

DERRICK HODGE



Composer, Producer, Multi Instrumentalist

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2022 HIGHLIGHTS



Academy Awards: Lead Orchestrator and Conductor for the 2022 Oscars

Conductor and Lead Orchestrator for CNN's nationally televised 2022 Juneteenth Celebration

Super Bowl: Arranged orchestra for *Lift Every Voice*

GRAMMYs: Big Band arrangement for Nas' Performance



LEGACY OF FIRSTS



1st African American composer to compose for Hip Hop for Nas with the National Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Steven Reineke which was also the 1st time Hip Hop was ever performed by the NSO

1st African American String Arranger for Mos Def Live at Carnegie Hall

Creative Director and Symphony Arranger for Common with the Houston Symphony which was the 1st time Hip Hop was ever performed with the Houston Symphony

1st African American Orchestrator and Co-Conductor for the 1st All-African-American orchestra at the 2022 Academy Awards

Conductor and Lead Orchestrator for 1st All-African American orchestra to perform on Hollywood Bowl Stage, for CNN nationally televised 2022 *Juneteenth Celebration*



SYMPHONIC

2022: Academy Awards

Credits: Conductor & Arranger for Orchestra

2022: GRAMMYs, Nas segment

Credits: Arranger

2022: Juneteenth Celebration,
Hollywood Bowl for CNN

Credits: Conductor & Arranger for Orchestra

2022: Robert Glasper Interprets Duke Ellington with Recollective Orchestra

Credits: Conductor & Arranger for Orchestra

2022: LA Phil with Gwen Stefani

2022: LA Phil with Christina Aguilera

2022: LA Phil with H.E.R.

Credits: Arranger

2021: LA Phil with Syd

Credits: Arranger

2018: National Symphony Orchestra with Nas

Credits: Arranger

2017: National Symphony Shows with Common

Credits: Arranger





H.E.R. SPOTLIGHT





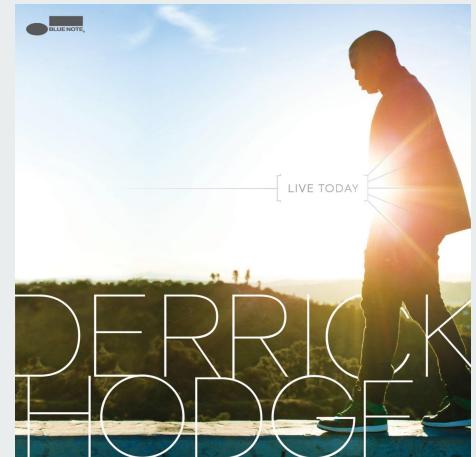
DISCOGRAPHY



Color Of Noize (2020)



The Second (2016)



Live Today (2013)



FILMOGRAPHY

Most recent filmography work includes:

"The Best Man" Season 1 (2023)
Directed by Malcom D Lee
Credits: Music Composer

"Run the World" Season 1 (2021) & Season 2 (2023)
Directed by Leigh Davenport & Millicent Shelton
Credits: Music Composer

"The System" (2022)
Directed by Dallas Jackson with Jeremy Piven and Terrence Howard
Credits: Composer

"The Photograph" (2020)
Directed by Stella Meghie
Credits: Score Consultant

"Antebellum" (2020)
"Eden" Original Song
Credit: Songwriter, Orchestrator/Orchestral Arranger

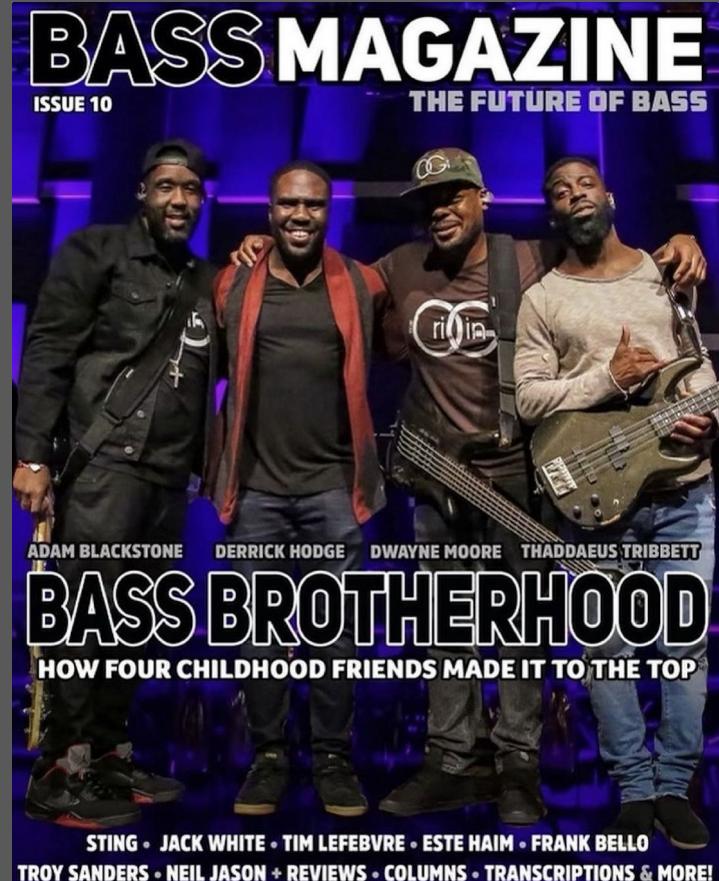




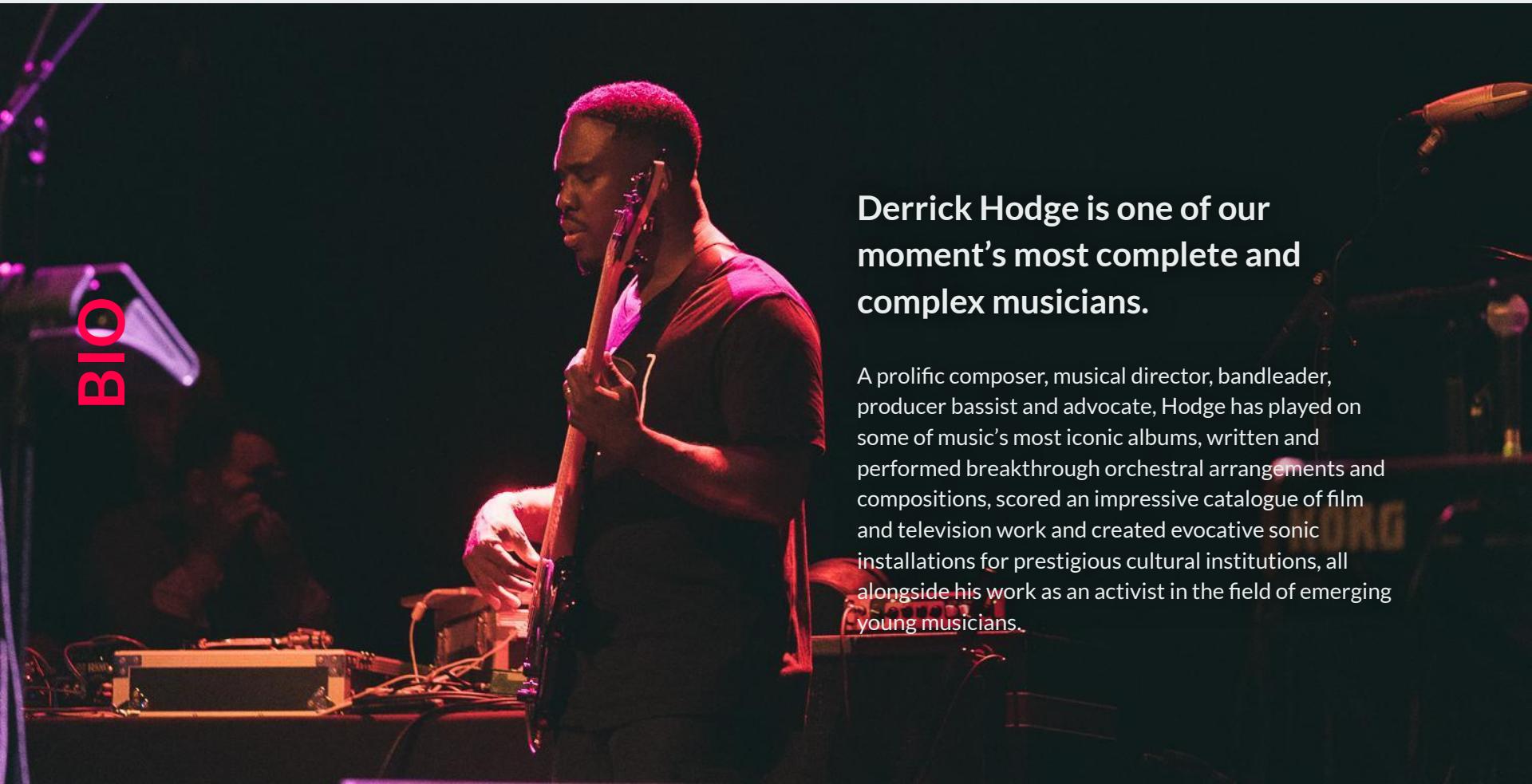
PRESS



The Rolling Stone website features a large, bold red "Rolling Stone" logo at the top. Below it, a headline reads: "Chaka Khan, The Roots, Earth Wind & Fire, Billy Porter, and More Celebrate Juneteenth at the Hollywood Bowl". A sub-headline states: "The best photos from backstage, in the crowd, and onstage at a joyful evening of culture and history in Hollywood". The article is by Simon Vozick-Levinson. The main text discusses the significance of Juneteenth and the diverse cast of performers. A photo of two men, identified as "The Maestros", is shown: Symphony conductor Derrick Hodge (left) and music director Adam Blackstone (right). They are standing backstage, smiling.



Bass Magazine's Issue 10 cover is titled "THE FUTURE OF BASS". It features four Black men, identified as "ADAM BLACKSTONE, DERRICK HODGE, DWAYNE MOORE, THADDAEUS TRIBBETT", standing together on stage with guitars. The main title of the issue is "BASS BROTHERHOOD" and the subtitle is "HOW FOUR CHILDHOOD FRIENDS MADE IT TO THE TOP". The cover also lists other contributors: STING, JACK WHITE, TIM LEFEBVRE, ESTE HAIM, FRANK BELLO, TROY SANDERS, and NEIL JASON. It includes sections for REVIEWS, COLUMNS, and TRANSCRIPTIONS & MORE!

A black male musician with short hair is playing a light-colored electric bass guitar. He is wearing a dark t-shirt and is positioned in the center-left of the frame. The background is dark, with stage lights creating a warm, reddish glow. In the bottom left corner, there is a large, semi-transparent watermark that reads "BIO" in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

BIO

Derrick Hodge is one of our moment's most complete and complex musicians.

A prolific composer, musical director, bandleader, producer bassist and advocate, Hodge has played on some of music's most iconic albums, written and performed breakthrough orchestral arrangements and compositions, scored an impressive catalogue of film and television work and created evocative sonic installations for prestigious cultural institutions, all alongside his work as an activist in the field of emerging young musicians.



To date he has been awarded two Grammys, named a Sundance Composer Fellow, received the Motif Award; one of Nation's highest honors for Child Advocacy, and his playing on Common's *BE* has been officially recognized as one of *Top 20 Basslines in Hip Hop History*.

BIO

Hodge describes his career as "*speaking existence into possibility*"; driven by a passion for music rather than genre, he is an artist defined only by his multiplicity. As lauded a composer as he is revered as one of THE great bassists and musicians of his generation, he is critically acclaimed across genres and mediums and boasts a diverse and devoted global audience.

Growing up just outside Philadelphia, Hodge's talent was quickly recognised by the luminaries of the city's neo-soul movement, and whilst still in college he became the bass player and Musical Director of choice for pioneers including Jill Scott, Maxwell, Floetry, Nas, Common, James Posyer and Musiq Soulchild. Simultaneously he was forging a career in jazz circles with the likes of other legendary musicians including Terence Blanchard, Donald Byrd, Mulgrew Miller and Bootsie Barnes while also holding a star place in his university's orchestra.



The trust and admiration Hodge commands among musicians - and the expertise he commands in his craft - is unparalleled, and has seen him play a foundational role in a wealth of groundbreaking projects. **In 2014 Hodge became the first Black composer to compose Hip Hop for the National Symphony when he acted as Orchestral Arranger and Music Director for the iconic event “20th anniversary celebration of Illmatic” which saw Nas perform the album with the National Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Steven Reineke.** The event - which was named by FENDER as one of the top moments in Hip Hop history - was also the first time Hip Hop was ever performed by the National Symphony and at the Kennedy Center.

BIO

Tellingly, Hodge has been the ‘first’ many times in his career: including being the first Black composer to write strings for Hip Hop at Carnegie Hall (as Arranger for Mos Def in the venue’s first full Hip Hop show in 2008),and the first black composer to write symphonic music for Hip Hop with the Houston Symphony (as Creative Director & Arranger for Common with the Houston Symphony in 2019).

This habit of breaking new ground and forging new paths hints at how significant a cultural force Hodge is in ways beyond music. In 2017 he was commissioned by the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture to write the installation music that accompanies their permanent exhibit about Oak’s Bluff: “*The Power of Place*”. The exhibition explores how place is something defined as much by people as by geography, and how Oak’s Bluff became a place of collective imagining, struggle, achievement and freedom for a burgeoning African American community. Hodge went on to compose for “*Social Dance*” - part of the NMAAHC’s seminal ‘Cultural Expressions’ floor, which explores African American and African diaspora culture - and for their “*Making A Way*” exhibit, which pays tribute to the creativity, agency and resilience with which individual African Americans crafted opportunity and possibility in the face of racial oppression.



Throughout his life, Hodge has devoted himself to projects that elevate and animate the African American legacy: the struggle but also - always - the poetry and the triumph too. It is this ability to honor and advance both culture and people that is the principle thread which weaves together Hodge's work.

This is equally apparent in Hodge's impressive portfolio of film composition. He has scored and composed for a plethora of small and big screen work, including '*The Black Candle*'; the first full length film about KWANZAA, narrated by Ms. Maya Angelou, '*Who the #\$\$&% is Jackson Pollock*' and '*Fauberg Treme: The Untold Story of Black New Orleans*', and has been music consultant and musician on many more, including the 2020 hit '*The Photograph*' starring Issae Rae. Whilst Hodge often lends his talents to the specific set of cinema and storytelling which chronicles America's Blackness; he is an artist who is deftly attuned to humanity and so his music is uniquely awake to the universal nuances of the human experience. This is why, perhaps, he has found such universal acclaim and appreciation: his music tells stories that are simultaneously of A people, and of THE people. He bridges gaps between worlds as well as genres, making him an exceptional musical foil for the big screen as well as a potent and important voice for our era.

BIO



As a performer, Hodge has founded and played in bands and groups as diverse and as influential as R+R=Now, the Robert Glasper Experiment and The Blue Note All Stars, as a producer he has collaborated with icons including Quincy Jones, Don Was and Common and as Musical Director he has worked with luminaries including Yasiin Bey, Nas, and notably held the position with Maxwell from 2009 to 2019.

As a Blue Note Recording Artist Hodge has released three critically acclaimed solo projects: *Live Today* (2013), *The Second* (2016), and *Color Of Noize* (2020). His albums are rich, raw and revelatory - reflecting everything from his roots in the church to an undercurrent of hiphop and eternal reverence for melody and classical composition.

BIO

The Color Of Noize project is Hodge's signature concept-series, bringing together contrasting sounds, styles and set-ups to create an immersive and inherently transcendent audio-visual experience. It is also particularly close to Hodge's heart as it opens up not just his music, but also his mission: to create a new, free space for music whilst also championing his community of both established and emerging musicians. More than an album, *The Color Of Noize* is an ongoing commitment to artistic excellence and inclusion, in particular the creation of opportunities and broadening of horizons for inner city youth. He first premiered *The Color of Noize* in 2019 as part of his Artist Residency at Monterey Jazz Festival, where Hodge brought together a collection of musicians, some as young as 4, on stage with him to explore his original compositions in a remarkably moving and beautiful concert. As he puts it "*it was never just my potential that made things happen; it was my community advocating for me - now I want to advocate for others, to pass that on*".



This is the natural progression for an Artist whose career has always been as rooted in meaning as it is in music: Hodge's body of work speaks to a sense of social responsibility that he carries as keenly as his creativity. Whether collaborating with giants, writing for the big screen, forging new paths for orchestral composition, or creating outreach projects like providing access to his symphonic scores and original arrangements to HBCUs and inner-city Music Programs, his work has the telltale trademark of always provoking social commentary, awareness or insight.

Here we find the fundamental character of Hodge; an incurably hopeful and humble man, who, through his work and his art, has made the world a definitively more beautiful place.

BIO