

ALTON THOMPSON

D. M. A. PEABODY CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC, JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
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VITA

EDUCATION

D. M. A. Peabody Conservatory of Music, The Johns Hopkins University
M. M. Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music, The University of Memphis
B. M. E. College of Music, The Florida State University

CONDUCTING EXPERIENCE

Guest Conductor, Hsinchu Philharmonic Orchestra, Hsinchu, Taiwan, 2008-
Guest Conductor, National Taiwan Normal University Symphony Orchestra, 2005-
Assistant Professor, Tainan University of Technology, Tainan, Taiwan, 2005-
• director of Tainan Chamber Orchestra, choral conducting studio and chamber ensembles
• strings, percussion, and winds including recorders and electronic keyboards
Principal Conductor, Taoyuan Symphonic Winds, Taoyuan, Taiwan, 2006
• summer tour performance in Shenzhen, China
• Taiwan tour performances in Taipei, Taoyuan, Hsinchu, and Chiayi
Guest Conductor, Taipei Symphonic Winds of the TSO, National Concert Hall, Taipei, Taiwan 2006
Visiting Music Director, Senior Women's Concert Chorus, National Taiwan Normal University, 2005
Conductor, Dafeng Performing Arts Orchestra, Taipei, Taiwan 2004
Conductor, Combined Choirs for Premiere of S K Tzeng's *Psalm Lu-O*
• Taipei Men's Chorus, NTNU Mixed Choir, Senior Women's Concert Chorus, and Women's Chorus
Music Director, Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra, Michigan 2002-2004
• concerts broadcast regionally on WNMU-FM Public Radio 90, Marquette, Michigan
• performances include Michigan Tech Concert Chorus, Jazz Lab Band, and professional soloists
Music Director, Michigan Tech Wind Symphony and Chamber Ensembles 2002-2004
Guest Conductor, Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra and Michigan Tech Concert Choir 2002
Principal Guest Conductor, Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra, Maryland 2000-2002
Guest Conductor, Clemson Symphony Orchestra, South Carolina 2001
Guest Conductor and Narrator, Pennsylvania State University Stravinsky Players 2001
Guest Conductor, Pennsylvania State University Philharmonic, 1998-2001
Rehearsal Conductor, Baltimore Chamber Orchestra Side-by-Side Players 2000
Guest Conductor, Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra, Maryland 2000-02
Assistant Conductor, Penns Woods Festival Orchestra, Pennsylvania 1998
Conductor, Players of the Peabody Conservatory & New Music Ensembles, Baltimore 1990-
Music Director, Fells Point Corner Theater & Vagabond Theater productions, Baltimore 1995-
• Director, Translator, and Librettist, *Burning Patience (The Postman)*, Fells Point 1998
Participating Conductor, League of American Orchestras Workshop, Nashville 1996
• Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt: Gustav Meier and Raymond Harvey, faculty
Conducting Fellow, Conductors Institute at the University of South Carolina 1995
• Paul Vermel, Manuel Alvarez, John Giordano, and Samuel Jones, faculty
• Stephen Paulus and Russell Peck, participating composers
Guest Conductor, University of Pittsburgh Women's Concert Chorus 1994
Guest Conductor, Oskar Kolberg State Philharmonia, Kielce, Poland 1993
Advisor to Martin Scorcese's Planning Team, Columbia Pictures 1992
• initial consultant for period opera scenes in *The Age of Innocence*
Participating Conductor, International Conductors Workshop, Zlín, Czech Republic 1992
• Bohuslav Martinů Philharmonic & State Philharmonia of Zabrze, Poland
• Tsung Yeh and Jonathan Sternberg, faculty
Music Director & Conductor, Arion Gesangverein concert choir, Baltimore 1990-92
Music Director & Conductor, Linthicum United Methodist Chancel Choir, Maryland 1990-92
Music Director & Conductor, Musica Humana chamber orchestra, Baltimore 1990-93

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CONDUCTING EXPERIENCE (continued)

Participating Conductor, Peabody Conductors Orchestra 1987-91

- twice-weekly rehearsals of standard repertory with full orchestra

Participating Conductor, Conductors Guild Workshop, Rochester, New York 1992

- Eastman School of Music: Frederick Fennell and Donald Hunsberger, faculty

Participating Conductor, Conductors Guild Workshop, Philadelphia 1988

- Curtis Institute: Max Rudolf and Samuel Jones, faculty

Music Director & Conductor, The Memphis Harmonie wind ensemble 1985-87

Assistant Conductor, The University of Memphis Opera 1986-87

- Conductor, Mozart *Così fan tutte*, Barab *A Game of Chance*
- Assistant Conductor, Mozart *The Magic Flute*

Assistant Conductor, The University of Memphis Orchestra 1986-87

- Conductor, Actor & Producer, Stoppard/Previn *Every Good Boy Deserves Favour*
- Conductor, Joyner *Medea* (premiere) and New Music Ensembles

Assistant Conductor, The University of Memphis Concert Choir 1987

Music Director, Memphis professional theater productions 1986-87

EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer, Conducting Seminar, National Taipei University of Education, Taipei 2007-

Guest Lecturer, Conducting Seminar, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei 2005-

Assistant Professor, Department of Applied English Studies,
Chungkuo Technology University, Taipei and Hsinchu 2004-

Visiting Lecturer, International Graduate Seminar, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei 2005-

Advisor to Graduate Conducting Students, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei 2005-

Adjudicator, Taiwan National Choral Festival, Taichung, Taiwan 2004

Assistant Professor, Michigan Tech University, Houghton, Michigan 2002-2004

- instructor: music theory, music history, and elements of music
- member: Fine Arts Curriculum Committee 2003
- member: Planning Committee for new Performing Arts Technology Major 2003

Guest Lecturer, Music Theory, Clemson University, South Carolina 2001

Music faculty, Anne Arundel Community College, Maryland 1999-

Associate manager, Rosen Arts Agency, Baltimore & Philadelphia 1995-2000

Guest Lecturer, *Symbols in Religion and Art*, Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, Tampa 1993

Instructor, Dulaney Valley Adult Education, *Symphonic Music Survey*, Baltimore 1992

Academic Advisor for Undergraduates, Johns Hopkins University 1990-91

Administrator and Educator, Performing Arts, Florida secondary schools 1982-85

- instructor: secondary-level instrumental and choral ensembles, theater, jazz, and theory
- coordinator: performing arts programs county-wide, Liberty County 1983-85

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Published photography, Judith Dupré *Skyscrapers*, 2008

Award for photography, Lonely Planet Travel Guides, 2006

Member, Executive Board, Conductors Guild 2002-2004

Member, City Development Advisory Group, Houghton, Michigan 2004

Featured Guest, 'Keweenaw Music' radio show, WOLF-FM, Houghton, Michigan 2004

Featured Speaker, Houghton Rotary Club, Michigan 2004

Participating Writer, *Coffee House Revisited*, McArdle Theater, Michigan Tech University 2002

Author, 'Juilliardy,' published in chapbook by Lewis Carroll Society of Canada 2002

Member, Artistic Planning Committee, Baltimore Chamber Orchestra 2000-

Manager and Webmaster, *Orchestralist* online forum for orchestra professionals 1999-

Guest commentator for radio show *Face the Music*, WBJC, Baltimore 1999-

Author, online articles reviewing recordings and film, Amazon 2001-

Author, *Baltimore Nocturne*, novel in progress 1998-

Author, 'Gramophone' read by David Zinman and Lisa Simeone on national radio 1998

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RELATED EXPERIENCE (continued)

Author, 'Formal Coherence in Emanuel Bach's *Auferstehung*,' published dissertation 1998
Participating professional, American Symphony Orchestra League Conferences 2000-
Presenter, Conductors Guild Annual Conference New Music Project, Los Angeles 1999
Publicity Coordinator, Conductors Guild Annual Conference, Washington DC 1998
Participating Professional, Conductors Guild Annual Conferences 1996-
Poetry published, *Dancing Shadow Review* and *A Walk with the Old Ones* 1995

AWARDS, GRANTS AND HONOURS

Photography Award, Lonely Planet Guides, 2006
Cover interview feature, 'Progress 2004: People Making a Difference'
- *Daily Mining Gazette*, Houghton, Michigan 2004
Honorary Member, Mu Beta Psi music fraternity, inducted 2004
Member, Conductors Guild Executive Board, elected at Chicago Conference 2002-04
Michigan Tech Fund established for Wind Symphony 2002
Peabody Conservatory, repertory research grant 2002
Orchestralist web resources cited in League of American Orchestras *Symphony* magazine 2001
First prize, Best First Chapter of a Novel, Baltimore Writers Alliance literary contest 1998
Peabody Development Grant and Manor Care System private grant for Czech orchestra trip 1992
President, Memphis Graduate Music Association 1986-87
Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society in Education, inducted Lambda Gamma chapter 1987
Pi Kappa Lambda Honor Society in Music, inducted Gamma Iota chapter 1986
University Council Arts Grant, *Every Good Boy Deserves Favour*, Memphis 1986
Full Scholarship and Teaching Fellowship, University of Memphis 1985-87
State President, Florida Student Music Educators National Conference 1980-81

PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITIES

American Brahms Society
American Musicological Society
Baltimore Writers Alliance
College Music Society
Conductors Guild
Early Music America
Tyzen Hsiao Music Society
The Internet Society
Laurie Anderson Club
League of American Orchestras
Maryland Writers Association
Mu Beta Psi music service fraternity
Pi Kappa Lambda honorary music society
OPERA America
Orchestralist
Wagner Society of New York