

Biography

Paul Hembree (b. 3/14/1982), composer & educator
PhD Student, University of California, San Diego
jsbachisgod@hotmail.com / phembree@ucsd.edu
9450 Gilman Dr #80434, La Jolla, CA 92092
(541) 683-1779 - www.paulhembree.com

Paul Hembree's (b. 1982) acoustic and computer music compositions synthesize the expressive power of polyphonic music in the Western classical tradition with modern experimental and electro-acoustic techniques to create a visceral and communicative sound. He has a broad range of interests, with works focusing on the perception of time and tempo, metamorphoses of timbre and texture, sonic gestures in physical space, and experimental extensions of the traditional notion of counterpoint. The impetus for these explorations are frequently found in the turbulent confluence of the arts and sciences, with ideas coming from music cognition, psychology, linguistics, mathematics and the physical sciences.

At the University of California, San Diego, Hembree currently pursues a PhD with advisor Roger Reynolds; he has also studied with Philippe Manoury, Chinary Ung and Lei Liang. Hembree works as a teaching assistant for lower and upper division music theory courses, and as a videography, web-design, and computer music research assistant for Edwin Harkins and Roger Reynolds. Hembree earned a Master of Music degree with an emphasis in technology at the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he studied with Daniel Kellogg, John Drumheller, Carter Pann, and Michael Theodore. His master's thesis composition, *The Antikythera Mechanism* (2009), is a 35-minute poly-work for chamber orchestra, computer controlled piano, and live digital video and 8.1 channel audio. While in Colorado, he taught as a graduate assistant in the music technology department and worked as the production manager of the Pendulum New Music series. He also has a Bachelor of Music in Composition, magna cum laude, from the University of Oregon, where in 2005 he co-founded the contemporary music-focused New Frontiers Chamber Symphony. At UO he studied composition with Robert Kyr, David Crumb, Terry McQuilkin, and Jeffrey Stolet.

In summer festivals and master classes Hembree has presented works for composers Mark Applebaum, Hans Tutschku, Martin Bresnick, Mark Anthony Turnage, Michael Daugherty, Alan Fletcher, Veljo Tormis, and Bang-on-a-Can pianist Lisa Moore. He has attended master classes and workshops with Pauline Oliveros, George Lewis, John Adams, John Corigliano, George Crumb, Krzysztof Penderecki, Osvaldo Golijov, Zygmunt Krauze, Fredrick Rzewski, Ken Ueno, Luke DuBois, Scott Smallwood, Ursula Oppens, Todd Reynolds, and the Kronos Quartet.

Recent ensembles to perform Hembree's works include the San Diego New Music Collective, the Playground (Colorado), the Tasman String Quartet (New Zealand), the Antero Winds (Colorado), and Telling Stories (Colorado). Prominent performers that have read Hembree's works include trumpeter Peter Evans of the International Contemporary Ensemble, eighth blackbird, and Alarm Will Sound. Major awards include CU's 2007 Edward Levy Commission and UO's 2005 Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Work in Composition. Festivals that have performed Hembree's work include New Music Forum, the New West Electronic Arts and Music Organization (NWEAMO) Festival, the Oregon Bach Festival, the MusicX Festival, Pendulum New Music, the Eugene Composers Collective, the Oregon Composers Forum, the Aspen Underground, Soundscapes by Mystery Cabal, Future Music Oregon, and the Electro-Acoustic Juke Joint.

As a performer Hembree has been active on trumpet, keyboard and live electronics with several ensembles, including the Boulder Laptop Orchestra, San Francisco's Carpetbag Brigade physical theater company, the Boulder-based Invisible College Quartet, and large ensembles for Louis Andriessen's *Worker's Union* and *Ghost Trance* compositions by Anthony Braxton.

He is on the board of directors of the Playground ensemble and is an apprentice to the board of NWEAMO, and has served as Assistant to the Director of the Oregon Bach Festival Composer's Symposium.