

# Curriculum Vitae – Martha Guth

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## Academic Degrees

D.M.A.	Voice Performance: The University of Michigan. 2016
Meisterklasse	Voice Performance: Hochschule für Musik Augsburg/Nürnberg, Augsburg, DE. 2004
M.M.	Voice Performance: Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. 2000
B.M.	Voice Performance: Oberlin Conservatory of Music. 1998

## Teaching Experience

### Ithaca College

Assistant Professor, 2018-Present

- Professor for Applied Lessons in Voice and a weekly studio class from 2018-present. Students include undergraduate and Masters students in Vocal Performance, Music Education, and Musical Theater.
- Professor for Diction I & II: A full year course outlining the basics of IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) and pronunciation for English, Italian, German and French Diction
- Professor for Spanish Art Song: A block course that traces art song in the Spanish language including Spain, the Caribbean, and Latin America.
- Vocal Chamber Music - including repertoire selection and coaching

### SongFest:

Faculty and Artistic Administrative Team since 2019

- Summer 2022 - Faculty and Artistic Administration team
  - Overall program planning in Conjunction with Artistic Administrative team and Director
  - Lead Administrator of the SongFest-Sorel Composer/Mentorship program
  - Faculty for three weeks
  - Student Recital curator
- Academic year 2021: Overall planning, curating and implementing remote options for SongFest 2021. Duties include:
  - Planning and implementing ‘Songs of Unity and Hope
  - Planning, recording, implementing ‘21’ an exploration of song in 1821, 1921, & 2021
- Summer 2020 SongFest Online: Administrator for ‘Auf den Airwaves zu Singen’. Duties include:
  - Creating an online event for 2020 in the wake of COVID 19 featuring almost 40 original recordings of lectures, conversations and performances by world renowned faculty.
  - An original 70 min. lecture recording via zoom on 21<sup>st</sup> C American Song featuring 5 emerging composers.

- Summer 2019: Guest coach, voice teacher and Artist: Three weeks of coaching singers in Schubert Lieder and voice lessons. Performer on two recitals one with Graham Johnson and another with Liza Stepanova, Pianist

#### **Collaborative Piano Institute:**

- Summer 2022, 5 day residency
  - Repertoire coaching
  - Masterclass: 21st C. Art Song
  - Lecture: Teamwork and building a career in Art Song
- Summer 2021, 5-day residency:
  - Repertoire coaching for 21st Century Art Song
  - Masterclass: 21st Century American and Canadian Art Song
  - Two Lectures: *Canadian Art Song* and *New Directions in American Art Song*

#### **University of Ljubljana:**

- Guest artist to teach Lied Duo course for one week, March 2019

#### **Adrian College:**

Adjunct professor:

- Applied lessons in voice from 2016-2018 to undergraduate major and non-major students in both music theater and classical music
- Studio class (team teaching) for the entire voice department

#### **University of Michigan:**

- Applied lessons in voice as a Graduate Student Instructor (GSI) from 2013-2016 to both undergraduate and graduate non-major voice students.
- Lead a student discussion on Entrepreneurship in the arts through the EXCEerator program

#### **Oberlin Conservatory of Music:**

- Applied Lessons in voice from 1997-8
- Assistant to the professor for English, French and German Diction

#### **Vancouver International Song Institute (VISI):**

- Over the 7 years at VISI, I taught voice students in private coaching and in masterclass sessions.

#### **Masterclass clinician/Lecturer/Guest presenter:**

University of Toronto	Lecture: Advice and Consent stories and song in the 21st C.	2022
University of Toronto	Masterclass/Q&A	2022
Collaborative Piano Institute	Masterclass/Q&A	2021
Collaborative Piano Institute	Lecture on New Directions in Art Song in the US	2021
Collaborative Piano Institute	Lecture on Canadian Art song	2021
University of Georgia	Masterclass/Q&A	2021
Duquesne University	Guest lecture: Entrepreneurship and audience building in the arts	2021
University of Louisville	Guest Lecture: Sparks & Wiry Cries: New Audiences for Art song	2021
Indiana University	Guest presentation: 21st C. American Art Song	2021
Gold Coast NATS	Guest Presenter: Connection, Collaboration & Community	2020
SongFest	Lecture: The United State of American Art Song	2020

Bucknell University	Guest lecturer: Entrepreneurship and Business in the arts	2018
Memorial University	Masterclass/Q&A	2017
Dalhousie University	Masterclass/Q&A	2017
College of Arts and Letters	Masterclass/Q&A	2016
Phillips Exeter Academy	Masterclass/Q&A	2015
Spokane SO Partnership	Masterclass/Q&A	2014
Proctor Academy	Masterclass/Q&A	2013
Proctor Academy	Masterclass/Q&A	2012
University of New Mexico	Masterclass/Q&A	2011
Brandon University	Masterclass/Q&A	2011
University of Manitoba	Masterclass/Q&A	2011
Proctor Academy	Masterclass/Q&A	2010
Proctor Academy	Masterclass/Q&A	2008
Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory	Masterclass/Q&A	2006

### Conducting /directing

Director of the choir at First Presbyterian Church at Glendale, Cincinnati Ohio 1999-2000

### Presenter at Summits/Conferences:

- ICVT - International Congress of Voice Teachers** - University of Vienna 2022
- Abstract accepted for summer of 2022, Vienna Austria with Erika Switzer and Tyler Duncan
- NATS National Conference:** 2022
- GRAND *songSLAM* for Sparks & Wiry Cries, Conference Opening night Event
  - Recital 'Who is she then' With Javier Arrebola
  - Booth for *Sparks & Wiry Cries*, where published music by Commissioned '*Sparks*' composers will be sold \* Postponed to 2022 due to COVID 19
- Indiana University: Innovation in art Song** 2021
- Pre-summit Interview with Erika Switzer on Sparks & Wiry Cries
  - Panelist for 'The Future of Art Song'
- NATS National Conference:** 2020
- GRAND *songSLAM* curated by Co Directors: Martha Guth & Erika Switzer for Sparks & Wiry Cries \* Postponed to 2022 due to COVID 19
  - Panel Discussion on *songSLAM* and building an audience for song: Sparks & Wiry Cries Co-Founders, Martha Guth & Erika Switzer (online)
  - Booth for *Sparks & Wiry Cries*, where published music by Commissioned '*Sparks*' composers will be sold \* Postponed to 2022 due to COVID 19
  - 20 min. set of songs by Tom Cipullo, with composer at the piano for Schirmer Exhibitor Publishers Showcase\* Postponed to 2022 due to COVID 19
- Dream Big: Music Out of Bounds. *When we collaborate, the possibilities are endless:*** 2020
- Key performer in 'Conversations and Concert – discussion and concert on music and Trauma curated by Margo Garrett and Jean Barr.
- Symposium on Singing and Song, St John's NFLD** 2018
- Co-Presentation of a lecture recital with Pianist Erika Switzer on *Sparks & Wiry Cries*

### Language Proficiency and Skills

Thorough knowledge of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

Aside from the languages below where I have intermediate or high proficiency, I have performed music in Norwegian, Swedish, Russian, and Czech.

**English:** Native Speaker  
**German:** Oral proficiency – Intermediate

	Reading proficiency – High
	Written proficiency – Intermediate
<b>French:</b>	Oral proficiency Intermediate
	Reading proficiency –High
	Written proficiency – Intermediate
<b>Italian:</b>	Oral proficiency- Intermediate
	Reading proficiency – Intermediate
	Written proficiency –Intermediate
<b>Spanish:</b>	Oral proficiency – Intermediate
	Reading proficiency- Intermediate

### Professional Mentors and Teachers

**Voice teachers:** Daune Mahy, William McGraw, Dr. Robert White, Edith Wiens, Carmen Pelton

**Coaches:** Margo Garrett, Rena Sharon, Graham Johnson, Kenneth Griffiths, Malcolm Martineau, Martin Katz, Kayo Iwama, Carol Isaacs, Joan Dorneman, Jocelyn Dueck, Laura Loewen

**Conductors (abbreviated list):** Robert Spano, Alan Gilbert, Richard Bradshaw, Helmut Rilling, Scott Speck, Rossen Milanov, John Nelson, Maximiano Valdés

### Collaborative Partners in Recital (abbreviated list)

Dalton Baldwin, Margo Garrett, Graham Johnson, Malcolm Martineau, Spencer Myer, Erika Switzer, Daniel Schlosberg, and Penelope Crawford (Fortepiano)

### Performance Experience

#### Forthcoming Solo Performances:

+ Denotes rescheduled from 2019-20 season due to COVID 19 | \* denotes Cancelled due to COVID 19

Concert/Role	Company	Location	Year
Mahler 4 -soloist +	Maryland Symphony	Hagerstown, MD	2022
Recital/World premiere/ Lincoln trio+	Baroque on Beaver Island	Beaver Island MI	2022
Recital tour +	With Graham Johnson, piano	Various Universities	2023

#### Select Solo Performances (2016-2019):

Concert/Role	Company	Location	Year
La Chanson D'Ève	Cornell University	Ithaca, NY	2021
Messiah	Binghamton Downtown Singers	Binghamton	2021
Recital with Erika Switzer	Downtown at Grace	White Plains	2021
Recital tour of Colleges/Institutions	With Mark Campbell, Erika Switzer and Jesse Blumberg		2021-22*
Mahler 2 -soloist	West Michigan Symphony	Muskegon, MI	2020*
Recital with Erika Switzer	University of Ljubljana	Ljubljana, Slovenia	2019
Concert	Concord Chorale	Concord, NH	2019
Recital with Graham Johnson	Songfest	L.A., California	2019
Recital tour/Graham Johnson	College Campuses: Notre Dame, CCM, Ithaca College		2019
Mahler 2 -soloist	Mobile Symphony Orchestra	Mobile, AL	2018
Recital with Erika Switzer	Cincinnati Song Initiative	Cincinnati, OH	2018
Recording-Staniland cycle	Centrediscs	St. John's NFLD	2017
Pilgrim's Progress: Wanton/Shining One	Gloriae Dei Cantores	Orleans, MA	2017
Encore Tour	Debut Atlantic	Atlantic Canada	2017

Carmina Burana	Chicago Philharmonic	Chicago, IL	2017
The Dream	Chicago Philharmonic	Chicago, IL	2017
Beethoven 9	Mobile Symphony	Mobile, AL	2017
Beethoven Missa Solemnis	Toledo Symphony	Toledo, OH	2017
Brahms Requiem	Concord Chorale	Concord, NH	2017
Rachmaninov/Villa Lobos	Chicago Philharmonic	Chicago, IL	2017
Recital	Victoria Chamber Music Festival	Victoria, BC	2017
Holiday Concert	Holland Symphony Orchestra	Holland, MI	2017
Mozart Requiem	Gloriae Dei Cantores	Orleans MA	2016
Recital/recording	Canadian Art Song Project *Juno Nom.	Toronto, Ontario	2016
Messiah	Vancouver Chamber Choir/Symphony	Vancouver, B.C.	2016
Holiday Pops Concert	West Michigan Symphony	Muskegon, MI	2016
Mozart Requiem	Toledo Symphony Orchestra	Toledo, OH	2016
Brahms Requiem	Holland Symphony Orchestra	Holland, MI	2016
Elijah	Columbus Symphony	Columbus, OH	2016
Recital with Penelope Crawford	F. Ludwig Diehn Concert Series	Norfolk, VA	2016
Mahler 4	Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra	Flagstaff, AZ	2016
Recital w/Penny Crawford	Academy of Early Music	Ann Arbor, MI	2016
Recital w/Hinrich Alpers	Uferhallen Pianosalon	Berlin, DE	2016
Recital w/Hinrich Alpers	Castle Herrnschein	Worms, DE	2016
Recital w/Hinrich Alpers	Sankt Goar Int'l Music Festival	Sankt Goar, DE	2016
Final Doctoral Recital	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI	2016
Messiah	Newfoundland Symphony	St. John's NFLD	2015
Glory Denied: Older Alyce	Chelsea Opera	NY, NY	2015
Brahms Requiem - soloist	National Cathedral Choir	Washington D.C.	2014
Recital w/Hinrich Alpers	Im Zentrum Lied (WDR recording)	Köln, DE	2014
Recital w/Hinrich Alpers	For the President of Germany, Embassy	Ottawa, Ont.	2014
Open concert and recording	Orquesta Sinfonica de Puerto Rico	San Juan, PR	2014
Recital w/Erika Switzer	Bay Chamber Concerts	Rockport, ME	2014
Pimpinone (Telemann): Vespetta	Bay Chamber Concerts	Rockport, ME	2014
Recital w/Erika Switzer	Victoria summer music festival	Victoria, B.C.	2014
Recitals	Vancouver International Song Institute	Vancouver, B.C.	2014
The Creation	Concord Chorale	Concord, NH	2014
Beethoven 9 <sup>th</sup> Symphony	Fort Wayne Philharmonic	Fort Wayne, IN	2014
Mahler 2 <sup>nd</sup> Symphony	Evansville Symphony Orchestra	Evansville, IN	2014
Kernis 'Simple Songs'	West Michigan Symphony	Muskegon, MI	2014
Recital w/Spencer Myer	Exponential Ensemble	NY, NY	2014
Brahms Requiem	Voices of Ascension	NY, NY	2014
Magna Mysteria, performance/recording	Trinity Cathedral Choir	Columbia, SC	2014
Messiah	Rhode Island Philharmonic	Providence, RI	2013
Recital w/Erika Switzer	Brooklyn Art Song Society	NY, NY	2013
Recital w/Malcolm Martineau	Casement Fund Song Series	NY, NY	2013
Recital w/Graham Johnson	Leeds Lieder Festival	Leeds, U.K.	2013
Recital w/Graham Johnson	Leeds Lieder Festival	Leeds, U.K.	2013
Merry Wives of Windsor: Alice Ford	Boston Midsummer Opera	Boston, MA	2013
Recital w/Borealis Quartet	Kamloops THRIVE Festival	Kamloops, B.C.	2013
Recitals	Vancouver International Song Institute	Vancouver, B.C.	2013
Spring Symphony (Britten)	Choral Society of Durham	Durham, N.C.	2013
Carmina Burana	Lima Symphony Orchestra	Lima, OH	2013
Chorale Concert	Concord Chorale	Concord, NH	2013
Messiah	Christ Church Cathedral	Lexington, KY	2012
Messiah	Calvin College	Grand Rapids, MI	2012
Recital	Chamber Fest, Ottawa	Ottawa, Ont.	2012
Recital	Chamber Fest, Ottawa	Ottawa, Ont.	2012
Recitals	Vancouver International Song Institute	Vancouver, B.C.	2012
Recital	Chamber Fest, Ottawa	Ottawa, Ont.	2012
Recital	Chamber Fest, Ottawa	Ottawa, Ont.	2012
Recitals	Vancouver International Song Institute	Vancouver, B.C.	2012

Carmina Burana	Mobile Symphony Orchestra	Mobile, AL	2012
Recitals with Erika Switzer	The Jeffrey Concerts	London, Ont.	2011
Recitals-world premieres	Five Boroughs Music Festival	NY, NY	2011-12
Carmina Burana	The Florida Symphony Orchestra	Tampa, FL	2011
Recital w/Erika Switzer	Hornby Island Music Festival	Hornby Island, B.C.	2011
Recital w/Erika Switzer	Victoria Summer Music Festival	Victoria, B.C.	2011
Recital w/Erika Switzer	Music Fest Vancouver	Vancouver, B.C.	2011
Recital w/Graham Johnson	Wigmore Hall (BBC recording)	London, U.K.	2011
Recitals	Vancouver International Song Institute	Vancouver, B.C.	2011
Brahms Requiem	Calvin College	Grand Rapids, MI	2011
Mozart Requiem	Downers Grove Choral Society	Downers Grove, IL	2011
St John Passion	Trinity Cathedral Choir	Columbia S.C.	2011
The Creation	New Mexico Symphony Orchestra	Albuquerque, NM	2011
Recitals w/Erika Switzer	Prairie Debut Tour (Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba)		2011
Magnificat (Chatman)	Vancouver Chamber Choir & Orchestra	Vancouver, B.C.	2011
Messiah	Santa Fe Symphony	Santa Fe, NM	2010
Magna Mystera (Fitz-Rogers)	Trinity Cathedral Choir	Columbia, N.C.	2010
Glory Denied: Older Alyce	Chelsea Opera	NY, NY	2010
Recital w/Erika Switzer	Chamber Fest, Ottawa	Ottawa, Ont.	2010
Opera Gala	Dickinson College	Carlisle, PA	2010
Recitals	Vancouver International Song Institute	Vancouver, B.C.	2010
Margot Alone in the Light: Margot	Opera Mission	NY, NY	2010
Evidence of Things not Seen	Florestan Recital Project	Carlisle, PA	2010
Try me Good King	Florestan Recital Project	Carlisle, PA	2010
Recital w/Erika Switzer	MusicFest Vancouver	Vancouver, B.C.	2009
Chamber concerts	Baroque on Beaver	Beaver Island, MI	2009
Messiah	Downers Grove Choral Society	Downers Grove, IL	2009
Recitals	Vancouver International Song Institute	Vancouver, B.C.	2009
Recital w/Graham Johnson	Wigmore Hall (BBC recording)	London, U.K.	2009
Messiah	Santa Fe Symphony	Santa Fe, NM	2008
Marriage of Figaro: Countess	Opera Lyra	Ottawa, Ont.	2008
Chamber Concerts	ChamberFest, Ottawa	Ottawa, Ont.	2008
Beethoven 'Ah Perfido'	Santa Fe Symphony	Santa Fe, NM	2008
Chamber Concerts	Baroque on Beaver	Beaver Island, MI	2008
Recitals	Vancouver International Song Institute	Vancouver, B.C.	2008
Early music concert	Claveçin en Concert (CBC recording)	Montreal, QC	2008
Recital w/Dalton Baldwin	Joy in Singing	NY, NY	2008
Messiah	Trinity Cathedral Choir	Columbia S.C.	2008
Gloria (Poulenc)	Downers Grove Choral Society	Downers Grove, IL	2008
Bach Cantata 199 (staged)	B.C. Living Arts	Kamloops, B.C.	2008
Recital w/Spencer Myer	New Orleans Museum of Art	New Orleans, LA	2007
Recital	Aldeburgh Connection	Toronto, Ont.	2007
Don Giovanni: Donna Anna	Opera Lyra	Ottawa, Ont.	2007
Recitals	Florestan Recital Project	Carlisle, PA	2007
Moscow String Quartet	ChamberFest, Ottawa	Ottawa, Ont.	2007
Recitals	Vancouver International Song Institute	Vancouver, B.C.	2007
Don Pasquale: Norina	Toronto Philharmonia	Toronto, Ont.	2007
The Space Between (Gendell)	Joy in Singing	NY, NY	2007
Recital	Joy In Singing	NY, NY	2007
Opera Gala	Bad Reichenhaller Philharmonie	Bad Reichenhall, DE	2007
Exultate Jubilare	Hamilton Symphony Orchestra	Hamilton, Ont.	2006
Carmina Burana	Windsor Symphony	Windsor, Ont.	2006
Mozart Opera Gala	Bad Reichenhaller Philharmonie	Bad Reichenhall, DE	2006
Marriage of Figaro: Countess	Palma de Mallorca	Palma de Mallorca	2006
Doctor Miracle: Lauretta	Santa Fe Opera	Santa Fe, NM	2006
Five Elliott Landscapes	Santa Fe Opera	Santa Fe, NM	2006
Don Pasquale: Norina	Santa Fe Opera Tour	New Mexico	2006

Recital w/Erika Switzer	André Turp Recital Series	Montreal, QC	2006
Recital w/Jared Johnson	Trinity Cathedral	Columbia, S.C.	2006
Recital w/Erika Switzer	Arts and Letters Club	Toronto, Ont.	2005
Messiah	Santa Fe Symphony	Santa Fe, NM	2005
Recital w/Luc Beausejour	Debut Atlantic Tour	Eastern Canadian Provinces	2005
Recital w/Erika Switzer	Fund Raising concert for VISI	Vancouver, B.C.	2005
Opera Gala	Bad Reichenhaller Philharmonie	Bad Reichenhall, DE	2005
Recital/ w/Lefki Karpodini	Young Songmakers-St. John-smith Sq.	London, U.K.	2004
The Magic Flute	First Lady Grazer Oper	Graz, Austria	2004
Abduction from the Seraglio: Konstanze	Kurhaus Göggingen (Hochschule)	Augsburg, DE	2004
The Magic Flute: Pamina	Kurhaus Göggingen (Hochschule)	Augsburg, DE	2003
Missa Solemnis	Bach Akademie Gesprächskonzert	Stuttgart, DE	2003
Operatic Selections	Toronto Symphony Orch.(COC ensemble)	Toronto, Ont.	2002
Giulio Cesare (Sartorio): Cornelia	Canadian Opera Company	Toronto, Ont.	2002
Idomeneo: 1 <sup>st</sup> Cretan woman	Canadian Opera Company	Toronto, Ont.	2001
Les Nuits d'été	Toronto Philharmonia(COC ensemble)	Toronto, Ont.	2001

### Young Artist Programs and Apprenticeships

Chautauqua Institute	Summers of 1997-1998
Tanglewood Musica Festival Fellow	Summers of 1999 and 2001
Opera Theater of Lucca, Summer Festival (CCM)	Summer of 2000
The Canadian Opera Company Ensemble	2000-2002
The Santa Fe Opera Apprenticeship	Summers of 2004-2005
Santa Fe Opera Tour and 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary chamber opera 2006	Spring and Summer

### Awards, Grants, and Honors

Casement Fund	\$2,500 yearly for Sparks & Wiry Cries Operational	2011-2021
Sorel Org	\$6,500 Yearly for Sparks & Wiry Cries	2015-2021
NMUSA Grant awarded	\$7,000 for Sparks & Wiry Cries- operational	2021
NEA grant awarded	\$30,000 for Sparks & Wiry Cries: Songs in Flight	2020
JUNO nomination	Classical Album of the Year: vocal or Choral	2020
Latin GRAMMY nomination	'Best Classical Composition' for Beyond the Silence of Sorrow	2016
Grant \$3,000	Rackham Research grant, University of Michigan	2015
Grant \$5,000	CEW foundation at the University of Michigan	2014
Sorel Emerging Artist	Sorel Organization	2013
Grant \$25,000	Canada Council for the Arts: Doctoral studies	2013
Wigmore Hall 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Wigmore Hall International Song Competition	2007
Encouragement Award	Licia Albanese-Puccini Competition	2006
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	CBC Young Musicians Competition	2003
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Wigmore Hall International Song Competition	2003
Grant \$25,000	Canada Council for the Arts: Study abroad (Germany)	2003
Joseph Rouleau 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Jeunesses Musicales Competition	2001
Faustina Hurlbutt Award	Oberlin Conservatory of Music	1998

### Discography

- Centrediscs: Songs of Healy Willan through the Canadian Art Song Project (**Juno Nomination**)
- Centrediscs: Go by Contraries - songs of Andrew Staniland
- Naxos: with the Orquesta Sinfonica de Puerto Rico, Six Orchestral Songs of composer Roberto Sierra, entitled *Beyond the Silence of Sorrow*. The song cycle from this recording was Nominated for a **Latin GRAMMY** for 'best contemporary classical composition
- Innova: Soprano soloist for the *Magna Mysteria* by composer John Fitz-Rogers

- Musica Omnia: Solo disc of Schubert songs entitled *Das Ewig Weibliche* with forte pianist Penelope Crawford
- GVR records (distributed through Naxos): *The Five Boroughs Song book*, a disc of 20 songs of 20 different NYC composers, commissioned by the Five Boroughs Music Festival
- Sparks & Co: Brahms Liebeslieder Waltzes and Quartets distributed on iTunes and CDbaby for digital release only

## Creative Initiatives

**Co-Founder and Co-Director** of *Sparks & Wiry Cries*, 501(c)3 (*The Art Song Magazine Inc.*:

[www.sparksandwirycries.org](http://www.sparksandwirycries.org)

*Sparks & Wiry* curates opportunities for art song creators, performers, and scholars through innovative initiatives that capture the stories of our diverse communities. Its activities include publication of the *Art Song Magazine*, presentation of the *songSLAM* festival in NYC, commission and premiere of new works and Creation, and co-production of *songSLAM* competitions for emerging composers and performers. Projects include:

- Martha Guth and ‘Sparks’ will be the lead administrator envisioning, creating, launching, Fundraising the **NEA backed** ‘Songs in Flight’ that includes partnerships with the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, The METropolitan Museum of Art, The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, the Harriet Tubman House, Cornell University, Duke University, Lincoln University (HBCU), and Cheyney University (HBCU). This project includes a weekend of performances in each partner city, the world premiere of a full evening length recital by Shawn Okpebholo with texts curated by Tsitsi Ella Jaji surrounding Cornell Universities *Freedom on the Move* Database, and performances by Rhiannon Giddens, Karen Slack, Reggie Mobely, Will Liverman, and Howard Watkins.
- 2021-2024’s publishing partnerships: The next three seasons bring two publishing partnerships to *Sparks*, expanding future performance opportunities at all levels of the music we commission and premiere. **New Music Shelf**, whose artist-led and owned company is the perfect fit for emerging composers, publishes *songSLAM* anthologies curated by *Sparks* in which the composers retain ownership of their intellectual property while enjoying the benefits of publication. A second volume of songs will be available summer of 2022. This year we have also entered into a partnership with **E.C. Schirmer Publishing** for our larger commissions. As a traditional publishing company, ECS provides commissioned composers the luxury of marketing and promotion for their work. *Sparks* will see 7-10 of its commissioned song cycles published through ECS in a renewable three-year “*Sparks & Wiry Cries* Art Song Series.”
- **The Art Song Magazine**: The Art Song Magazine provides educational and promotional resources to artists, students, teachers, and enthusiasts while sparking awareness of artistically diverse and abundant song-related initiatives around the world. The Art Song Magazine showcases **articles** written by pre-eminent song musicologists (Susan Youens, Michael Musgrave), **podcasts** and **print interviews** of composers and Performers (Graham Johnson, Gerald Findley, Christine Brewer, Julius Drake, Tom Cipullo, Stephen Paulus, Ned Rorem, Libby Larsen etc.), **blog articles** written by young performers and leaders of other song initiatives.
- **The songSLAM Festival**: The festival presents intimate vocal recitals that explore the complex union of poetry and music through collaborative performances, fostering connections within the broader artistic community.
  - A performance weekend Every January
  - A recital in partnership with Fall Island Vocal Arts Seminar that presents Stephanie Blythe, her pianist of choice and an emerging duo of her choosing from Fall Island Vocal Arts Seminar
  - Presentation of newly commissioned works,
  - Past and present performers include: Malcom Martineau, Stephanie Blythe, Rhiannon Giddens, Karen Slack, LaToya Lain, Jessica Care Moore, Naomi Louisa O’Connell, Margaret Lattimore, Kathleen Kelly, Howard Watkins, and Alan Louis Smith.



- *Sparks Commissions*: The Sparks Commissioning program funds the creation of new art song, with a preference for active collaborations between poet and composer. *Sparks Commissions* includes:
  - NYC premiere through the *songSLAM Festival*
  - Select score publication and distribution option through *Sparks & Wiry Cries*
  - Online promotion and sales through [www.artsongmagazine.org](http://www.artsongmagazine.org)
  - Partnership with New Music Shelf for print publication of the first *songSLAM* Song book, available June 2020.
  - A strong preference for choosing teams of composer/poet/performers representative of the diverse population of the United States.
- International *songSLAM* partnerships:
  - Partnerships with educational institutions, small art song organizations, and festivals including: The Kerrytown Concert House, Cincinnati Song Initiative, Festival Ljubljana, Per Artem, Re-Sung, Art Song Lab, Fourth Coast Ensemble, and the University of Toronto,
  - 2019-2020 includes 8 different *songSLAM*'s in NYC, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Minneapolis, Vancouver (Canada), Ljubljana (Slovenia), London (U.K.).
  - June of 2020, presentation of the first GRAND *songSLAM* at the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) as their opening evening event.
  - To date: Sparks has overseen the **World premiere of over 250 individual songs** through *songSLAM* competitions
- As Co-Founder and Co- Director of *Sparks & Wiry Cries* my duties include:
  - Co-Creation of the artistic vision and mission of the organization
  - Budgeting
  - Assembling a team of creative people
  - Grant writing
  - Creating a board
  - Producing fundraisers
  - Contracting artists, scholars and composers
  - Applied and achieved 501(c)3 tax-exempt status in 2015
  - 11 seasons of recital production

## Administrative and Leadership Experience

### L

**Founding Faculty** at the *Vancouver International Song Institute (VISI)* ([www.songinstitute.ca](http://www.songinstitute.ca)): (2007-2014) A three-week training institute focusing on 5 programs emphasizing the diversity in art song study and performance, including a core program of song students, a Song Scholarship program, a French Mélodie program, the Art Song Lab, and a Contemporary Studies Program. A faculty performance component has long been a part of VISI.

As part of the founding faculty I took part in the process of shaping *VISI* from its beginning. Work included:

- Conferences that shaped the developing structure of the three-week training institute
- Reaching out to donors for fundraising initiative
- Recruiting headlining faculty
- Recruiting students
- Creation and co-direction of the Contemporary Performance Studies program (CPS)
- Administrating the Contemporary Performance Studies program
- Performing with other founding faculty members and headliners including interdisciplinary work that has included dance, projection, and stage direction
- Coaching and mentoring students one on one and in small groups
- Working as a faculty partner to the student collaborative pianists so that their experience can be enriched by working with professional singers

As Co-Director of the Contemporary Studies program I:

- Co-Created the initial program including daily scheduling
- Worked closely with the Artistic Director of VISI in administering the program
- Programmed and assigned repertoire for the students
- Worked with the composers and students to create constructive ways in which to collaborate
- Taught masterclasses to the entire group and worked one on one with students

## **II.**

**Baroque on Beaver:** A Classical Music festival on Beaver Island, MI that runs for 10 days in August (2005-Present) in which I

- As a performer and producer successfully created and fundraised for the *Beaver Island Music Fund* that eventually was used as the initial funding for the inaugural festival.
- Worked as a consultant to the board on how to bring up both the quality and pay of the performers, which has steadily and safely been rising over the past decade.
- Sought out, and successfully attained the partnership of Baroque on Beaver as a commissioning presenter and funding partner for a new song cycle by Tom Cipullo set to the texts of Beaver Island poet Robert Cole entitled 'An Island in Autumn', which was premiered at the festival, later performed on the Casement Fund Song Series in NYC, and then performed at Carnegie Hall in 2015.
- Continue to remain a vital part of the festival by performing and curating fundraising concerts and performing in their chamber music and symphonic concerts pro-bono.

## **Specialized Writing Experience, Published Articles**

- Print Interviews for Crescendo (Newsletter/e-zine to the Santa Fe Opera)
  - Written interview of composer and librettist John Corigliano and Mark Adamo for their new world premiere Opera "Lord of Cries"
  - Written article on one of the new productions for the Santa Fe Opera's forthcoming 2021 season (title withheld due to nondisclosure agreement)
- Published article for Art Song Canada "American Art Song: a genre in transition", Issue 6, Winter 2020.
- Free-lance writer and researcher for the Metropolitan Opera for three seasons (2012-2015), 5-7 interviews per week during the season. Examples of these can be produced upon request.
  - Wrote introductions and conclusions for the late Margaret Juntwait and current host Mary-Jo Heath to read on air
  - Wrote interview questions for hundreds of interviews, which were often used verbatim on air or were used as points of departure.
  - Gave a detailed written compilation of every interviewed artists' performances at the Met, and compiled a biographic narrative that spanned 2-3 pages for each

## **Personal Commissions and dedications**

### **Commissions\*:**

- 'Three Night Songs' by Scott Wheeler – this is re-working of works already composed to include strings
- Tom Cipullo's song cycle to texts of Robert Cole entitled *An Island in Autumn*
- Andrew Staniland's Song cycle set to texts of Robin Richardson entitled *Islands and Earthquakes*
- Bruce Sled's song to a text by poet Lloyd Schwarz entitled *Sestina*

### **Dedications:**

- Thomas Pasatieri: a 'Bel Canto Song' from his set

- Juliana Hall's 'How do I love thee' five songs for Soprano with texts of Elizabeth Barrett Browning (World premiere 2017)

\*Through *Sparks & Wiry Cries* I have additionally commissioned over 250 songs and 10 cycles.

## Board Experience

*Vancouver International Song Institute*: One year on the board, where I worked for sustainability of Art Song scholarship, training, and its expanding performance market.

## Professional Management:

I am personally represented by:

Matthew Sprizzo  
[MatthewSprizzo@gmail.com](mailto:MatthewSprizzo@gmail.com)  
 18 Allison Ave,  
 Staten Island, NY, 10306 718-  
 987-2736

Sparks & Wiry Cries is represented by ADA Artists Management

## Reviews & Profiles (A select listing)

### Profiles:

- Musical America, January 2020: "[Sparks & Wiry Cries](#)"
- The Whole note, Toronto, Nov. 2018: "[songSLAM celebrates singer and song](#)"
- Classical Post website: Sept. 2018: "[Sparks & Wiry Cries expands](#)"
- WMUK, radio, Aug. 2017 "[Martha Guth, a soprano who revels in her range](#)"
- Classical Singer: Sept. 2015, an article outlining professional performers who are also concert producers and entrepreneurs: "[Wearing all the Hats: Singers as administrators](#)"

### Select Reviews:

- **Opera Now**: "From the first notes the atmosphere in the hall changed. It was one of those magical moments."
- **Opera News**: "...performances were by *Sparks & Wiry Cries* founders soprano Martha Guth and pianist Erika Switzer, with baritone Jesse Blumberg and the guidance of stage director David Schweitzer and Mark Campbell himself serving as host. It was gratifying to observe that he is as eloquent and nimble with the spoken word as he is with the written. Guth and Blumberg gave first-rate dramatic performances throughout, and proved to have great chemistry in their duets. Switzer's accompaniment was flexible and sensitive. As a solo performer, Guth was at her best in Cummings' *Thoroughfare*, a mini-song cycle inspired in part by *Wintereisse*. The songs are anguished, comic and at times angry, requiring a great versatility that Guth managed well."
- **Arts Birmingham**: "Out front for this performance was soprano Martha Guth, who portrayed the lead character, Anna, with bawdiness and humor, toting a briefcase, twirling a scarf and writhing on the floor as the drama progressed from Louisiana through Memphis and beyond." (Kurt Weill's *Seven Deadly Sins*)"
- **Globe and Mail**: "Martha Guth as Pompey's widow created a fiercely proud and dignified Roman matron, and in her trumpet aria hurled out her thrilling top range."
- **Montreal Gazette**: "Ms. Guth's artistic maturity became truly amazing in her interpretation of Schumann's 'Frauenliebe und Leben'. The young lady's rendition was immensely moving."