

Mark Brandon Feezell, Ph.D.

Education

Doctor of Philosophy in Music Composition

The University of North Texas, Denton, Texas, May 2003 (GPA 4.0)

Dissertation: *The Light* for two narrators and chamber orchestra

Master of Music in Music Theory and Composition (double thesis)

Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas, May 1999 (GPA 4.0)

Thesis 1: *The Spacing Index: a New Method of Textural Analysis*

Thesis 2: *Psalm 23* for chorus and orchestra

Bachelor of Music in Music Theory and Composition

Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas, May 1997

Summa cum laude with departmental honors in music (GPA 3.99)



Expertise

Composition: 48 graduate hours (including 9 hours of computer music composition)

Music Theory: 48 graduate hours (including 13 hours of Schenkerian analysis)

Experience

8/06 – 5/07

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas

- Teach freshman and sophomore music theory sequence

8/03 – 5/06

Visiting Assistant Professor, Claflin University, Orangeburg, South Carolina

- As one of seven full-time music faculty members, I was responsible for all sophomore, junior, and senior music theory instruction. In addition, I taught Music Fundamentals to first-year students.
- I taught the following courses while at Claflin:
 - Theory courses: Music Theory and Sight-singing III and IV, Counterpoint, Form and Analysis, Arranging, and Music Fundamentals
 - Musicology: Music History III (1800 – Present)
 - Methods: Woodwind Methods, Brass Methods, Instrumental Pedagogy
- My student evaluation results exceeded the university mean in all categories every semester.
- During my years at Claflin, the Department became a member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). I was involved in the process of editing the self-study document and was actively involved in the site visit. In addition, I compiled an extensive list of music library resource needs, essentially creating a core university music library.
- I established and maintained a MIDI resource lab incorporating software for engraving (Finale and Sibelius), theory and ear training (Auralia and Musition), and web-based learning.

8/01 – 12/01

Adjunct Faculty, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas

- Taught Music Theory I Honors in a four-year university music school

9/97 – 5/99

Remedial Graduate Theory Tutor, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas

- Tutored graduate music students who failed the theory placement exams

9/96 – 5/99

Music Instructor, Music Learning, Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas

- Taught 3-8 classes each week, with students aged 9 to 16
- Subjects included 3 levels of music theory, as well as beginning and intermediate band classes

4/96 – 5/03

Music Consultant and Engraver, Fort Worth, Texas

Selected Comments from Student Evaluations

Music Theory and Sight Singing: “Dr. Feezell is truly one of the best instructors I’ve had throughout my education...very helpful and concerned about the academic progress of the students. I have learned more than ever this semester...a good teacher who has opened my eyes to a different style of music theory...very patient and willing to work with his students...thoroughly knows the material...almost is the perfect teacher...overall teaching methods are wonderful...He is a must-have element...truly rare...I can honestly say that he loves what he does.”

Form and Analysis: “One of the best teachers in the music department...a wonderful teacher...never thought I would have a teacher that would care so much...a wonderful professor...a great motivator...willing to go all out for students to succeed...Dr. Feezell makes form and analysis as easy as ABC.”

Counterpoint: “Dr. Feezell is a good teacher and our class is really learning the information...helpful, explains samples well...a very good teacher.”

Music Fundamentals: “Dr. Feezell has high expectations of his students and challenges them to think, study and learn...a well admired teacher in the Music Department...takes the time to go over something until each student gets it...examples that he gives us are clear...very concerned whether his students are receiving the information that is being taught. His instructions are very clear...He makes sure you have clear ideas of the topics discussed in class before you leave. You are always able to seek extra help.”

Arranging: “Dr. Feezell is a fabulous educator...gives us valuable information needed to be arrangers...Dr. Feezell has brought many programs and methods that help us...a keeper...He knows his stuff.”

Music History III (1800-Present): “Dr. Feezell is very prepared...knows the subject matter and has a good method for getting us to understand...more students have learned this semester than previous semesters...a great professor...great motivator; challenges students to think...an excellent professor. His method of teaching is very understandable.”

Brass Methods: “I can truly say he has been a blessing upon my life, just wanted to say thanks.”

Music Theory I (Texas Christian University): “...a fabulous professor. His enthusiasm and compassion are matched by his love for the subject...while he was strict, he was willing to work with each student to figure out how they could improve...The class was enjoyable as well as educational, and among my favorites...always seemed willing and available for questions...a very effective teacher...students respect you and the way you teach...His dedication to the subject really shows...a very well-planned and educational semester...the instructor never intimidated us or made us feel inadequate...did a wonderful job and I learned a lot...very thorough and organized...did a lot more than expected...I learned a lot and found a deeper appreciation for theory in his class...did a fabulous job teaching a course that is difficult to teach...”

Selected Comments from Supervisor Evaluations

2003-2004 school year: “Particularly noteworthy has been the level of academic achievement that students in the music theory sequence have achieved from his instruction...His teaching strategies ensure a high rate of success for all students and contribute a great deal to the overall success of our music majors. Classroom observations of his teaching indicate that he is an extremely knowledgeable multi-area music educator...a fine musician whose teaching effectiveness has already made a significant contribution to the success of our students...Dr. Feezell has brought a new level of energy and enthusiasm about teaching and learning to our Department.”

2004-2005 school year: “He continues to produce an extensive amount of custom resources for courses that he teaches...Dr. Feezell continues to be an outstanding member of the faculty. He is the primary reason for the success of our music theory sequence in the programs of study for music and music education. Dr. Feezell brings energy and excitement to our Department each day, and our students are eager to learn from him. He is a fine mentor for our students, and they continue to grow as musicians and all-around citizens under his supervision.”

Presentations

- 3/05 *Not so Large a Leap: Introducing Students to the Pitch Organization of Charlie Parker as an Extension of Chopin and Modal Theory*, College Music Society, Mid-Atlantic Region, Morgantown, West Virginia
- 2/00 *The Spacing Index*, Texas Society for Music Theory, Waco, Texas
- 2/98 *The Music of Sheila Allen*, College Music Society, Southwest Region, Conway, Arkansas

Publications

In 2003, I began self-publishing on my website, drfeezell.com. My online publications include 14 compositions (5 of which are new), 32 arrangements, over 60 theory worksheets and handouts, a jazz chord encyclopedia including over 370 jazz chords/scales, and 66 additional scale packets for individual instruments.

In the six months ending May 2006, drfeezell.com received 100,000 page views. My theory resources, arrangements, compositions, and scale books were printed over 2000 times by musicians in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, Greece, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Poland, Singapore, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the U.S.

Recent Performances

- 10/06 **Faculty Voice Recital**, Claflin University, Orangeburg, South Carolina
- 9/02 **Voices of Change Young Composers Concert**, The Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas
- 11/01 **SPECTRUM Concert**, The University of North Texas, Denton, Texas
- 3/01 **SEAMUS 2001 AudioClip Web Concert**, Hosted by Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Recent Compositions – *most available at www.drfeezell.com*

- 2006 *Songs of the Islands* for soprano and piano (texts by the composer; in progress)
- 2005 *Malta*, for narrator and piano (English and German editions, 10:00)
- 2004 *Three Piano Sketches* (4:00)
- Amazing Grace Variations* (string orchestra and string quartet editions, 5:00)
- Hallelujah* for SATB chorus (1:00)
- 2003 *The Light* for 2 narrators and chamber orchestra (The University of North Texas dissertation, 24:00)
- Kyrie* for SATB chorus and piano (2000, rev. 2003; 8:30)
- Holy is the Lord* for SATB chorus and piano (3:00)

Awards

- First place, Fifth Annual Russell Horn Composers Competition sponsored by the Voices of Change Contemporary Music Ensemble, September 2002
- The University of North Texas David Schimmel Memorial Music Composition Scholarship Award, 2002-2003
- Wassenich Award (Outstanding paper at Texas Christian University, 1997)
- Boller Award (TCU outstanding honors presentation, 1997)
- TCU Department of Music Senior Scholar (selected by faculty as the top graduate, 1997)

Associations

Pi Kappa Lambda Music Honor Society, Mortar Board National Honor Society,
Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, Golden Key National Honor Society, College Music Society