

# Kevin Davis

## Curriculum Vitae

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### Education

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**Ph.D.** in Composition and Computer Technologies; University of Virginia (expected May 2016)  
**M.A.** in Composition and Computer Technologies; University of Virginia, 2012  
**M.A.** in Composition, MIAM (Centre for Advanced Musical Study); Istanbul, Turkey, 2010  
**Additional Study** in Studio Art; University of Memphis and Brandeis University, 1999-2001  
**B.Mus.** in Music Composition; University of Memphis, 1998

### Research

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**Ph.D. thesis:** "Sculpting in Time: Re-instrumentalization as Composition." Chair: Ted Coffey;  
Advisors: Matthew Burtner and Scott DeVeaux  
**Research interests:** Improvisation, Embodiment, Action-based Notation, Enactivism,  
Computational Musicology, Music and Philosophy, Temperaments and Tunings

### Teaching and Instruction

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#### Instructor, University of Virginia

Basic Musical Materials (MUSI 1310), Fall 2015  
Music Theory II (MUSI 3320), Spring 2014  
Music Theory I (MUSI 3310), Fall 2013  
Beginning Keyboarding Skills (MUSI 2320), Fall 2011–Spring 2012  
Basic Musical Materials (MUSI 1310), Spring 2011

#### Teaching Assistant, University of Virginia

Technosonics (MUSI 2350/Introduction to Electronic Music for non-majors), Fall 2013  
History of Jazz (MUSI 2120), Spring 2013  
Musicianship II (MUSI 3334), Fall 2010

#### Ensemble Instruction

Assistant director, University of Virginia New Music Ensemble, 2012-present  
Co-director of MIAM Improvisation Ensemble, Istanbul, Turkey, 2009-2010

#### As individual instructor

Composition instructor, Composition Mentorship Program, 2012–present  
Private instructor, composition and cello, Charlottesville, Virginia, 2012-present  
Piano Instructor, The People's Music School, Chicago, Illinois, 2007  
Musical Instrument Instructor, Chicago, Illinois (cello, guitar, electric bass, piano), 2005-2008

## Recordings

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### Group Improvisation

- *Headful of Birds*, Hoca Nosreddin, Charmenko Müsik, 2015
- *Three States of Freedom*, with Korhan Erel and Tom Soloveitzik, Creative Sources, 2012
- *MicroMeditations*, Desiring Machines, MetaStable Sound, 2010
- *3/0*, with Umut Çağlar and Korhan Erel, Re:construcKt, 2009
- *Q&A*, with Şevket Akıncı, Umut Çağlar, Demirhan Baylan, Florent Merlet, Re:construcKt, 2009
- *Chicago Duets*, with Mike Pride, February Recordings, 2007
- *The Tempest is Over*, with Woody Sullender, Dead CEO, 2007
- *Duets*, with Dave Rempis, February Recordings, 2006

### Solo

- *At Enemy*, February Recordings, 2006

### Collaborative Projects

- *The Gravity of Our Commitment*, Never Enough Hope, Milk Factory Productions, 2015
- *Islak Kopek meets Mark Alban Lotz*, Evil Rabbit, 2010
- *A Calculus of Loss*, Locksmith Isidore, Clean Feed, 2008
- *The Gift Economy*, Never Enough Hope, Contraphonic, 2008
- *The Sign and the Thing Signified*, James Falzone, Allos Documents, 2007

## Selected Recent Compositions and Installations

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- *Codex on the Flight of Birds* (2009–2015) for solo cello, first performance of sections 2 and 3 by the composer at MIAM, Istanbul, Turkey, March 2010; additional performance by Ken Stewart at South Central Graduate Music Consortium, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, September 27, 2013; additional performances of sections 1-5 by the composer, Red Room, Baltimore, Maryland, August 2014 and at Technosonics XVI, October 2015
- *Avec le soleil* for organ; 120 mins; performed by the composer with assistance from Campell Shifflett; Technosonics XVI October 2015
- *Angular Momentum 2* for mixed chamber ensemble (fl, Bb cl, ob, pipa, perc, laptop, vln, vc, pf); performed at Digitalis, Old Cabell Hall, April 2015; additional Performance by NME, Bucknell University, October 6, 2015
- *Untitled (piece for NME based on Fourth Enactive Study)* for mixed chamber ensemble (fl, Bb cl, ob, soprano voice, pipa, guitar, vibraphone, perc, pf, vln, vc, cb); c.10 mins; performed at UVA, Old Cabell Hall, April 2015
- *My Claw is Sharp* (2014) for solo cello, music for dance in collaboration with choreographer Kristen Klienfelter. Culbreth Auditorium, Charlottesville, Virginia, April 3, 4, and 5
- *Suite for Improvisers* (2014) for indeterminate ensemble, performed by UVA New Music Ensemble, Old Cabell Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia, April 2014
- *Manifest* (2013) for four male voices, written for and performed by Ekmeles, Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church, Charlottesville, Virginia, March 2013
- *Two Chromatic Studies* (2013) for open instrumentation, written for and performed by the UVA New Music Ensemble, Old Cabell Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia April 2013

- *Canonic Transformations* (2013) for guitar quartet, written for and performed by Dither Guitar Quartet, February 2013
- *Albatross* (2012) for string quartet, written and performed by the Voxare Quartet, Old Cabell Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia, February 23, 2012
- *Antistrophe* (2011) for solo violin, recorded by the composer, October 2012
- *Angular Momentum* (2011) for mixed chamber ensemble (fl, cl, vln, vc, laptop, pf), written for and performed by the Verge Ensemble, Old Cabell Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia, February 2011
- *Table Music* (2010) for five or more people seated at a conference table, performed December, 2011
- Untitled Installation (2010) for three scanners and monitor, at *Let There Be Light*, PVCC Community College, Charlottesville, Virginia, November 2010
- *Five Enactive Studies* (2010) for solo piano, first performance Aurie Tsu, November 2010, U.V; additional performances by Marta Milosovic-Brancovic, Miami, Florida, September 2012 and Sung-Hye Kim, Old Cabell Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia, March 2013
- *Music for 3, 2, 1, and 0 Bows* (2010) for solo cello, first performance November 2010
- (Subsequent performances by the composer listed below under “as soloist”)
- *Shadows and Light* (2010) for large orchestra, master’s thesis, unperformed
- *A+/-* for string quartet (2009), performed by the Hezarfin Ensemble, MIAM, Istanbul, Turkey, May 2010
- Two Preludes for Piano (2009), first performance MIAM, Istanbul, Turkey, May 2010
- Never Enough Hope (2008), piece for large ensemble (2as, 5ts, bar, bsx, 2d, 2vib, 3el-g, 1el. b, pf/acc, 2vln,vla, vc, cb), first performance, AV-aerie, Chicago, Illinois, April 2008
- Owner of Lonely Heart (2007), installation/performance of cello, piano, sine wave generator, amplifiers, alarm clocks. Heaven Gallery, Chicago, Illinois

(full list of compositions available upon request)

## Recent Selected Performances

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### **As soloist (on cello, as composer/improviser)**

- *Codex on the Flight of Birds* (1-5); Technosonics XVI 24-hour concert, Charlottesville, Virginia, October 17, 2015
- Solo improvisation; Tea Bazaar, April 7, 2015
- *Codex on the Flight of Birds* (1-5); Red Room, Baltimore, Maryland, August 29, 2014
- *Pieces for 3, 2, 1, and 0 bows*; Bridge PAI, Charlottesville, Virginia, March 21, 2012
- *Pieces for 3, 2, 1, and 0 bows*; Acoustica 21 Series, Miami, Florida, March 17, 2012
- *Codex on the Flight of Birds* (2 and 3); MIAM, Istanbul, Turkey, March 2010
- Solo improvisation; Ice House, Lexington, Kentucky, May 25, 2007
- *At Enemy*; Roulette, New York, New York, March 23, 2007
- Solo improvisation; Zhou Brothers Art Center, Chicago, IL, February 17, 2007

### **As Improviser, in duos or larger groups (as cellist unless otherwise noted)**

- *Tom Tom Founders Fest* event Words and Music, w/Blood Moon; Second Street Gallery, Charlottesville, VA, April 2015
- Contact improvisation recital performance w/Blood Moon; Culbreth Theater, Charlottesville,

- VA, April 9-11 2015
- Improvised performance w/Blood Moon; the Bridge, PAI, Charlottesville, VA, January, 2015
  - *Zero Space* conference, Improvised performance with Blood Moon; Open Grounds, Charlottesville, VA, December, 2014
  - *NOVA Festival* with Bombshelter; Wind-up Space, Baltimore, Maryland, March 9, 2013
  - Improvised duo performance with Seymour Wright; London, England, September 2012
  - *New York Electronic Art Festival: WAVE(length)s: Electronic music*, performance of Woody Sullender's Sal Sallis (for Maryanne); St. Paul's Chapel, New York, New York, July 3, 2011
  - Tour of Israel (Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Haifa) with Korhan Erel and Tom Solovietzik, June 2010
  - MIAM Improvisation Ensemble; MIAM, Istanbul Turkey, December 2009
  - Para Fest with Islak Kopek; Istanbul, Turkey, November 2008
  - Strobe Sessions with Jim Baker, cello/electronics and ARP/piano; Strobe, Chicago, Illinois, June 2008
  - With Ken Vandermark, James Falzone, and Nate McBride; Elastic Arts Foundation, Chicago, Illinois, April 10, 2008
  - *Plainsongs Tour* with W. W. Lowman, as opening performer; cities in Belgium and France, May 2008
  - Downtown Sound Series with Jorrit Dijkstra; Gallery 37, Chicago, Illinois, May 7, 2007
  - *The Tempest Is Over* Tour; dates in the Midwest, south, and east coast, April – June 2007
  - “The Place of Letters: the World in Borges” conference performance with Guillermo Gregorio; Iowa City, Iowa, April 12, 2007
  - *A Calculus of Loss* Tour with Locksmith Isidore; the Midwest, east coast, and south, April 2007
  - *Immediate Sound Series* with Locksmith Isidore; the Hideout, Chicago, Illinois, December 13, 2006
  - The Stone, with Uncle Woody Sullender; New York, New York, November 5, 2006
  - Tonic, with Locksmith Isidore; New York, New York, August 6, 2006
  - Fred Lonberg-Holm's Lightbox Orchestra; Sylvies, Chicago, Illinois, April 10, 2006
  - Bard College with Woody Sullender; Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, July 14, 2005
  - *Nothing Is Certain but Death* Tour; dates in the Midwest, south, and east coast, February-March 2005
  - Improvisation with Pauline Oliveros, Mecca; Lexington, Kentucky, February 27, 2005
  - *Empty Bottle Festival of Improvised Music*; Empty Bottle, Chicago, Illinois, April 21, 2004
  - *Elastic Festival of Improvised Music*; Elastic Arts Foundation, Chicago, Illinois, February 2004
  - *WNUR Chicago Sounds Jazz Festival* (on double bass); Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, 2003

**As New Music performer (as cellist unless otherwise noted)**

- Technosonics XVI; performance of Matthew Burtner's “Spectral Shift of a Distance Form” and Paul Turowski's “Frontiers”; Old Cabell Hall, Charlottesville, VA, October 16, 2015
- UVA New Music Ensemble tour and residency; Bucknell University and Carnegie Mellon University, October 5-7, 2015
- With Never Enough Hope; Constellation, Chicago, Illinois October 3, 2015
- Tatsuya Nakatani Gong Orchestra (on bowed gongs); The Haven, Charlottesville, Virginia, September 12, 2015
- *Cellotronic Games*, Featured soloist w/Juraj Kojs on electronics; The Firehouse, New York, New York, April 2015
- SEAMUS conference at Virginia Tech; performance of “Hyperions” by Paul Turowski, for

- soloist with electronics and video game-style animated score; Blacksburg, Virginia, March 2015
- With Tideshaker; Tea Bazaar, Charlottesville, Virginia, February 2015 (on electric bass)
- Technosonics XV; premiere of Paul Turowski's "Hyperions" for cello and interactive electronics and Ryan Maguire's "Trans" for chamber ensemble and electronics, Charlottesville, Virginia, November 6 2014
- UVA New Music Ensemble, performance of works by Baglarian, Tenney, Polansky, and others; the Bridge PAI, Charlottesville, Virginia, November 1, 2014
- Collective large ensemble of MICE, UVA Jazz Band, and UVA New Music Ensemble, reading of *Transit* by George Lewis and Kevin Davis' *Suite for Improvisers*; Old Cabell Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia, April 11 2014
- Music With Changing Parts (excerpt) by Philip Glass, part of the "Ode to Glass" concert in conjunction with the Philip Glass residency, UVA New Music Ensemble; Charlottesville, Virginia, March 31, 2014
- UVA New Music Ensemble (on cello and synthesizer); Old Cabell Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia, performances of compositions by Rzewski, Feldman, Tenney, and Glass, April 17, 2014
- "Spectral Shift of a Distance Form" by Matthew Burtner, part of a telematic performance "at" Stanford University's CCRMA; VCCM, Charlottesville, Virginia, March 15, 2014
- UVA New Music Ensemble, performances of works by Cardew, Satie, Andriessen, and others, including a premiere of "Canonic Studies"; Old Cabell Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia, April 4, 2013
- UVA New Music Ensemble (on cello and piano), works by Cage, MacLow, Riley, and Cardew; Old Cabell Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia, April 5, 2012
- UVA New Music Ensemble, concert of Christian Wolff's music, including a performance with the composer; Old Cabell Hall, Charlottesville, Virginia, April 7, 2011
- Chicago Sound Map; Chicago Cultural Center and Heaven Gallery, Chicago, Illinois, April 8 and 12, 2008
- Fugue State Festival with David Daniell large group; the Empty Bottle, Chicago, Illinois, June 30, 2007

### Early Music

- Member of UVA Baroque Orchestra (on violone, Baroque cello, and harpsichord), performances of works by J.S. Bach, Purcell, Charpentier, Bertali, Handel, Couperin, Geminiani Rosenmüller, Vivaldi, Playford, Muffat, and others, Spring 2011-present

### Selected Reviews, Interviews, and Press

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- Cantor, Dave. Interview w/Blood Moon: [http://www.dailyprogress.com/entertainment/blood-moon-examines-the-line-between-notes-on-page-and/article\\_074d97da-9c3e-11e4-8711-830cb865402e.html](http://www.dailyprogress.com/entertainment/blood-moon-examines-the-line-between-notes-on-page-and/article_074d97da-9c3e-11e4-8711-830cb865402e.html), January 2015
- Review of Three States of Freedom: [http://www.allaboutjazz.com/php/article.php?id=42163 -.UIWgIyQS\\_ys](http://www.allaboutjazz.com/php/article.php?id=42163-.UIWgIyQS_ys), 2012
- Interview with Islak Kopek, Time Out Istanbul, Fall 2009
- TV Interview and Performance, TRT2, Istanbul Turkey, February 2009
- Radio Interview, Açık Radio 91.1, Istanbul Turkey, February 2009
- Greenburger, David. Review of Locksmith Isidore's *A Calculus of Loss*, Wire Magazine, Spring 2007

- Warburton, Dan. Review of Uncle Woody Sullender's *The Tempest is Over*, Paris Transatlantic Magazine, Spring 2007
- Greenburger, David. Review of Uncle Woody Sullender's *The Tempest is Over*, Wire Magazine, Fall 2006

## **Instrumental and Technical Knowledge**

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Expertise: cello, electric bass

Proficiency: piano, double bass, violone, Baroque cello, harpsichord, conducting, score reading, audio recording and sound engineering

Competency: basic circuit bending and soldering, piano tuning, harpsichord tuning

## **Language and Software Proficiency**

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French (reading), Python (moderate), Bash (basic), Perl (basic), Turkish (basic)

Expertise: Finale, Logic, Audacity, Sonic Visualiser, Illustrator

Proficiency: ProTools, Reaper, max/MSP, RTcmix, Spear, Final Cut Pro, Maya, Photoshop

## **Professional Experience**

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Freelance performer (performances on cello, electric bass, double bass, keyboards, guitar and laptop in experimental, jazz, classical, church, and rock performances), 1998–present

Arranger (arrangements for rock and pop bands for studio and live shows), 2005–2008

Studio Musician (session cellist, composer, and arranger), 2002–2008

## **Service and Volunteer Work**

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Leader of Charlottesville DIY electronics workshop, 2014–present

Co-director, the Bridge Progressive Arts Initiative, 2011–2013

Co-founder and member MGSA (Music Graduate Student Association), 2012–2013