

Statement of Purpose

I would be excited to attend Princeton's program in Composition because I believe that freedom, stability, and a place to grow are what I need as the next step in my career as an artist and educator. I want to cultivate and investigate my craft and self, having the time to devote to my music and develop a compositional body of work. I wish to expand my knowledge of electro-acoustic and computer music in performance, explore singing techniques, expand my compositional range, evolve and connect the different parts of myself as an artist.

I'm extremely interested in exploring my own form and expression of opera and music-theater. I want to create pieces that combine narrative, multimedia dimensions, costumes, musical performance, text, theater and audience interaction. I'm interested in using opera as a vessel for an emotionally charged, larger than life experience that allows people to listen and get lost in their own emotions – perhaps feeling things they couldn't get in touch with before. I believe that opera and music-theater have a unique ability to transport people, to tell unwritten stories, and to uncover truths and shared experiences. In the past two years as a composition fellow with the American Opera Project's *Composers & the Voice* program, I composed the first act of a new opera as well as writing the libretto, which was an exciting undertaking and challenge.

I wish to explore recording, mixing and working in a studio at Princeton, to attain more skills in music production. I'm also interested in learning Max MSP and other programming. I would love to incorporate movement and dance into my vocal performance work and compositions. I studied modern dance and choreography at Bard College, and it's something I've

been wanting to bring back into my artistic process. I would love to push my multimedia ideas further and collaborate with other artists in theater, dance and film/video at Princeton. I would also be excited to participate in the available teaching opportunities. Because of the diverse breadth of faculty in composition, performance and electro-acoustic music, I feel Princeton would be the ideal place to study for my particular interests.

Another aspect of my creative life is my passion as an educator. I taught in NYC for the New York Philharmonic's Very Young Composers Program, The Kaufman Center's "Face the Music" program and Special Music School, as a Teaching Fellow at Yale University, and at the Yale School of Music's "Music in Schools Initiative" – teaching Creative Music Making lessons (composition) to New Haven Public School students. Teaching is a joy and always a challenge – it keeps me honest and on my toes.

Since I graduated from the Yale School of Music in 2020, I've worked on projects including composing a chamber piece for Emily Daggett Smith and the Knights that was performed at the University Art Museum, University at Albany. I was a composition fellow with The American Opera Project's *Composers & the Voice* program from 2021-2023, I was a composer for Opera Omaha's *Poetry & Music Project* in winter/spring 2023, and I attended the Aspen Music Festival as a composition fellow in the summer of 2023.

I thrive in an environment of challenge and discourse, while also craving the open space, time, and independence to work on creative projects and develop my ideas further. I believe that Princeton's program has the right balance for me to grow as a composer, artist and human being. I would be honored to join your community.