

virginia CHORALE



Guest Artists Commonwealth Connection



Stephen Coxe received degrees from Swarthmore College (BA) and Yale University, (MM, DMA) where his principal teachers in music composition were Gerald Levinson, Martin Bresnick, Jacob Druckman, and Ezra Laderman. He has received an Aaron Copland Award, ASCAP Awards, Belgian-American Educational Foundation Fellowship, Composers Guild Award, Friends and Enemies of New Music Prize, and grants from Meet the Composer, among others. Stephen has received commissions and premieres

from many ensembles and organizations, and has had works performed in a variety of venues, among them Weill Recital Hall, Columbia University Miller Theatre, Joseph Papp Public Theatre, Juilliard School, St. Peter's Church (New York City), Wigmore Hall (London), New England Conservatory, Longy School, San Francisco Conservatory, Peabody Conservatory, Amherst College, and the Eric Carle Children's Museum for the Visual Arts. Stephen is an adjunct Associate Professor in Music Theory and Composition at Old Dominion University, and he is Artistic Director of Instrumental Music at the Virginia Governor's School for the Arts. In the summer months he is a composer in residence and faculty member at the Yellow Barn Music School and Festival in Vermont. He has performed as a pianist in numerous past seasons with the Virginia Chorale, and the Chorale have also performed his choral works.



Bianca Hall has performed and recorded as a soprano vocalist and recorder player with various ensembles throughout the country, including Norfolk Chamber Consort, Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Bach Collegium San Diego, Pacific Bach Project, De Angelis Vocal Ensemble, Tesserae, and Ciaramella.

Bianca currently holds the position of Senior Lecturer in Early Music in the F. Ludwig Diehn School of Music at Old Dominion University, where she directs the Madrigal Singers and the Collegium Musicum and teaches courses in Music History. She also regularly serves on the voice faculty of the San Francisco Early Music Society's Medieval & Renaissance Workshop. Bianca holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Early Music Vocal Performance from University of Southern California, Thornton School of Music, with secondary emphases in Theory and Analysis, College Teaching, and Recorder Performance. She also holds both Master of Music and Bachelor of Music degrees in vocal performance both from California State University Fullerton, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Physiological Science with an English minor from University of California, Los Angeles.



Michael Bjorklund holds a Bachelor of Arts in music education from South Dakota State University. He was a musician in the U.S. Army serving in bands in Heidelberg, Germany; Ft Sill, Oklahoma; SHAPE, Belgium; Ft. Riley, Kansas; Ft. Monroe, Virginia; Schwetzingen, Germany; and then back to Ft. Monroe. He retired from the military in 2004. A member of the Collegium Musicum at Old Dominion University, he also received his Master of Science in Education, specializing in elementary education from ODU. He then went on to serve as an instructional assistant at Oakland Elementary School in Suffolk. He retired in 2023 from that position; however he still volunteers at the school. He and his wife reside in Suffolk.