Master classes from: Hans Thomalla, Bright Sheng, Judith Weir, Tarik O'Regan, Christopher Rouse, James MacMillan, Yehudi Wyner, Elaine Lillios, Joseph Waters, and Adam Gorb.
- Voice teachers have included: Lucy Fitz Gibbon, Jeffrey Snider, Stephen Morscheck, Stephen Austin, and Wei-Shu Tsai.

### Prizes, Awards, and Honors

- (2019) – **Boston Choral Ensemble Commission Competition** (Honorable Mention)
- (2019) – **Lake George Music Festival Composition Competition** (finalist)
- (2019) – **ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Award** (finalist)
- (2019) – Selected as **Emerging Artist** by the **Eurasia Festival**
- (2018) – **Banff Centre Residency – Choral Arts 2019** with **Pro Coro Canada**
- (2018) – **Cornell Council for the Arts – Biennial Award** for new work with **Int'l Contemporary Ensemble**
- (2018) – **Beth Morrison Projects: Next Generation Composer Fellow**
- (2017) – **VocalEssence ReMix Emerging Composer Fellow**
- (2017) – **P. Bruce Blair Award in Composition** from the Peabody Conservatory
- (2017) – **Composer Fellow** for **The Intimacy of Creativity [IC2017]** coordinated by **Bright Sheng**
- (2016) – **Winner** of The Esoterics' **POLYPHONOS 2017 Award (National Composer)**
- (2016) – **Composer-in-Residence** for the **ICOn Arts Academy – Sibiu 2016**
- (2016) – **First Prize Winner** of the **Prix d'Été XX (2015-2016)** for his piece *Four Short Dreams*.
- (2016) – **Composer and Vocal Fellow** for the **2016 Oregon Bach Festival Composers Symposium**
- (2016) – **Finalist ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Award** for his piece *Hāl: Chahārgāh*
- (2016) – **Awarded an Internship in Production** at the **2016 Ojai Musical Festival**
- (2016) – **One of four winners** in *Magpies and Ravens'* **2016 LINEAGE** program
- (2014) – **Second Prize Winner** of the **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Busan Choral International Composition Competition**
- (2014) – **Finalist** in **Chanticleer's International Student Composer Competition**
- (2014) – **Finalist** in the **2014 SCI/ASCAP Commission Competition**
- (2014) – **One of six winners** in the **2014 Cambiata Composition Initiative**
- (2014) – **Second Place Winner** of the **2014 Texas Young Composers Competition**
- (2012) – **Finalist** in the **2012 MIDI Jamz On Ice International Competition** with his piece *Obsession*.

### Selected Performances and Premieres

#### **2019**

- *...under this blue of my land (full set)*, commissioned by **Maria Lambros, Peabody Conservatory, and Our Joyful Noise Baltimore**, to be premiered by **Ledah Finck and Emma Nicholson** Nov 7–9 at various locations around Baltimore.

- *At any rate – I. All The Lonely People* performed July 6 by **TACETi ensemble** at the **Thailand New Music and Art Symposium 2019**.
- *May 29 – June 29* performed June 30, 2019 at the **VI Encontro Internacional de Cordas** in Limeira, Brazil by festival faculty and participants.
- *The Seduction of Honorius* presented by **Hartford Opera Theatre** on Mar 31 and June 1 at the Hartt School; performed by Janelle Robinson (mezzo) and Blake Hansen (pno).
- *گرانش بارد به پیکرم (Hommage à Khāleqī)*, commissioned and premiered by the **Cornell University Wind Ensemble**, May 5, 2019 at Bailey Hall (Daniel Sabzghabaei, cond.).
- *Technobabble IV* premiered by **TAK ensemble** April 25, 2019 at Cornell University.
- *Hasteh (هسته)* “Core” premiered Mar. 23, 2019 by the Festival Chamber Orchestra at Cornell University (James Spinazzola, cond.)
- *Zemestūn* performed Mar. 2, 2019 at the **Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity** by **Pro Coro Canada** (Pinar Çanakçı, cond.).
- *At the Door*, commissioned by the **New York Festival of Song** in 2017 for their NEXT concert series reprised on the NYFOS Mainstage series, 20 Feb 2018 at the **Kaufmann Music Center** inside of **Merkin Concert Hall**; Amy Owens (sopr), Jesse Blumberg (bari), Leann Osterkamp (pno).
- *Ode to Ābādān* premiered at the **Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity** by **Pro Coro Canada** (Netta Spiegel cond.) Feb. 15, 2019; performed again Feb. 29 2019 as part of PCC’s main concert season “Sound of Dragonflies Series: Moonshot I” at All Saints’ Anglican Cathedral in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada (Michael Zaugg, cond.)

## 2018

- *Dinner for Three*, a new work for the **International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE)**, premiered 4 Dec 2018 at the Schwartz Center as part of the **Cornell Council for the Arts 2018 Biennial**.
- *Hāl – Chahārgāh* featured at the **Moab Music Festival** by violinist and New England Conservatory faculty **Ayano Ninomiya**, September 2018.
- *Father Mapple’s Whaling Hymn* premiered by the College of Central Florida Men’s Chorus.
- *ThruDimension* featured at the **SCI National Student Conference** at Indiana University, performed by the **IU Symphonic Band (Eric Smedley, cond.)**, September 2018.
- *Zemestūn*, new commission from **VocalEssence**, premiered at **ICEhouse** in Minneapolis, March 19.
- *Two Reflections on the Belovèd* performed at **National Sawdust** by **Contemporaneous (David Bloom, cond.)** and soprano **Amal El-Shrafi** as part of **Beth Morrision Projects: Next Generation** initiative, March 17, 2018
- *At any rate – I. ATLP* premiered by the **[Switch~ Ensemble]** at Cornell University, March 1.
- *Delbaré* performed by Edinburgh-based chorus **Voces Inauditae** February 17.

## 2017

- **University of Oregon’s Sospiro** premiered *If I can stop one heart from breaking*, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>.
- *At the Door* commissioned and premiered by the **New York Festival of Song (NYFOS)** for their **Next concert series**, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, featuring soprano **Amy Owens**, baritone **Jesse Blumberg**, and pianist **Leann Osterkamp**.
- *Yaldā* premiered by **The Astoria Choir** and trumpeter **Michael Sinicropi** in Queens, December 9<sup>th</sup>.
- *Upon Viewing a Family in Mourning* featured at the **SCI Snapshot Conference** at **Butler University**.
- *Golī az dast beraft* commissioned and premiered by Minnesota’s **VocalEssence** at **Minnesota ACDA**
- New commission, *The Blue Booby*, from **The Esoterics** given 3 performances October 2017 in Seattle and Tacoma, WA.
- *Presbyopia* featured at the **2017 Midwest Graduate Music Conference**; performed by **Sound Out Loud** at the **University of Wisconsin-Madison**.

- *Four Glimpses of Desire* (solo version) performed by the composer, acclaimed tenor **Jonathan Blalock**, and pianist **Amy Sze** at **Bright Sheng's The Intimacy of Creativity Festival** February 2017, in Hong Kong, as a **Composer Fellow**, in collaboration with Master of the Queen's Music, **Judith Weir**, and co-founder/associate artistic director of the New York Festival of Song, **Michael Barrett**; released on **Naxos**.
- *Upon Viewing a Family in Mourning* performed Spring 2017 by San Diego's **Thirdwheel Trio**.
- *Upon Viewing a Family in Mourning* performed January 26<sup>th</sup> at the **University of North Carolina Greensboro** as part of the **2017 SCI Region IV Conference**.

## 2016

- *Four Glimpses of Desire* (solo version) premiered November 28 at **Festivalul Internațional Craiova Muzicală** inside the Filarmonica Olteniaby by soprano **Veronica Anușca** and pianist **Mihai Murariu** (who also commissioned the work).
- *Two Reflections on The Belovéd* premiered by Romanian soprano **Veronica Anușca** and the **ICon Arts Percussion Group** conducted by **Mircea Ardeleanu** at the 2016 ICon Arts Festival in Sibiu, Romania on July 27<sup>th</sup> in Thalia Hall, Sibiu State Philharmonic; **commissioned by the ICon Arts Academy**.
- *The Seduction of Honorius* given two performances at the **2016 Oregon Bach Festival Composers Symposium** in collaboration with **Estelí Gomez** (Rebecca Replogle – soprano, Zoe Yucong Wang – piano, Nathan Engellman – actor).
- *The Seduction of Honorius* premiered at **The Peabody Conservatory** by soprano Jess Moss, pianist Aaron Thacker, and actor Christian Humcke.
- *Four Short Dreams* performed at **The Peabody Conservatory in Friedburgh Hall** as part of the **Thursday Noon Recital Series** as **First Prize Winner** of the **Prix d'Été XX (2015-2016)** on 21 April.
- *Delbaré* premiered by **Magpies and Ravens** choral ensemble (Curtis Kettler, cond.) March 12 and 13 2016 at the Weisman Museum of Art in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- *Upon Viewing a Family in Mourning* performed by Pittsburgh based **ensemble-in-residence of the Heinz Chapel, OvreArts** on January 21, 2016 at 7:30pm.

## 2015

- *May 29 – June 9* premiered by the **Youth Symphony Orchestra "Slobozhanskiy"** under the direction of conductor **Eldred Marshall** on November 20, 2015 in Kharkov, Ukraine at the State Performance Hall.
- *On the Occasion of Joy* premiered by **Chris Winston** at Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Flower Mound, Texas for the wedding of Natalie Sabzghabaei and Richard Garcia on May 22, 2015.
- *Fugue and Reflection for Reformation* premiered by **Dallas Symphony string players** at Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Flower Mound, Texas for the wedding of Natalie Sabzghabaei and Richard Garcia on May 22, 2015.
- *Prelude No. 1* performed by **Eldred Marshall** at Fellowship United Methodist Church of Trophy Club in Richardson, Texas, March 12, 2015.

## 2014

- *Two Meditations on the Holy Ghost* for Handbell/Handchime choir (commissioned by Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Flower Mound, Texas), *Presbyopia* for Pierrot ensemble and percussion, and *Upon Viewing a Family in Mourning* for oboe, clarinet, and bassoon, **all premiered** on November 19, 2014 at 8pm in Voertman Hall at the University of North Texas as part of Daniel's senior recital.
- *Two Scenes from Shakespeare* for SATB a cappella choir is **premiered** at the **Busan International Choral Festival and Competition** at the Busan Cinema Center inside the Sohyang Theater on October 16, 2014, by the acclaimed **Ansan City Choir** under distinguished **conductor Dr. Shin-Hwa Park**.
- *Fond Memories of a First Love*, a miniature for mixed chamber ensemble, is **premiered by University of Wisconsin – Green Bay** based ensemble **a very small consortium** on Sep. 27, 2014 at UW-Green Bay.

- **UNT's production of the play *Doubt*** directed by Dr. Andrew Harris opens Sep. 25 and runs through Sep. 28, featuring **music by Daniel Sabzghabaei**.
- *Mosjeh Beh Bolbol Dehid* for boys' choir, solo violin, and piano from *Two Persian Folksongs* is **premiered** at the **MSJH National Conference for Choral Music** by the Lake Jackson Intermediate "Manchoir" conducted by David Hill at UNT inside Voertman Hall on May 3, 2014.
- *Hāl: Chahārgāh* for solo violin is **premiered by** the acclaimed **Dallas Symphony Violinist Mary Reynolds** as part of Dallas' premier new music ensemble ***Voices of Change*** on May 4, 2014.
- ***The Lady Revealed***, Dr. Andrew Harris' **new play** with **music by Daniel**, is given **two workshop performances** March 17 – 18, 2014 at **Theatre 3** in Dallas, Texas. (music arranged for live trio: Piano, M.W., and Cello; conducted by the composer).

## 2013

- *Four Short Dreams* for chamber ensemble and tape is **premiered** November 10, 2013 at **UNT**.
- *Fishes 1 + 2* for open ensemble (for this performance, tenor sax and piano) is **premiered** March 25, 2013 at **UNT**.
- *Two Pieces for Organ*, **commissioned by organist Chris Winston**, is **premiered** July 21, 2013 at **Lamb of God Lutheran Church** in Flower Mound, Texas.

## 2012

- *CHRISTMASS* for 2-channel fixed media with audience singing or choir is **premiered** on December 12, 2012 at **UNT**.
- *Obsession* for 2-channel fixed media is **premiered** on November 14, 2012. at the Thompson Arena of **Dartmouth College**.
- *Smooth Words and Fawning Looks: A Prelude* for 4-hands piano is **premiered** November 8, 2012 at **UNT**.
- *Interjections and Collisions* for Flute, 2 Violins, 2 Violas, 2 Cellos, and Bass is **premiered** October 18, 2012 at **UNT**.
- *Grating Grooves* for Flute, Violin, Clarinet, and Cello is **premiered** on May 12, 2012 at **UNT**.

## Collaborations/Intermedia

1. Music for Dr. Andrew B. Harris' production of the play *Doubt* (2014).
  - a. Played September 25 – 28, 2014 at the University of North Texas.
  - b. Music consists of Catholic Mass settings for cantor+chorus and organ.
  - c. <http://danielsabzghabaei.com/doubt/>
2. Music for the Video Game *Mini Adventure* (2013).
  - a. <http://danielsabzghabaei.com/mini-adventure/>
3. Music for the new stage play *The Lady Revealed* by Dr. Andrew B. Harris (2012 – 2013)
  - a. Premiered Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup> 2013 at UNT in the Studio Theater
  - b. Workshop performance given March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at *Theatre 3* in Dallas, Texas. (music arranged for live trio: Piano, M.W., and Cello).
  - c. Second workshop performance in London's West End by members of the *Royal Shakespeare Company* on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014
  - d. Third workshop performance to be given in New York City at the New Dramatists, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
  - e. Information on the play:
    - i. <http://www.theladyrevealed.com/home.html>

- ii. <http://danielsabzghabaei.com/the-lady-revealed/>
- 4. Music for the Video Game *Lunacy* (2012), in association with SMU Guildhall.
  - a. <http://danielsabzghabaei.com/lunacy/>

### Teaching, Singing, and Leadership Experience

- Teaching Assistant in music at Cornell University in Music Theory and Wind Ensemble.
- Music teacher at Baltimore's St. Ignatius Loyola Academy for Boys (2016-2017).
- Composition teacher part of the Jr. Bach Program at Peabody, headed by Judah Adashi (2015-17).
- Professional choir and section leader positions have included:
  - (2016-17) – Music Director at The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer (Baltimore, MD).
  - (2016) – The Baltimore Basilica under Michael Repper.
  - (2015) – Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Baltimore, Maryland under John Repulski.
  - (2014 – 2015) – Episcopal Church of the Annunciation, Lewisville, Texas under Beau Baldwin.
  - (2014) – First United Methodist Church in McKinney under Dr. Stephen Austin and John Emory Bush.
  - (2012-2014) – Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Flower Mound, Texas under Chris and Rebecca Winston.
- Paid music intern for Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Flower Mound, Texas in the Summer of 2013.
  - Duties included the following:
    - Rehearsal leading and conducting of various church ensembles including: choir, brass quintet, wind quintet, string quartet, and hand bell choir.
    - Music librarianship, cataloguing and organizing every piece of music affiliated with the church into physical boxes, and crafting+organizing spreadsheets.
    - Service programming/music selection.
- New music advocate, having premiered over 10 new works by Peabody, UNT, and professional composers, including the **North American premier** of Czech composer **Ivo Medek's** opera *The Cage Affair*, **playing the role of John Cage**.
- **International solo debut** at the *Intimacy of Creativity Festival 2017*, performing selections from my cycle *Four Glimpses of Desire*.
- Piano Technician Apprentice at Peabody under Yuriy Kosachevich (2015-16)
- Music theory tutor at UNT 2012-2013.