

NELL SHAW COHEN, Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, New York, NY

Advanced Certificate in Digital Media Design for Learning, GPA 4.0, May 2015

Courses in Educational Tech, UX Design, User Research, Interaction Design, Cognitive Science, Learning Theory

Master of Music in Music Theory & Composition, GPA 4.0, May 2014

Studied with Herschel Garfein, Missy Mazzoli, and Julia Wolfe.

New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, MA

Bachelor of Music in Composition with Honors, GPA 3.99, May 2012

Studied with Michael Gandolfi, John Mallia, and Kati Agocs.

GRANTS & HONORS

NYU Steinhardt 21st Century Scholarship (2014-15)

NYU Student Senators Council Academic Conference Fund Grant (2014)

NYU Symphony Composer-in-Residence (2013-14)

NYU Steinhardt Research/Creative Project Award Challenge Grant (2013-2014)

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Arts Award Scholarship (2012-2015) - *The nation's most generous private scholarship for graduate arts study.*

George Whitefield Chadwick Medal (2012) - *NEC's most distinguished honor for a graduating senior.*

Presser Scholar Award (2011-2012)

NEC Honors Ensemble Composition Competition (2011)

NEC Entrepreneurial Grant (2010 and 2011)

Ellen Taaffe Zwilich Prize from the International Alliance for Women in Music (2009)

Featured artist of the Swiss Global Artistic Foundation (2008)

Elizabeth Brockman Composition Award (2008)

SELECTED PRESS & PUBLICITY

The East Hampton Star, Joanne Pilgrim on *The Coming of Spring* at NYU, April 22, '14

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Blog, "Scholar Spotlight" Feature on *Point Reyes from Chimney Rock*, March 12, '14

The East Hampton Star, Christopher Walsh on *Watercolors* at the Parrish Art Museum, November 6, '12

Newsday on Parrish Art Museum Opening and *Watercolors*, November 4, '12

The Boston Globe, David Weininger on *The Course of Empire* at the Peabody Essex Museum, July 29, '11

New-York Historical Society interview on *The Course of Empire* at the Peabody Essex Museum, July '11

Articles are available for viewing at nellshawcohen.com under "Press"

SELECTED PERFORMANCES, RECORDINGS, & COMMISSIONS

***Wanderlust* for guitar quartet**, commissioned by the Faculty of the Young Guitarists Workshop for premiere at Boston GuitarFest, Jordan Hall, Boston, MA, 6/16/15

***Dai-Shizen (Great Nature)* for guitar and flute**, commissioned by Devin Ulibarri for premiere at Boston GuitarFest, Jordan Hall, Boston, MA, 6/28/14

***The Coming of Spring*, one-act monodrama for tenor and chamber ensemble**, presented in staged workshop performance at New York University, New York NY, 4/29/14

Point Reyes from Chimney Rock for orchestra, commissioned by the NYU Symphony, premiered at the Skirball Center for the Performing Arts, NYC, 3/03/14

The Winding Path for string quartet, premiered by The JACK Quartet at Provincetown Playhouse, NYC, 4/23/13.

Watercolors for wind quintet performed twice by The Chelsea Quintet for combined audience of 400 at grand opening of the new Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill NY, 11/10/12

28 performances produced and co-produced in the Boston area, 2008-12; including 20 performances on *Tuesday Night New Music* chamber music concert series at NEC.

Beyond the Notes: Music Inspired by Art, portrait recital of compositions inspired by visual art at NEC, Boston MA, 11/02/11. *Beyond the Notes* multimedia website “concert companion” awarded Entrepreneurial Grant from NEC, launched July 2011 (www.beyondthenotes.org)

The Course of Empire for string quartet, inspired by the paintings of Thomas Cole. Performed by members of string orchestra A Far Cry in conjunction with opening of touring exhibit *Painting the American Vision* at the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem MA, 7/30/11

I Like to Play with Him for soprano and piano, commissioned by WordSong, premiered St. Botolph Club, Boston MA, 5/24/11; repeat performances at NEC; private salon; and Club Oberon in Cambridge MA

Trees for flute choir, commissioned by San Francisco State University Flute Choir, premiered Koret Auditorium, Civic Center, San Francisco CA, 5/ 15/09

Studio recordings of *Time-Lapse* mixed instrumental quartet and *Memory* for SATB vocal ensemble featured members of Lionheart, Fireworks Ensemble, and Alarm Will Sound, 2007

Tempus, full-length album for voice, guitar, bass, keyboards, drums, percussion; composed, recorded and performed vocals and instruments, independently released under the stage name Nell James, 2006. Positive reviews include former Village Voice music editor Chuck Eddy in *Harp Magazine*. More at www.nelljames.com

WORK EXPERIENCE

Designer & Producer, Beyond the Notes (beyondthenotes.org), June 2011-present

- UX/UI design, video, photography, and music production, and content development for arts education media
- Designed and implemented multimedia installation with interactive score, “Explore John Muir’s Yosemite,” for web & iPad [<http://muirsyosemite.com>], placed into Apple App Store; presented at academic events, including 2014 international John Muir Symposium at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA
- Produced 60+ videos focusing on multidisciplinary music & arts topics; 40,000+ YouTube views to date
- Created mobile-optimized “Music Inspired by Art” website, filmed interviews with senior curators at major museums
- Publicized website launch via social media and print outlets, garnering publicity from *The Boston Globe*

Web Documentary Design, Mozilla/Tribeca Film Institute Storytelling Innovation Lab, May 2013

- Paid participant in a weeklong web documentary lab organized by Tribeca Film Institute & Mozilla
- Collaborated closely with five leading experts in documentary film, interactive media, and 3D web graphics
- Co-designed and implemented collage-style graphics in 3D browser environment, composed music cues

Department Assistant, New England Conservatory Department of Liberal Arts, Sep 2009-May 2012

- Coordinated school-wide course fairs, poetry readings, guest lecturers, and other departmental events
- Trained and managed two assistant work-study employees
- Conceived and produced a series of promotional videos for NEC’s website

- Designed and supervised printing of course catalogs, academic journal, chapbooks, and promotional materials
- Tracked all departmental expenditures and reimbursements; assembled reports on use of department resources
- German language tutor for Professor Sia Stovall

Composer and Administrative Intern, WordSong, January-May 2011

- Commissioned to compose art song, presented in four concerts in public and private venues
- Managed mailing lists and coordinated publicity and ticketing for spring concerts

Engineering Assistant, NEC Department of Audio/Visual Services, September 2008-May 2009

- Assisted live concert recording; edited recordings; managed equipment, data, CD duplication

Museum Staff, Sag Harbor Historical Museum, May-July 2008

- Key-holding administrative employee
- Maintained exhibits, handled admissions, visitor and phone inquiries, sales & records

Web & Graphic Designer, Nellmedia.com, 2000-2007

- Designed web sites and logos for established artists and non-profit organizations.
- Clients included: musicians from Blue Man Group and rock band The Flaming Lips; Airavata Foundation, tsunami aid fund; San Francisco's Dance Mission Theater; Young Performers Theater; SF Bay area music promotion company Engine That Could; Argyle Records, NY record label/publicity firm.
- Awarded First Prize, the Network For Teaching Entrepreneurship Bay Area Student Business Plan Competition.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Entrepreneurial Musicianship Department, NEC, '11-'12

- Conversation leader and facilitator for "Project 231" music entrepreneurship student discussion series
- Selected as student speaker to prospective funders
- Interviewed as student representative for video and radio publicity

Academic Journal *Hear Here!*, NEC, '09-'12

- Managing Editor of Journal
- Four essays selected for publication in 2010, 2011 and 2012 editions

Student Senate, NEC, '09-'10

- Student Representative to the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

COMPLETE LIST OF WORKS, COMMISSIONS, PERFORMANCES, & RECORDINGS

Listed by genre in reverse chronological order

ORCHESTRA AND LARGE ENSEMBLE

- **Point Reyes from Chimney Rock (2013) for orchestra, 7 mins**
 - Commissioned by the NYU Symphony for premiere at the Skirball Center for the Performing Arts, New York NY. 3/03/14.
- **Symphony No. 1 (2012) for orchestra, 17 ½ mins**
 - First movement read and recorded by the New England Conservatory Philharmonia, Jordan Hall, Boston MA. 4/27/12.
 - Second movement read and recorded by the NYU Symphony, New York University, Global Center, New York NY. 11/19/12.
- **The Sphinx and the Milky Way (2011) for orchestra, 5 mins**
 - Read and recorded by the New England Conservatory Philharmonia, Jordan Hall, Boston MA. 5/02/11.
- **Fantasy for Winds (2011) for wind ensemble, 6 mins**
 - Read and recorded by the New England Conservatory Wind Ensemble, Jordan Hall, Boston MA. 5/04/10.
- **From the Faraway Nearby (2009) for orchestra, 6 mins**
 - Read and recorded by the New England Conservatory Philharmonia, NEC, Jordan Hall, Boston MA. 4/17/09.
- **Fantasy (2009) for orchestra, 6 mins**
 - Read and recorded by the New England Conservatory Philharmonia, NEC, Jordan Hall, Boston MA. 4/17/09.

CHAMBER (INSTRUMENTAL)

- **Wanderlust (2015) for guitar quartet, 13 ½ mins**
 - Commissioned by the Faculty of the Young Guitarists Workshop for premiere at Boston GuitarFest, Jordan Hall, Boston, MA. 6/16/15.
- **Dai-Shizen (Great Nature) (2014) for guitar and flute, 10 ½ minutes**
 - Commissioned by Devin Ulibarri for premiere at Boston GuitarFest, Boston MA. 6/28/14.
- **Horizon (2013) for solo cello, 7 ½ minutes**
 - Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill NY. Karlos Rodriguez, Cello: 11/09/13. Richard Vaudrey, Cello: 11/10/13.
 - Recorded on-site in public parks by Fjola Evans for short dance film, February 2014.
- **Three Decorations (2013) for percussion trio, 5 mins**
 - New York University, Frederick Loewe Theatre, New York NY. NYU Percussion Ensemble; Jonathan Haas, Director. 10/13/13.
- **The Winding Path (2013) for string quartet, 7 mins**
 - New York University, Provincetown Playhouse, New York NY. The JACK Quartet. 4/23/14.
- **Places in the Bay Area (2012) for flute/piccolo and piano, 8 mins**
 - *Tuesday Night New Music*; New England Conservatory, Pierce Hall, Boston MA. Sarah Sutherland, Flute and Piccolo; Kristina Nyberg, Piano. 3/06/12.
- **Sextet (2012) for oboe, bassoon, trumpet, harpsichord, violin, and viola, 8 ½ mins**
 - *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Jordan Hall, Boston MA. Zachary Boeding, Oboe; Andrew Thompson, Bassoon;

Gregor Kaelin, Trumpet; Amy Kao, Harpsichord; Lisa Goddard, Violin; Elizabeth Oka, Viola. 4/23/12.

• **Setsugekka (2011) for violin and piano, 5 ½ mins**

- *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Pierce Hall, Boston MA. Samantha Bennett, Violin and Wesley Chu, Piano. 10/25/11.
- *Beyond the Notes: Music Inspired by Art*; NEC, Pierce Hall, Boston MA. Samantha Bennett, Violin and Wesley Chu, Piano. 11/02/12.

• **Triptych (2011) for solo guitar, 7 mins**

- *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Williams Hall, Boston MA. Devin Ulibarri, Guitar. 4/26/11.
- *Beyond the Notes: Music Inspired by Art*; NEC, Pierce Hall, Boston MA. Devin Ulibarri, Guitar. 11/02/12.

• **Watercolors (2011) for flute/piccolo, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, and horn, 15 mins**

- Grand opening of the Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill NY. The Chelsea Quintet presented this piece in two afternoon performances for a combined audience of ~400. 11/10/12.
- Winner of NEC Honors Ensemble Composition Competition. NEC, Jordan Hall, Boston MA. Andra Winds, NEC Honors Ensemble. Ridge Davis, Flute and piccolo; Martha Kleiner, Oboe; Christopher Mothersole, Clarinet; Lauren Hunt, Horn; Sean Maree, Bassoon. 5/12/11.
- *Beyond the Notes: Music Inspired by Art*; NEC, Pierce Hall, Boston MA. Ridge Davis, Flute and piccolo; Elizabeth O'Neil, Oboe; Randolph Palada, Clarinet; Sarah Sutherland, Horn; Sean Maree, Bassoon. 11/02/12.

• **Into nowhere (2010) for flute, clarinet, piano, violin, and cello, 19 mins**

- *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Williams Hall, Boston MA. Ridge Davis, Flute; Christopher Mothersole, Clarinet; Asher Severini and Wesley Chu, Piano; Samantha Bennett, Violin; Joanna Wiebe, Cello. 4/26/11.

• **Duet (2011) for flute and bassoon, 6 mins**

- Boston Composers Collective; Anderson Auditorium and Grossman Gallery at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston MA. Lisa Husseini, Flute; Andrew Thompson, Bassoon. 3/01/11.
- *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Williams Hall, Boston MA. Adam Eccleston III, Flute; Nathan Landes, Bassoon. 10/27/09 & 1/26/10.

• **Trees (2009) for six-part flute choir, 7 mins**

- Commissioned by San Francisco State University Flute Choir. Koret Auditorium, Civic Center, San Francisco CA. 5/15/09.

• **Trees (2010), arrangement for two oboes and harpsichord, 7 mins**

- *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Williams Hall, Boston MA. Heather Shelley and Paul Lueders, Oboe; Sojourner Hodges, Harpsichord. 2/22/10.

• **Nine Muses (2009), miniatures for solo flute, violin, and harp, 13 ½ minutes**

- *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Williams Hall, Boston MA. Anne Gregory, Flute; Maria Rindello Parker, Harp; Audrey Wright, Violin. 3/10/09.
- *Proclaiming Pan*, a program of music inspired by Greek mythology. Tufts University, Distler Performance Hall, 10/13/13 and Hunneman Hall, Brookline Public Library, Boston MA, 3/25/12. Elizabeth Erenberg, Flute; Maria Rindello Parker, Harp; Gabe Terracciano, Violin.

• **The Course of Empire (2008) for string quartet, 15 mins**

- Grand opening of touring exhibit *Painting the American Vision*; Peabody Essex Museum, Salem MA. Performed by members of string orchestra A Far Cry: Lisa Zurlindin, Violin; Ethan Wood, Violin; Jason Fisher, Viola; Alexei Gonzales, Cello. 7/30/11.
- *Beyond the Notes: Music Inspired by Art*; NEC, Pierce Hall, Boston MA. Lisa Goddard and Ryan Shannon, Violin;

Maureen Heflinger, Viola; Talya Buckbinder, Cello. 11/02/12.

- *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Brown Hall, Boston MA. NEC Honors Ensemble Tetrachord: Quan Yuan, Violin; Jennifer Wey, Violin; Matthew Davies, Viola; David Meyer, Cello. 2/24/09.
- **The Promise (2008) for trumpet and string quartet, 11 mins**
 - *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Williams Hall, Boston MA. Diana Wensley, Trumpet; Amy Galluzzo, Violin; Jennifer Wey, Violin; Samuel Gold, Viola; Ginevra Ventre, Cello. 11/25/08.
- **Time-Lapse (2007) for English horn, clarinet, viola, and cello, 4 mins**
 - Recorded at John Kilgore Sound & Recording, New York, NY. Jacqueline Leclair, English Horn; Bill Kalinkos, Clarinet in Bb; Chris Jenkins, Viola; Leigh Stuart, Cello. November 2007. Members and former members of Alarm Will Sound, Fireworks Ensemble, Invert, and The Catalyst Quartet.

VOCAL

- **The Coming of Spring, (2014) monodrama for tenor with flute/piccolo, oboe/English horn, clarinet/bass clarinet, horn, bassoon, and piano, 36 minutes**
 - Dramatic work with libretto by the composer. Presented in staged workshop performance of full score at New York University, Provincetown Playhouse, New York NY. Featuring David Rosenmeyer, Conductor; Herschel Garfein, Stage Director; and Tyler Lee, Tenor. 4/29/14.
 - Piano-vocal arrangement of “Collecting” (excerpt) performed on recital by Tyler Lee Tenor. NYU, Black Box Theatre, New York NY. Ben Baker, Piano. 5/19/14.
 - Piano-vocal arrangement of “Prologue: Two Hollows” (excerpt) performed on *UrbanAnimals NYU*; NYU, Provincetown Playhouse, New York NY. Tyler Lee, Tenor; Alice Hargrove, Piano. 11/24/14.
- **Crescent Meadow (2014) for SATB choir, 4 ½ minutes – No performances**
- **I Dream’d in a Dream (2011) for SATB choir, 11 mins**
 - *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Brown Hall, Boston MA. The New England Conservatory New Music Vocal Chamber Ensemble. 4/06/11. (Movements I & III only; movement II has not yet been performed.)
- **I Like to Play with Him (2011) for soprano and piano, 4 mins**
 - Commissioned by WordSong concert series. Premiere St. Botolph Club, Boston MA, 5/24/11. Kristen Watson, Soprano; Linda Osborn-Blaschke, Piano. Additional WordSong performances at NEC, Pierce Hall, Boston MA, 10/26/11; a private salon, 11/04/11; and Club Oberon in Cambridge MA, 11/14/12.
- **To Create One’s Own World (2009) for soprano, flute, bass clarinet and marimba, 5 ½ mins**
 - *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Brown Hall, Boston MA. Rachel Holmes, Soprano; Stephanie Cambra, Flute; Jay Hutchinson, Bass Clarinet; Takehiko Mochizuki, Marimba. 4/21/09.
 - *Beyond the Notes: Music Inspired by Art*; NEC, Pierce Hall, Boston MA. Morgan Strickland, Soprano; Erika Boysen, Flute; Jay Hutchinson, Bass Clarinet; Dave Tarantino, Marimba. 11/02/12.
- **Revealed in Stone (2009) for tenor and piano, 11 mins**
 - *Beyond the Notes: Music Inspired by Art*; NEC, Pierce Hall, Boston MA. Joshua Quinn, Tenor; Christina Chao, Piano. 11/02/12.
 - *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Williams Hall, Boston MA. Mxolisi Duda, Tenor; Patricia Au, Piano; 3/31/09.
- **Revealed in Stone (2009) arrangement for tenor and 11-piece chamber ensemble, 11 mins**
 - *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Brown Hall, Boston MA. Featuring Mxolisi Duda, Tenor; Aram Demirjian, Conductor. 12/01/09.

- **Songs for Baritone (2008) for baritone and piano, 7 mins**
 - *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Williams Hall, Boston MA. Chad Flynn, Baritone; Patricia Au, Piano. 2/02/09.
- **Forming Desires (2008) for contralto, Bb clarinet, horn and cello, 8 mins**
 - Awarded the 2009 Ellen Taaffe Zwilich Prize from the International Alliance for Women in Music.
 - *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Williams Hall, Boston MA. Oriana Dunlop, Contralto; Alexandra Frana, Clarinet; Lauren Hunt, French horn; David Meyer, Cello. 10/28/08.
- **Memory (2007) for SATB vocal ensemble, 12 ½ mins**
 - Recorded at John Kilgore Sound & Recording, New York NY. Kris Gould, Soprano; Lawrence Lipnik, Alto; John Olund, Tenor; Kurt-Owen Richards, Bass. Members of Lionheart, Pomerium, Parthenia, et al. 2007.

ELECTRO-ACOUSTIC / MULTIMEDIA / OTHER

- **Explore John Muir's Yosemite (2014) multimedia installation for web browser & iPad app with photography, video, and digitally-produced score** [<http://muirsyosemite.com>]
 - Selected by Apple for inclusion in App Store.
 - Exhibited at international John Muir Symposium at University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA. 3/22/14.
 - Exhibited at NYU Steinhardt Scholarship Day, New York, NY. 4/16/14.
- **California Zephyr (2014) video with piccolo, clarinet, 2 percussion, piano, violin, viola, cello, bass, 8 mins**
 - Commissioned by the NYU Contemporary Music Ensemble for premiere at NYU, Frederick Loewe Theatre, New York NY. 4/28/14. Video component produced by the composer.
- **San Marco (2012) for trumpet with samples and live processing, 3 mins**
 - NEC, Pierce Hall, Boston MA. Ezra Weller, Trumpet. 4/01/12.
- **The Faraway Nearby: Georgia O'Keeffe and The New Mexico Landscape (2010) video with flute, clarinet, piano, violin, cello, 10 mins**
 - Awarded NEC Entrepreneurial Grant. *Tuesday Night New Music*; NEC, Brown Hall, Boston MA. 11/10/10. Video component produced by the composer.
 - YouTube version of this video [http://youtu.be/UVoYKIS_x-4] has received over 10,000 views.
- **Tempus (2006), rock album for voice, guitar, bass, keyboards, drums, percussion, 40 mins**
 - Composed, recorded and performed vocals and instruments, independently released under the stage name Nell James in 2006. Positive reviews include former Village Voice music editor Chuck Eddy in *Harp Magazine*, et al. More information at nelljames.com