Robert W. Butts

7 Leigh Drive, Madison, New Jersey 07940

973-479-8864 boblute@aol.com www.robertbutts.com

EDUCATION

The American Conservatory of Music

DMA, Conducting

2009

Thesis: "Alessandro Scarlatti's *La Giuditta* Masterpiece of Baroque Oratorio: Essay and Edition Based on the Original Manuscript in Morristown, New Jersey"

University of Iowa

MA, Musicology

1989

Thesis: "The Solo Motets of Niccolò Jommelli"

Juilliard School of Music

1996-97

Unmatriculated conducting studies with Maestro Vincent La Selva

Montclair State University

BA, Music Education

1972

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Conductors Institute, Maestro Mikhael Jurowski, Berlin, Germany (2009)

Orchestral Conducting Workshop, Maestro Kirk Trevor, Zlin, Czech Republic (2005)

Verdi Masterclass, Maestro Georghe Stanchiu, Constanta, Romania (2002)

Conductors Institute, Maestro Nahun Arman, Toronto, Canata (2001)

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL TEACHING POSITIONS

Drew University Caspersen School of Graduate Studies, Madison, New Jersey

Adjunct Professor, Arts and Letters Program (starting Fall 2015)

• Courses: Music in American Society, Opera and Society, Music in the Modern Era, Music in Film, Independent Study in Composition

Montclair State University, Upper Montclair, New Jersey

Adjunct Professor of Music (2003 – present)

• Courses taught: Conducting, Intro to Music (survey Medieval to Modern)

The College of Saint Elizabeth, Madison, New Jersey

Adjunct Professor of Music (2009 – present)

- Courses taught: Choral Conducting, Joy of Bach (Baroque Era), Beethoven and Friends (Classical era), The Romantics, orchestration, music fundamentals
- Research Mentoring, honors projects

• Individual Performance Coaching

Fairleigh Dickinson University, Madison, New Jersey

Sabbatical Replacement, Adjunct Professor of Music (2008)

• Courses taught: Survey of Music History, Chorus, Introductory Theory

Drew University, Madison, New Jersey

Sabbatical Replacement, Adjunct Professor of Music, (1991)

• Courses taught: Electronic Composition

Drew University, Madison, New Jersey

Instructor in Extension Division, Mini-Course Program (1995 – present)

 Courses taught: general survey courses including the Concerto, the Symphony, American Popular Music, Film Music, The Baroque Era, The Classical Era, The Romantic Era, Russian Composers, Soviet Composers, The Broadway Musical and individual composer courses including courses on Beethoven, Mozart, Bach, Brahms, Sondheim, Tchaikovsky, Mendelssohn, Verdi, Wagner

Sussex County Community College, Newton, New Jersey

Adjunct Professor of Music (1992 – 1994)

• Courses taught: Chorus, Music History

COMMUNITY LECTURE POSITIONS

Public Scholars, New Jersey Council for the Humanities, Trenton, New Jersey

Invited Lecturer (2002 – present)

• Lectures on: Mozart/Beethoven, Verdi/Puccini, The Broadway Musical

Bernards Township Library, Basking Ridge, New Jersey

Course Lecturer (2000 – present)

- Leisure Learning: Courses developed on The Broadway Musical, Orchestral Masterpieces, The Symphony, The Concerto
- Friday Night at the Opera: lectures on individual operas ranging from those of Monteverdi through operas composed in the past twenty years

Elderhostel, New York

Course Lecturer (1999 – 2002)

• Lectures on opera and musicals

Lifelong Learning, Caldwell, New Jersey

Guest Lecturer (2004 – present)

• Lectures on Verdi, Bernstein, Puccini, Mozart, Sondheim, opera

CONDUCTING POSITIONS - ORCHESTRAL/INSTRUMENTAL

Alion Baltic Music Festival, Tallinn, Estonia

Principal Conductor (July 16-29, 2018)

- Scheduled, organized, conducted rehearsals and concerts
- Coached individual musicians and artists
- Arranged/orchestrated opera selections
- Coached young composers
- Led Conference on Music in the 21st Century

The Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey, Madison, New Jersey

Artistic Director/Conductor (1996 – present)

- Directed programming, contracting, rehearsing, conducting
- Developed the orchestra from a specialized small ensemble to a major full orchestra performing music of all periods
- Premiered contemporary compositions 2007-2011
- Modern/American/New Jersey premieres of works by Scarlatti, Pepusch, Earl of Kelly, Salieri, Chevalier de Saint George, Benda

BONJ Summer Music Festival

Artistic Director (2006 – present)

- Directed programming, contracting, rehearsing, conducting performances
- Administered weeklong festival of chamber music, orchestra music, theatrical music and opera
- Directly involved with marketing, promotion and collaboration with other New Jersey arts organizations and ensembles

In Mid Air Productions, Rockaway, New Jersey

Music Director/Conductor (2009 – present)

- Conducted all rehearsing and coaching sessions
- Composer/Orchestrator of premiered compositions

Garden State Sinfonia, Highland Park, New Jersey

Resident Conductor (1996 – 2001)

• Created programming and led rehearsals and performances

CONDUCTING POSITIONS - OPERA

Light Opera of New Jersey, Basking Ridge, New Jersey

Conductor (2017-Present)

- Coach singers
- Conduct rehearsals and performances

Eastern Opera Company, Warren, New Jersey

Artistic Director/Conductor (2012-Present)

- Contract singers and musicians
- Conduct rehearsals and full opera productions
- Develop, rehearse and conduct the opera chorus

La Forza del Opera Workshop, New York City

Conductor (2012-Present)

- Conduct vocal coaching rehearsals
- Conduct rehearsals and performances

Opera Theater of Montclair, Montclair, New Jersey

Conductor (2013-Present)

- Coaching singers
- Conduct rehearsals and performances

Opera at Florham, Florham Park, New Jersey

Music Director/Conductor (2009 – 2012)

- Contracted singers and musicians
- Conducted rehearsals and full opera productions
- Contracted singers and programmed cabaret recitals
- Developed, coached, and conducted the opera chorus
- Directed productions

Touring Concert Opera Company, New York

Resident Conductor (2010 – present)

• Conduct rehearsals and performances

Williamsburg Opera Workshop, New York

Music Director/Conductor (2009 – present)

- Managed auditions and competitions
- Rehearsed and conducted semi-staged performances

New Jersey Concert Opera, Plainfield, New Jersey

Music Director/Conductor (2004 – 2008)

- Rehearsing and conducted orchestra, chorus and soloists
- Edited/arranged scores for chamber orchestra

The Little Opera Company of New Jersey, Westfield, New Jersey

Resident Conductor (2000 – 2007)

- Rehearsed chorus, orchestra and soloists
- Conducted fully-staged performances

CONDUCTING POSITIONS – YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

Skylands Youth Symphony, Vernon, New Jersey

Conductor (1998 – 2002)

- Programmed, rehearsed and conducted all performances
- Led master classes on musicianship and orchestral development
- Edited/arranged/orchestrated/composed selections
- Created special programs for annual fund-raising concerts

Lakeland Youth Symphony, Parsippany, New Jersey

Senior Orchestra Conductor (2000 – 2006)

- Programmed, rehearsed and conducted all performances
- Edited/arranged/orchestrated/composed selections
- Developed master classes on musicianship

CONDUCTING POSITIONS - CHORUS

Waterloo Chorale, Waterloo, New Jersey

Music Director/Conductor (1992 – 1993)

• Programmed, rehearsed, coached, arranged and conducted

Nous Theatre Chorus, Blairstown, New Jersey (2005 – 2006)

- Coaching and rehearsed the chorus
- Conducted performances of Mozart's *Requiem* with the Nous Orchestra and Beethoven's *Symphony* #9 with The New Jersey Symphony

GUEST CONDUCTING - UNITED STATES

- NJIT, Newark, New Jersey, Technology & Society Forum Concert March 26, 2014 (scheduled)
- NJIT, Newark, New Jersey, Technology & Society Forum Concert February 6, 2013
- New Jersey Symphony, Blairstown, New Jersey November 19, 2005
- Orchestra Society of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania January 2006, 2008
- Society of Musical Arts Orchestra, Maplewood, New Jersey April 2003

GUEST CONDUCTING - INTERNATIONAL

- Alion Baltic Music Festival, Tallinn, Estonia July 16-29, 2018
- Teatro Orfeo, Turin, Italy October 26, 2017
- Teatro San Domenico, Crema, Italy March 7, 2015
- Berlin Sinfonietta, Berlin, Germany September 6, 2009
- Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic, Zlin, Czech Republic August 20, 2005
- Congress Orchestra Philharmonic, St Petersburg, Russia February 9, 2003
- Filarmonica de Stat Sibiu, Sibiu, Romania January 26, 2002

- Opera Constanta, Constanta, Romania August 24, 2002
- Filarmonica Ion Dumitrescu, Rm. Valcea, Romania February 6, 2001
- Filarmonica de Stat Botosani, Botosani, Romania December 19, 1999

CHORUSES CONDUCTED IN COLLABORATIVE CONCERTS

- PhilanthrOpera Gala Concerts with Madison YMCA and singers from the Metropolitan Opera
- Newark Boys Chorus, St Joseph's Holiday Concert, December 2012
- Masterworks in collaboration with Nous Theatre and The New Jersey Symphony, November 2005
- Harmonium Choral Society in collaboration with The Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey for performances of Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, Vivaldi's *Gloria* and *Magnificat*, October 2004, June 2008
- Oratorio Singers of Westfield with New Jersey Concert Opera in performance of Handel's *Messiah*, December 2005

OPERA DIRECTING ENGAGEMENTS

- BONJ Summer Music Festival, Gesualdo, August 2011
- Atlantic Coast Opera Festival, Le nozze di Figaro, July 2011
- Opera at Florham, *Tosca*, June, 2009; *Rigoletto* (co-directed with Emily Thompson), June 2010; *la Traviata* (co-directed with Karole Lewis), June 2011.

COMPETITIONS - Judge and/or Competition Director

- Pearl and Julius Young Rising Stars Music Competition, 2009-Present, Preliminary Judge and Competition Director
- Violetta Dupont Vocal Competition, 2009-Present, Preliminary Judge and Competition Director
- National League of Performing Arts, 2011 Judge
- New York Classical Music Society Vocal Competition 2019, judge

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019 Artist of the Year Award, New York Classical Music Society 2019
- 2019 Exemplary Leader Award, Morris County Chamber of Commerce 2019
- Tourism Appreciation Award, Morris County Tourism Bureau 2016
- 2015 Honored Artist, The American Prize 2015
- The Masterwork Music and Art Foundation Fellowship 2014
- American Prize 3rd Place for Opera Conducting Excellence 2013
- American Prize 2nd Place for Opera Conducting Excellence 2012
- American Prize Citation for Education and Arts Outreach 2011
- American Prize Finalist for Opera Conducting Excellence 2011
- American Prize Finalists for Orchestra Conducting Excellence 2010

- Arts Professional of the Year (ACMA) 2004
- Leo M. Traynor Award, Viola da Gamba Society of America 1995, 1997
- De Marsh Award, American Recorder Society 1996

PRE-CONCERT LECTURES

- New Jersey Symphony Amadeus Festival 1999
 - Pre-concert lectures at NJPAC (Newark), The State Theater (New Brunswick), McCarter Theatre (Princton)
- New Jersey State Opera, NJPAC 1999

PUBLICATIONS

Articles in Academic Journals

"More Than a Collection of Songs: The Concept Album in Country Music," *Mid-America Folklore*, Mid-America Folklore Society, XVI:2, Fall, 1988.

"Obediah Pickard: Country Music's Master of the Trump," *Vierundzwanzigsteljarhsichschrift Internationalen Maultrommelvirtuosengennossenschaft*, International Maultrummel Society, 4, 1994.

Book Reviews

Review of *Text & Act: Essays on Music and Performance*, by Richard Taruskin, *Early Music Newsletter*, February, 1997.

Review of *Music in the English Courtly Masque*, 1604-1640 by Peter Walls, *Early Music Newsletter*, December 1996.

Review of *Music in Late Renaissance & Early Baroque Italy* by Tim Carter, *Early Music Newsletter*, February, 1996.

Review of *Agostino Agazzari and Music at Siena Cathedral 1597-1641* by Colleen Reardo), *Early Music Newsletter*, February, 1996.

Review of *The Italian Trio Sonata from its Origins until Corelli* by Peter Allsop, *Early Music Newsletter*, January, 1996.

Review of Alessandro Stradella (1629-1682) by Carolyn Gianturco, Early Music Newsletter, January 1996.

Review of Francesco Geminiani by Enrico Careri, Early Music Newsletter, January, 1996.

Review of *Nicholas Lanier: Master of the King's Musick* by Michael I. Wilson, *Early Music Newsletter*, January, 1995

Review of Four and Twenty Fiddlers: The Violin at the English Court, 1540-1690 by Peter Holman, Early Music Newsletter, October, 1994.

Review of: *John Tucke, A Case Study in Early Tudor Music Theory* by Ronald Woodley, *Early Music Newsletter*, September, 1994.

Recording Reviews

Review of *Dockstader:Quartermass* (Tod Dockstader) and *Rainforest Images* (The McLean Mix), *American Music*, 14:3, 393-396, Fall, 1996.

Review of Music of the Spanish Renaissance (Shirley Rumsey), Lute Society of America Quarterly, XXIX:2, May, 1994

Concert Reviews

Classical New Jersey, 1996-Present, approximately 250 reviews

Recorder Publishing Newspapers, 1985-Present, approximately 250 reviews

The Citizen of Morris County, 1985-1999, approximately 150 reviews

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

Academic Conference Papers

The Thousand Hurts of Fortunato: Transforming Gender Expectations in Adapting Edgar Allan Poe Short Stories to Operas, American Musicological Society New York Chapter Winter Session at Columbia University, New York, New York, February 16, 2013

Byron and the Romantic Composer, American Byron Society, 2015 Conference, Drew University, Madison, New Jersey, April 12, 2015

The Impact of Othering on Self-Esteem in Verdi's Rigoletto and Otello, American Musicological Society New York Chapter Winter Session at the Metropolitan Opera Guild Education Center, New York, New York, February 16, 2013

Alessandro Scarlatti and Baroque Drama, Arts and Letters Salon, Casperson Graduate School, presentation with Dr. Jude Pfister, Drew University, Madison, New Jersey, September 23, 2012

Revision Oratorio in the Late Seventeenth Century: A Comparison of the Naples and Morristown Manuscripts of Alessandro Scarlatti's La Giuditta, American Musicological Society, New York Chapter Conference, Hunter College, New York, April 4, 2009.

Radical Rebel or Conservative Patriot: The Paradox of Politics in the Music of Charlie Daniels, Country Music Conference, May, 1990.

Just a Good Old Boy: The Male Bond in Country Music, Country Music Conference, May 1989.

Form and Structure in the Songs of Hank Williams, Sonneck Society Conference, April, 1988

Vocal Embellishment in Country Music Singing in the Recorded Songs of Hank Williams, Country Music Conference, May, 1986.

Invited Papers and Colloquia

Roses in The Snow: Composing in the 21st Century, Arts & Letters Dinner, Drew University, April 23. 2018

Orfeo Weeps and Opera Sings: The Creation of Opera and Monody in the Early 17th Century, Symposium on New Classicism, The College of Saint Elizabeth, February 22, 2010.

Love and Politics in Handel's Giulio Cesare, Symposium of the 2009 BONJ Summer Music Festival, August 22, 2009.

Through Their Ears: Music in the Nineteenth Century Country Home as Reflected in the Gibbon Family Collection, Friends of Mead Hall, Drew University, January 25, 2009.

Polyphemus as the Propagandized "Other" as reflected in mytholody and in Handel's Two Operas, Symposium of the 2007 BONJ Summer Music Festival, August 18, 2007.

O Dolorosa Gioia: Balance, Perspective, Expression and Affect in the Music and Life of Carlo Gesualdo, Symposium at Playwright's Theatre, Madison, January 21, 1999.

Conference Panel Participation

Shakespeare to Teach Music, Music to Teach Shakespeare, American Musicological Society New York Chapter Winter Sesssion at the Metropolitan Opera Guild Education Center, New York, New York, October 26, 2013

Presenting Opera in the 21st Century, American Musicological Society New York Chapter Winter Session at the Metropolitan Opera Guild Education Center, New York, New York, February 16, 2013

Media

CheekyFest Live Interview – online publication – October 2020

Madison Living Magazine – Cover Feature Story – August 2020

On The Scene With John Bathke, News 12 New Jersey – July 2020

Performance Today, American Public Media/WQXR New York – July 2019

FOCUS, Veneto Television (Italy), January 2019

Padova Oggi, Newspaper Interview, Padua Italy, January 2019

Scarlatti in New Jersey, Documentary Film – Director/Producer – August 2017

Comcast Newsmaker, Comcast Broadcast, 2015

Cremona Today, Interview in Cremona, Italy, 2015

Ask the Expert with Jessie Frees, WMTR, 2014

Concerts and Conversations: Beethoven's Emperor Concerto, Cablevision broadcast, 2009

Concerts and Conversations: Wagner's Siegfried, Cablevision broadcast, 2010

Concerts and Conversations: Beethoven's Symphony #8, Verizon and Comcast broadcast, 2011

Concerts and Conversations: Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto #1, Verizon and Comcast broadcast

The Compositions of Robert W. Butts, Cablevision broadcast, 2011

Concerts and Conversations: Rossini's Overture to La Gazza Ladra, Verizon and Comcast broadcast, 2012

ADDITIONAL WORK HISTORY

- 1992-2000 Computer Program Director, Temel, Inc. Boonton, New Jersey
 - Responsibilities included programing and design for CD-ROM development; music composition to accompany projects; client development and relationship; software integration; presentation production and development.
- 1986-1992 CPS Technologies, Denville, New Jersey
 - Responsibilities included PC programming; software integration; presentation production, design, and development.

PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLE HISTORY

- 1970-1987 Phantom Canyon country/folk/rock band
 - Responsibilities included songwriting; arranging; singing; playing guitar, banjo, and fiddle; band management.
- 1981-1983 Quality Coal Company country/folk/rock band
 - Responsibilities included songwriting; arranging; singing; playing guitar, banjo, and fiddle; band management, tour management.
- 1983-1992 Phantom Canyon country/folk/rock band
 - Responsibilities included songwriting; arranging; singing; playing guitar, banjo, and fiddle; band management.
- 1992-2000 Les Trouveres Medieval Music Consort
 - Responsibilities included singing; editing music; arranging; playing vielle, rebec, lute, recorder
- 1992-2000 Topaz Consort recorder ensemble
 - Responsibilities included playing recorder; singing; composing/arranging; coaching.
- 1994-2000 Camerata Dolce early music ensemble
 - Responsibilities included playing vielle, gamba, recorder, lute, guitar; editing/arranging; coaching
- 1992-2001 Entr'acte early music ensemble
 - Responsibilities included playing vielle, gamba, recorder, lute, guitar; editing/arranging; coaching

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Musicological Society College Music Society

Opera America League of American Orchestras

Musical America Metropolitan Opera Guild
Early Music America The Conductor's Guild

New York Classical Music Society Morris County Chamber of Commerce

LANGUAGES: reading ability in German and Italian, limited reading ability in Russian

My Compositions Premiered

Canti di Venezia	classical guitar	BONJ Summer Festival	September 2020
Three Movements for Bass	contrabass	BONJ Summer Festival	August 2020
Variations on Simple Gifts	piano and orchestra	Virtual Collaboration	April 2020
Impresiones inspiradas	classical guitar	LatinX ConeXiones Festival	December 2019
Two Wheatley Songs	soprano and piano	Morristown Historical Park	October 2019
Rum Mixers	flute, bassoon, marimba	Baroque Orchestra NJ	August 2019
Shadows in the Sun	soprano and guitar	Morristown National Park	June 2019
Viola Concerto	Solo & Orchestra	Baroque Orchestra NJ	January 2019
Auld Lang Syne Holiday Opera Chamber Opera		Baroque Orchestra NJ	December 2019
Tombeau Vaclav Kucera	classial guitar	Solarino Festival, Sicily	July 2018
La Serva di Padova	Italian Musical Theater	Venice, Italy	December 2017
Wilde's Wild West	Musical Theater	Bell and Barter Theatre	September 2016
Ripples and Reflections	Clarinet and orchestra	BONJ Summer Music Festival	August 2016
Five Piece Dinner for Three	Wind Trio	Knowlton, New Jersey	June 2016
Early Morning Suite	Classical Guitar	London, England	September, 2015
Saturnalia Strings	String Ensemble	Crema, Italy, Concert	March 2015
Cask of Amontillado	Chamber Opera	National Opera Center	January 2015
Symphony #1	Orchestra	Baroque Orchestra of NJ	April 2014
Concerto for Bassoon	Bassoon and strings	Baroque Orchestra NJ	August 2013
Mark Twain and the General	Chamber Opera	NJIT	February 2013
The Triangle	Chamber Opera	Atlanta Opera	January 2013
Suite for Mid-Winter	Orchestra	Baroque Orchestra NJ	January 2013
Gesualdo: A Music Drama	Voices, chamber ensemble	BONJ Summer Music Festival	August 2011
Chansons de la mer	Two Violins	BONJ Summer Music Festival	August 2011
Tell-Tale Heart Suite	Chamber Ensemble	BONJ Summer Music Festival	August 2011
Browning Songs	Voices, piano	In Mid Air Productions	April 2011
Shadows on The Sun	Voice, chamber ensemble	In Mid Air Productions	February 2011

The Tell-Tale Heart	Chamber Opera	In Mid Air Productions	October 2010
Four Quatrains	Chamber Ensemble	In Mid Air Productions	June 2010
Three Dances for Midsummer	Electronic Music	College of Saint Elizabeth	May 2010
Five Poemes	Chamber Ensemble	In Mid Air Productions	April 2010
Concertino for Clarinet	clarinet/orchestra	Baroque Orchestra NJ	March 2007
Songs of Selph	Voice/piano/cello	Darress Concert	June 2000
Angel Triptych	recorder quartet	Topaz Consort	December 1997
Musement	cello/piano	Arthur Cook	July 1993
Gargoyles	recorder quartet	Topaz Consort	September 1992
Recorder Sonata	recorder/guitar	Kris Lamb	September 1992