

Byron Asher

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CLARINETIST/SAXOPHONIST/COMPOSER/IMPROVISER

Education

M.M. University of New Orleans - Jazz Studies	2015
- Saxophone instruction with Ed Petersen, Composition with Yotam Haber	
B.A. Brown University	2008

Residencies/Grants/Commissions/ Selected Recordings, Performances, and Presentations

- 2020 - Jazz Road grant from South Arts to fund Southeastern USA tour with *Skrontch Music* (leader)
- 2020 - Release of *Meeting In Progress*, by Nutria (co-leader), ears&eyes Records, Chicago/Buenos Aires
- 2020 - Performance with Basher (leader) at Instigation Festival, Hi-Ho Lounge, New Orleans
- 2019 - *Skrontch Music* named top 20 jazz release of 2019, textura.org
- 2019 - *Skrontch Music* performance in *Jazz Now* concert series, New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Center
- 2019 - Release of *Skrontch Music* recording, Sinking City Records, New Orleans
- 2019 - Release of *High Fashion* by Brad Webb Making Faces (sideman), Breakfast for Dinner Records
- 2019 - Tour with Nutria to Maine, performance at Barn Arts Collective
- 2019 - Tour with Nutria to Texas, performance at Nextbop.com South By Southwest showcase
- 2019 - Nutria begins weekly residency at premiere creative jazz venue, Bacchanal Fine Wine, New Orleans
- 2019 - Commission by Marigny Opera Ballet to compose *Querelle*, premiered January 2019
- 2019 - Grant from New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation to fund second *Skrontch Music* recording
- 2018 - Premiere of *Hinterland* project (leader), Sidebar, New Orleans, composed at MacDowell Colony
- 2018 - MacDowell Downtown lecture about *Skrontch Music*, my work and process, Peterborough, NH
- 2018 - MacDowell Colony Fellow
- 2018 - Composition residency at Barn Arts, Bass Harbor, ME
- 2018 - Performance with James Singleton Quintet featuring Johnny Vidocovich, Snug Harbor, New Orleans
- 2018 - Release of *100% Humidity* by Basher, Breakfast for Dinner Records
- 2018 - Release of *Call To The Air* by Nutria, Breakfast for Dinner Records
- 2018 - Release of *10,000 Starry Nights* by Matt Sakakeeny and Lonely Birds (sideman), New Orleans
- 2018 - Grant from Puffin Foundation, Teaneck, NJ, to fund *Skrontch Music* recording
- 2018 - Invited guest on *Tripod* with Laine Kaplan-Levinson, WWNO radio
- 2018 - Reprise performance with Nutria and Marigny Opera Ballet of *Wary Heat*, Marigny Opera House
- 2018 - Tour with Panorama Jazz Band (sideman) to Maryland and Pennsylvania
- 2017 - Invited guest on *Inside The Arts* with Diane Mack, WWNO radio, to talk about *Skrontch Music*
- 2017 - Grant from New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation to fund *Skrontch Music* recording
- 2017 - Performance with Nutria on Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center, Washington, DC
- 2017 - Premiere of *Skrontch Music* at Xavier University, produced by A Studio In The Woods, New Orleans
- 2017 - Commission, as Nutria, by Marigny Opera Ballet to compose *Wary Heat*, premiered February 2017
- 2016 - Composition residency at A Studio In The Woods, New Orleans
- 2016 - Performance with Los Po-boy-citos on Acura Stage (main) of New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival
- 2016 - Performance with songwriter Sarah Quintana for *Miss River* album release at Preservation Hall, New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival
- 2015 - Receipt of M.M. degree, jazz studies, from University of New Orleans
- 2015 - Premiere of *Up For Air* for string quartet by Mivos Quartet, Tulane University
- 2015 - Release of *Make A Tadpole Holler Whale* by Smoking Time Jazz Club (sideman), nominated Best Traditional Jazz Album, Offbeat Magazine Best of the Beat awards
- 2015 - Commission by Cripple Creek Theatre Company to compose a new score for children's musical *Revolt of the Beavers*, premiered March 2015

(Byron Asher CV continued, 2 of 2)

2015 - Performance of composition for film *Ghosts Before Breakfast* (Hans Richter) by new music ensemble Contemporaneous

2013 - Composition residency at Barn Arts, Bass Harbor, ME

2011 - Premiere of jazz suite *Impermanence* by Itinerant Orchestra, Axa In Action Festival, Prague, CZ

2011 - Emergency Grant from Foundation for Contemporary Art, NYC

Work

University of New Orleans - Adjunct instructor, Department of Music **2019-present**

- Courses taught include MUS1100 Music Fundamentals, MUS2103/4 Advanced Musicianship, MUS 1111 Music Notation, private clarinet lessons

Freelance musician - Bb and Bass Clarinets, Tenor and Alto Saxophones **2004 - present**

- New Orleans, 2011 - present; Prague, Czech Republic, 2008 - 2011; Providence, RI, 2004 - 2008

- Performances across the United States and internationally, including at the Kennedy Center

- International festivals include Montreux Jazz Festival, Switzerland; Jazz a Vienne, France; Karlovy Vary Jazz Festival, Czech Republic

- Local festivals and venues include Jazz & Heritage Festival, French Quarter Festival, Congo Square Festival, Snug Harbor, Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans Jazz Museum

Composer **2008 - present**

- Composer of original jazz and chamber works for various projects, including contemporary jazz projects Skrontch Music (leader), Nutria (co-leader), and Basher (leader)

- Chamber works performed by award-winning ensembles Mivos Quartet (NYC), Contemporaneous (NYC), New Resonance Chamber Orchestra (NOLA)

(Complete list of works available)