

# ANNA DAGMAR - CV

## Composer • Performer • Educator

### CONTACT

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### EDUCATION

B.M. Eastman School of Music in Music Education and Jazz Piano Performance 2001  
High Honors, Theodore Presser Award, Downbeat Award

Advanced BMI Musical Theatre Writing Workshop - Composer 2011 - present

Classical Piano: Elizabeth DiFelice, Vincent Lenti, Marguerite Samoorian

Jazz Piano: Harold Danko, Michael Cain, Bevan Manson, Wayne Reiss

Voice: Theo Bleckmann, Tina Shafer; Orchestration: Randall Woolf

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PIANO TEACHER Private Studio 2001-present

25 weekly Manhattan students, annual recitals at Steinway Hall / Klavierhaus / Lycee Francais, organize guest artist masterclasses, prepare students for National Piano Guild, serve as a Guild Adjudicator, offer group classes on Reducing Performance Anxiety, Learning Jazz Improvisation, Preventing Repetitive Stress Injuries, and Sight-Reading Techniques, bring pianists together for events such as playing CPE Bach's Solfeggietto on twelve pianos simultaneously. (I reduced my studio size in 2014 when my daughter was born. I will be resuming full-time when she's in Pre-K.)

COMMISSIONED COMPOSER Nightingale-Bamford School 2011 - 2014

Worked with 2nd graders to brainstorm songwriting ideas, used student input to compose music, lyrics and accompaniment. Discussed elements of songwriting including meter, ostinato, rhyme scheme, tonality, texture and tempo. Themes focused on NYC, songs included: *It Was An Odd Day on Broadway*, *In Astoria*, *The City Where Strangers Meet*, and *Texas Times Square Dancers*.  
[Recordings available on request.]

COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE Nightingale-Bamford School 2009 - 2012

Worked with 6th graders to create melodies based on their original Greek Myth-inspired poems, taught Greek Musical Modes/Scales (Ionian, Dorian etc...) as a basis to compose melodies on mallet instruments. Taught students how to transcribe their rhythms and notate their pitches, created an accompaniment. Song cycles included: *A Heroine as Swift as the Wind*, *Athena and Arachne*, and *Jason and the Golden Fleece*. [Recordings available on request.]

COMMISSIONED CHORAL/ORCHESTRAL ARRANGER Lycee Francais 2009 - 2011

Composed arrangements of original songs for Lycee choir and orchestra. Worked with the string instructor to be sure arrangements were playable and challenging for grades 6-9. Songs included: *Daydream*, *Falling Star* and *Let the Waves Come in Threes*. [Recordings available on request.]

CHORAL DIRECTOR, COMPOSER, ARRANGER	Summer Sonatina Singers	2001 - 2008
<p>Selected and arranged original and traditional choral repertoire for multi-age 40 member choir in Bennington, VT, unified classical and contemporary music by programming concerts thematically, taught sight-singing and ear-training with Solfege and Edwin Gordon method, encouraged students to understand and analyze their music (not just sing the notes), featured original music theory games such as having students throw velcro dart balls at a giant staff and sing resulting intervals, composed arrangements for students who played secondary instruments, rehearsed efficiently and energetically with four 80 minute sessions to prepare for each concert. [Recordings available on request.]</p>		
PIANO AND MUSIC THEORY TEACHER	The Sonata Program	2001-present
<p>Teach adult pianists during 10-day sessions in Bennington, VT, offer courses in topics such as <i>The Music of Porgy &amp; Bess</i>, <i>Composing Duets</i> and <i>Simplifying Syncopation</i>, present original music theory games adapted for adult group classes; faculty specialist in jazz piano.</p>		
PIANIST AND IMPROVISER	Musical Kids	2002-2008
<p>Played piano for bilingual early childhood music classes, followed teachers and students to improvise accompaniments for folks songs and lullabies from around the world, learned many of the melodies by ear and harmonized them on the spot, varied musical styles to inspire dramatic movement such as fast/slow, forte/piano, high/low, composed the program's goodbye song, <i>Cantemos todos Juntos</i> with colleagues Yolanda Borrás and Brian Drye. [Recording available on request.]</p>		
SONGWRITING AND GENERAL MUSIC TEACHER	Mamaroneck High School	2001 - 2002
<p>Performing Arts Curriculum Experience (PACE) - worked with dance and theatre faculty to prepare students to perform their original work, designed high school general music curriculum including lessons on poetic meter, film scoring, composing with a ground bass, text painting, harmonic tension and release, melodic symmetry, collaborative songwriting and analysis of pop music; successfully prepared all students to pass the NY State Music Exam, developed a glossary of terms called <u>Musical Meaning: The Fact / The Feeling</u> to connect theory concepts to real life (ex: a “neighbor note” is a note that lives right next door to a primary chord tone).</p>		
TEACHING ARTIST	Midori Foundation	2001 - 2002
<p>Directed the Harlem Children’s Choir to learn and perform traditional and contemporary repertoire, worked with students to write their own theme song which became a rap with vocal and hand percussion and featured a refrain section in three-part harmony; offered fundamental musicianship skills, created a method to teach notating rhythms inside a grid, encouraged students to share their ideas about the relationships between music and lyrics, built a cooperative spirit.</p>		
MASTERCLASS GUEST ARTIST		
Northeast PA Music Teachers Association		2012
Westford Academy		2012
Chelmsford High School		2009 & 2012
Penfield High School		2005 & 2009
Union County Schools		2009
Yale University		2008
Columbia University		2008
Southern Vermont College		2007
Brooklyn Poly Prep		2006
Manhattan School of Music		2005
New England Conservatory		2004

## SONGWRITING AWARDS

### Mid-Atlantic Songwriting Contest

GOLD <i>Cutest Nudist</i> co-written with Kevin Wanzor	2014
SILVER <i>Hang a Paper Lantern on the Moon</i> co-written with Kevin Wanzor	2013
SILVER Mid-Atlantic Songwriting Competition, <i>Satellite</i>	2012
GOLD <i>We Were Children</i>	2011

NATIONAL FINALIST Kerrville Folk Festival 2012

NATIONAL FINALIST Rocky Mountain Folk Festival 2012

SHOWCASE ARTIST Northeast Regional Folk Alliance 2009, 2012

## DISCOGRAPHY

### BAND LEADER / PIANIST / VOCALIST / SONGWRITER

<i>Satellite</i>	2012
<i>Let the Waves Come in Threes</i>	2009
<i>Anna Dagmar Songbook</i> (sheet music + accompaniment CD's)	2008
<i>Anna Dagmar EP</i>	2006
<i>Solo Songs</i>	2004
<i>One More Time in the Air</i>	2001

### PIANIST

Ikhtlaq Hussain <i>Destiny</i>	2015
Dan Yurkofsky <i>Hoverhill</i>	2015
Nadine Goellner <i>EP</i>	2006
Martha Colby <i>Across Two Rivers</i>	2004
Toots Thielemans / Eastman Big Band	2000
Bobby McFerrin / Eastman Big Band	2001

### VOCALIST

Mary Lou Williams <i>Psalms</i> , MD Deanna Witkowski	2013
Anthony Gatto <i>Making of the Americas</i>	2008
Michael McGinnis / <i>Between Green Tangents</i>	2002
Kenny Wheeler / Eastman Big Band	1999

## RADIO

US AIRPLAY - *Satellite* (2012 album)

110 radio stations in over 30 states

### INTERNATIONAL AIRPLAY

Australia, Canada, Germany, Holland, England, Scotland

### IN-STUDIO PERFORMANCES / INTERVIEWS

Over 20 NPR and college stations including WFUV, WFMT, WVKR, WMFO, WSCA, WPKN, WRUR

### CHARTS

# 5 on Roots Music Report's NY, #1 Airplay WVIA, # 9 Top 50 Breakthrough Recordings on Antiquarian

Librarian, Top 25 at WERU, Top 20 at WETS, Top 10 at KZMU, #33 Top Album Folk DJ Chart

## FEATURES

Midnight Special WFMT, Hudson Valley Spotlight WHUD, Eclectic Chair WUCX, Kaleidoscope KZGM, Folk Specialty Show WMNR, Sunday Breakfast WFUV, Sleepy Hollow WXPB, Transitions Radio Magazine at KBAC, UnderCurrents Nationally Syndicated, Artist of the Week The Alternate Root

## VENUES

City Winery, BAM, Symphony Space, The Living Room, Rockwood Music Hall, Bitter End, Club Passim (Boston), Tupelo Hall, World Cafe Live (Philadelphia), Obar (Stockholm), Borderline (London), Green Note (London), The Castle (Manchester), Hall Mews (York) Bluebird (Berlin), Genghis Cohen (Los Angeles), Musidium (Toronto), Greenwich House, Pakistani Consulate, Waldorf Astoria, Folkstage (Chicago)

## MUSICAL THEATRE SHOWCASES

CIRCLE SONGBOOK	Beechman, Duplex	2013-2015
<i>Slap that Bass, Girls Like That, Petunia, All the Things You're Not, Higher the Heel, Good Christian Girls</i>		
BROADWAY CHARITY CONCERTS	Le Poisson Rouge	2014
<i>Find You</i> performed by Taylor Richardson		
NY THEATRE BARN	D-Lounge	2013
Selections from <i>Lars</i>		
DIRECTORY OF CONTEMPORARY MT WRITERS	Marymount College	2013
<i>Smile for Free</i> performed by Masi Asare		
BMI SMOKER	BMI Writing Workshop	2012, 2013
<i>A Republican</i> performed by Caleb Damschroeder <i>You Know What I Was Thinkin'</i> performed by Megan McGinnis		
DIRECTORY OF CONTEMPORARY MT WRITERS	Second Stage Theatre	2012
<i>So I Chased the Setting Sun</i> performed by Sheri Sanders		
CUTTING EDGE COMPOSERS	NYMF	2012
<i>We Were Children</i> performed by Emma Hunton & Allison Posner		

## MUSICAL THEATRE PIT

<i>Grease</i> , Cardinal Hayes High School (sub MD)	2016
<i>Mame</i> , St. Barts (pianist)	2003
<i>Pippin</i> , Elden Street Players in Herndon, VA (pianist)	1997
<i>The Mystery of Edwin Drood</i> Chelmsford High School (conductor)	1996
<i>Brigadoon</i> , Chelmsford High School (pianist)	1995
<i>The King and I</i> , Chelmsford High School (pianist)	1994
<i>Fiddler on the Roof</i> , Chelmsford High School (pianist)	1993

## COMMISSIONS

Christa Robinson: <i>Governed by the Thrumming of My Mother's Spinning Wheel</i>	2016
Rudi Machilek: <i>Seasons of the Heart</i>	2015
UC Irvine: <i>He's Got the Pole World in His Hands</i> , co-written with Kevin Wanzor	2014
Berkshire Fringe Festival: <i>Midnight</i>	2012
Musical Kids: <i>Cantemos todos Juntos</i>	2005

## WORKS COMPOSED FOR ANNA DAGMAR

John Altieri, <i>Puddles to Pearls</i>	Brooklyn Conservatory	2003
Cenk Ergun, <i>Mollyanna</i>	Christ Church, Rochester	2000

## VIDEO

<i>Satellite</i>	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LiaJDPdK-A4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LiaJDPdK-A4</a>	2012
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A dramatic song with dance exploring the creation story and the Big Bang theory, directed by Mitch Jacobson (Paul McCartney), choreographed by Annie Sailer, featuring ballet "Camerinas®" filming as they dance.

## SHARED THE STAGE

Jane Siberry, Ellis Paul, Natalia Zukerman, Joe Crookston, Lucy Kaplansky, Theo Bleckmann, David Amram

## MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

BMI Advanced Musical Theatre Writing Workshop  
Directory of Contemporary Musical Theatre Writers  
Circle Songbook, Founding Member  
Dramatist Guild  
NY Songwriters' Circle  
Northeast Regional Folk Alliance  
Songwriters' Association of Washington  
Folk Music Society of Huntington  
National Piano Guild  
Musician's Union