

# Amos Gillespie

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Born: 4/16/1980

## Education/Training

MM in Composition from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, May 2005  
BM in Saxophone Performance from Northern Arizona University, May 2002

## Principal Instruments

Saxophone, Clarinet, Piano

## Principal Teachers

Composition: Bruce Reiprich, Stacy Garrop, Gyula Fekete, and Sebastian Huydts  
Classical saxophone: Wildy Zumwalt and Jonathan Bergeron.  
Jazz: Bassists Joel DiBartolo, Marlene Rosenberg, drummer Michael Raynor, and saxophonist Dave Pietro.  
Piano studies: Sharon Rogers.

## Music Theory/Teaching Experience/other Academic Work

Teaching Theory and Aural Skills III *University of Illinois Chicago*, Chicago, September 2016 -  
Substitute teaching Piano Skills, Composition and Woodwinds at *Chi-Arts* (Chicago's Performing Arts High School) 2015 –  
Board Member with New Music Chicago 2013 - 2016  
Theory and Aural Skills II *Chicago State University*, Chicago, January 2010  
Intermediate Music Theory *Peoples Music School*, Chicago, January 2006 - 2009  
Advanced Music Theory *Peoples Music School*, Chicago, January 2006 - 2009  
Saxophone/Clar. *Devonshire Cultural Center*, Skokie IL, May 2005 -  
Piano *Devonshire Cultural Center*, Skokie IL, May 2005 -  
Music Theory (college prep) *Schaumburg Music Academy*, Schaumburg IL, May 2004 - May 2005

## Composition

### Current Projects

I am composing a string quartet for the Chicago Cliff Dwellers Arts Foundation string quartet commission. And was recently commissioned by the Chicago Bach and Beethoven Ensemble to write music for their "Chicago Stories" Program, Fall of 2017.

I am also finishing an album of all original chamber work scheduled to be released in the Spring of 2017. This is in collaboration with the Kaia String Quartet, Barkada Sax Quartet and Taimur Sullivan.

### Received Composition Performances (Selected listing)

**The Squeeze:** A New Musical Revue, a satire relating to wage raise stagnation despite inflation in the U.S.

Produced and performed by VOX 3 Vocal Collective at Stage 773, Chicago, Friday October 14<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday October 18, 2016.

**Lacework** duo for saxophones was performed by me and Taimur Sullivan at the Ear Taxi New Music Festival at Preston Bradley Hall, Chicago, October 9<sup>th</sup> 2016.

**1001 Afternoons in Chicago:** A documentary by David Less, featured on PBS November 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> 2015 – this is a documentary based on my '1001 Afternoons in Chicago: A Radio Play'.

**The Year of the Monkey** for solo piano, Hulya Alpakin, Fine Arts Building, Chicago, Sept. 27 2015

**1001 Afternoons in Chicago: A Radio Play** was featured on Kerry Frumkin's "Live on WFMT," April 6th 2015. Performed by the Palomar Ensemble and Straw Dog theatre members.

**The Providence of Zorn**, Barkada Saxophone Quartet, Navy Saxophone Symposium, Shenandoah University, Jan./2015

**The Spanish Speakers** for flute, clarinet, violin, cello, piano and vibraphone, Atlantic Music Festival Contemporary Ensemble, Lorimer Chapel, July 2014.

**Jasper Johns** for flute, clarinet, alto sax and cello, Gillespie Chamber Quartet, Preston Bradley Monday Classical series, April 2014.

**Across the Whiplash** for the Palomar Ensemble. 17' silent film re-score for the Access Contemporary Music Sound of Silent Film Festival, Music Box Theater, April 2014.

**The Providence of Zorn**, Barkada Saxophone Quartet, North American Saxophone Conference, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, March 2014.

**The Noise of Bromius**, Chicago Composers Orchestra, Ruth Page Theatre, May 30<sup>th</sup> 2013

**1001 Afternoons in Chicago (new music for radio play)**, Palomar Ensemble, Architectural Artifacts, May 21 2013

**Chicago-Lucerne String Quartet**, Chicago Q Ensemble, Sunday Salon Series at Preston Bradley Hall, April 2013

**Of Nature's Palette** for flute and piano, Chopin Theatre, New Music Halloween Bash, Chicago, October 2012

**Judith** for soprano voice and piano, VOX 3 Vocal collective, Biblical Women concert, Chicago Temple, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012.

**Nasty Infectious Disease** (Soprano, flute, cello and piano), Third Millennium Ensemble, An Die Musik, Baltimore MD, February 2012

**Sears String Quartet** - Commission by the Chicago Architectural Foundation to celebrate the renovation of the original 1905 Sears Tower, premiered October 15<sup>th</sup> 2011

**These Questions Three** for clarinet/bass, alto sax, violin, cello, vibraphone and piano, *Music in Haste* recital at Curtiss Hall, Chicago, Oct. 2011

**Alumni Chapter** film Premiere, Portage Theater Chicago, February 2011

**Dance and Song cycle** for soprano and piano, VOX 3 Vocal collective, Word/Tone concert, Northwestern University Vail Chapel, February 2011

**Klang Par 2** for soprano and alto saxophones, Klang par2 ensemble, Old Synagogue music series, Mainz, Germany, June 2011

**Sunlit** for vln, clar, alto sax, cello, and vibraphone, premiered at the Preston Bradley Hall at the Chicago Cultural Center for the ACM Songs about Buildings and Moods event, September 2010

**Symphonietta** for the Hyde Park Youth Orchestra, premiered at the DuSable museum of African American history, Chicago, April 2010

**Tempered Heathen** (flute, cello, and piano) Palomar ensemble, All American Concert, Ganz Hall, Chicago, November 2009

**Father and Daughter** (violin, clarinet, cello, saxophone, and piano) film score for Sound of Silent Film Festival, hosted by Access Contemporary Music (ACM) at the Chopin Theater, Chicago, April 2009

**Nasty Infectious Disease** (Soprano, flute, cello, and piano), Chicago Opera Vanguard, AIDS benefit concert through Season of Concern at the Court Theater in Hyde Park, Chicago December 2008

**Sower Arepo** (flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, and cello), Anomie Ensemble, Illinois Artists at Grant Park, July 2008

**1001 Afternoons in Chicago** (flute, clar., alto sax, bassoon, vln., cello, percussion) Ballet based on Ben Hecht's short story collection, a collaboration with ECN Dance Works and ACM, Music Institute of Chicago, June 18<sup>th</sup> 2008

*Persephone* (Solo Saxophone), Amos Gillespie, MAVerick ensemble recital, Chicago February 2008  
*Sound of Silent Film music* ACM, Chopin Theater, Chicago March 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2014  
*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead/ themes and incidental music* The Piccolo Theater, April 2007.  
*Woodwind Quintet*, Attacca Woodwind Quintet, Lily Reid Holt chapel of Lake Forest College, January 2006  
*Ornaments* (flute, clar., alto sax, cello) ACM, Green Mill, Chicago, January 2006  
*Fusion* (flute, clar., cello and vibraphone) International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE), CCPA Winter Composition Festival, Ganz Hall, Chicago, January 2005

#### **Honors/Grants**

Awarded Individual Artist Support Grant from Chicago DCASE for “The Squeeze” – a new musical revue, May 2016. For two performances and studio recording sessions.  
American Prize finalist award in the Professional Chamber Music Composition division for “The Providence of Zorn” for Sax Quartet, 2015, “Spanish Speakers” for Pierrot Ensemble, 2016  
*1001 Afternoons in Chicago: A Radio Play* was accepted to the Newberry Library’s Special Collections, May 2015.  
*Jasper Johns* was featured on Lisa Flynn’s WFMT Program, “New Releases,” April 12<sup>th</sup> 2015.  
*1001 Afternoons in Chicago: A Radio Play* was featured on Kerry Frumkin’s “Live on WFMT,” April 6<sup>th</sup> 2015.  
Attended the Atlantic Music Festival, July 2014 - received premiere performance of “The Spanish Speakers.”  
Studied with George Tsontakis and Nils Vigeland.  
Barkada Saxophone Quartet (2012 Fischhoff winners) premiered “The Providence of Zorn,” North American Saxophone Alliance Conference, U of I Urbana Champaign, March 2014.  
Received film score airplay of “Father Daughter” on WQXR for The Sound of Silent Film Festival, NYC, June 3, 2013  
Awarded a 2013 IAS Professional Development grant through the Illinois Arts Council, Dec.14, 2012  
Awarded artist residency in Lucerne, Switzerland through the Chicago Sister Cities Program, Northwestern University and the University of Lucerne, August 2012.  
*Klang Par2* performed at the North American Saxophone Alliance, Tempe, AZ March 16<sup>th</sup> 2012  
*These Questions Three* received Honorable Mention by the International Music Prizes, Greece, 2012  
*These Questions Three* received Special Recognition by the League of Composers (ISCM), 2012  
Finalist for the Columbia Orchestra’s annual call for scores, 2011  
Awarded Chicago Community Arts Assistance Program Grant, 2011  
One of four winners of the Third Millennium Ensemble’s annual call for scores, 2011  
Awarded Chicago Community Arts Assistance Program Grant, 2009  
Awarded Illinois Arts Council Fellowship Finalist Award, 2009  
Awarded Evanston Cultural Arts Grant for *1001 Afternoons in Chicago (dance version)*, June 2008.  
One of four Chicago composers selected by the Attacca Woodwind Quintet, 2006  
One of five Chicago composers selected by ICE for the Roosevelt U. 2005 Winter Composition Festival  
Finalist for the ASCAP young jazz composer’s award, fall 2004.  
Partial Recipient of MacArthur Foundation Grant, Roosevelt U. Student composer awards, 2004

#### **Scholarships**

Northern Arizona University Full Tuition waiver  
Roosevelt University CCPA half tuition waiver

#### **As a composer, performed by:**

Taimur Sullivan (PRISM Quartet)  
Atlantic Music Festival Contemporary Ensemble  
International Contemporary Ensemble  
Attacca Woodwind Quintet  
Chicago Q Ensemble  
Barkada Saxophone Quartet  
Chicago Composers Orchestra  
MAVerick ensemble  
Third Millennium Ensemble  
Chicago Opera Vanguard  
Access Contemporary Music (member composer)  
VOX3 Vocal Collective (member composer)  
Grand Prairie Singers  
Klang Par2  
Encore/ Coda Symphony Orchestra  
Hyde Park Youth Symphony  
Phoenix Creative Music Movement  
Gillespie Chamber Quartet

#### **As a performer, groups performed with/ongoing (sax,clar. and/or piano):**

New Millennium Orchestra  
Hard Art Groop  
Access Contemporary Music (ACM)  
Chicago Composers Forum  
MAVerick ensemble  
Jedlicka Performing Arts Center  
VOX 3 Vocal Collective  
Hiz Film Studio Productions  
Alvarez Orchestra  
Gillespie Chamber Quartet

#### **Ongoing Performance Project:**

Artistic Director - The Gillespie Chamber Quartet – flute, clarinet, alto sax and cello. See [www.amosgillespie.com](http://www.amosgillespie.com) for updated scheduling.