

Sundar Subramanian
<https://sundarsubramanianmusic.com>

EDUCATION

- Sept 2005-
May 2011 **PhD, University at Buffalo (SUNY): Music (Composition)**
Dissertation (*Four-Sided Guitar*) successfully defended on March 25, 2011
Dissertation topic: a multimovement work for guitar, including a piece for classical guitar, a piece for prepared electric guitar, a sample-based digital piece and a piece for electric guitar with real-time FFT-based signal processing
Advisor: Dr. Jeffrey Stadelman
- Sept 2002-
June 2005 **M. A., York University: Music (Composition)**
Thesis Supervisor: Prof. David Mott
- Sept 1997-
June 2001 **B. A. Hons, Carleton University: Music**

UNIVERSITY-LEVEL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Aug 2015-
May 2018 **Visiting Assistant Professor (Music Composition/Music Technology), Clark University**
MUSC299 (Senior Composition Project) Spring 16
MUSC270 (Senior Tutorial in Computer Music) Spring 18, Spring 17, Spring 16
MUSC220 (Composition Seminar) Fall 15
MUSC191 (Improvisation and Aleatory) Fall 17
MUSC142 (Recording Practice and Audio Art) Spring 18, Spring 17, Spring 16
MUSC141 (Computers and Music) Fall 17, Fall 16, Fall 15
MUSC125 (Musical Acoustics) Fall 16
MUSC103 (Post-Music: New Musics Since 1945) Spring 18, Fall 17, Spring 16,
Fall 15
MUSC012 (Pop Music in the USA) Spring 17
- Jan 2015-
Apr 2015 **Contract Instructor, Carleton University**
MUSI3106 (Popular Musics of the World) 2015 Winter
- Sept 2013-
Dec 2014 **Part-Time Professor, School of Music, University of Ottawa**
MUS4308 (Topics in Counterpoint) 2014 Winter
MUS3306 (Theory and Analysis III) 2014 Fall
MUS2382 (Introduction to World Music) 2014 Winter
MUS2306 (Theory and Analysis I) 2013 Fall
- Sept 2011-
Dec 2012 **Sessional Lecturer, Department of Music, University of Regina**
MU345 (Analysis of Music Written Since 1900) 2012 Winter
MU321 (Theory and Analysis of Music III) 2011 Fall
MU320AG/MUHI205 (Themes in Popular Music) 2012 Fall, 2012 Spring/Summer,
2011 Fall
MU100 (Introduction to Music) 2011 Fall
- Sept 2008-
Jan 2010 **Sessional Instructor, School of Music, University of Windsor**
32.213 (Music Theory IV) 2009 Winter
32.212 (Music Theory III) 2008 Fall

32.346 (Music Cultures of the World)	2009 Winter
32.116 (Themes in Popular Music)	2009 Fall, 2009 Intersession, 2009 Winter, 2008 Fall
32.112 (Music Theory I)	2010 Fall

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Jan 2001- **Private Instructor**
Tutor students in guitar, bass, piano, and ukulele in a range of idioms. Tutor students in composition, popular songwriting, and classical and jazz music theory (including for Royal Conservatory examinations). Teach in both English and French.
- June 2019- **The Audio Recording Academy, Supply Teacher, Ottawa, ON**
Supply teach classes on recording and production at Raven Street Studio's Audio Recording Academy

OTHER TRAINING

- July 2015- Studied recording techniques at Liverpool Court Studios in Ottawa with engineer
Aug 2015 Sebastien Perry. Recorded and mixed sessions by local rock and jazz artists.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Oct 2019 **Ottawa Guitar Society, Young Composers Competition**
Jury member
- Jan 2014 **Ontario Arts Council, Music Commissioning Program**
Jury member

PRIZES

- Oct 2014 **Luther Brown Prize (Awarded by the Delta Center for Culture and Learning, Delta State University)**
For the emerging scholar presentation at the International Conference on the Blues that most effectively and eloquently incorporated themes that advance greater understanding and appreciation of the Delta's cultural heritage (\$500 award)
- May 2008 **Brian M. Israel Prize, Honourable Mention (Awarded by the Society for New Music and the NY Federation of Music Clubs)**
For *Diminished but Returning*. Awarded to young composers residing in New York State

GRANTS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT (HIGHLIGHTS)

- May 2021 **Ottawa New Music Creators, Honorarium**
(forthcoming) For the composition of *Remote Connection* for cello (\$250)
- Nov 2018 **Society for Music Theory, Minority Travel Grant**

- To present at the annual conference of the Society for Music Theory and the American Musicological Society in San Antonio, TX (\$400)
- May 2018 **Higgins School of the Humanities, Mini-Grant, Clark University**
To perform at the annual conference of the Canadian University Music Society at MacEwan University in Edmonton, AB (\$750)
- Apr 2014 **Ottawa New Music Creators, Honorarium**
For the composition of *Deadlines and Intersections* for prepared piano and violin (\$200)
- Apr 2013 **University of Regina, Honorarium**
For arranging and performing electric guitar and live electronics for *Alleluia: Deus Meus* with University of Regina Chamber Singers (\$100)
- Jan 2013-
Apr 2013 **Saskatchewan Arts Board, Independent Artists Program (Music)**
For the composition of *Openings*, a work for prepared guitar, and *Locks and Ripples*, a multi-track work for electric guitar and live electronics, as well as for the design of signal processing applications for the electric guitar (\$5000)
- Sept 2008- **Mark Diamond Research Fund, SUNY Buffalo Graduate Students' Association**
To support dissertation work
- May 2005 **Arraymusic, Young Composers' Workshop**
For the composition of *A Swing Set in Space* (\$2000)
- Sept 2002 **York University, Entrance Scholarship**
- Sept 2002-
June 2004 **York University, Graduate Assistantship**
- Sept 1997-
June 2001 **Carleton University, Multiple Scholarships**
Earned President's Scholarship, Jack Barwick and Douglas Duncan Memorial Scholarship for Music, Lester Bowles Pearson Scholarship

PERFORMANCES OF COMPOSITIONS AND IMPROVISATIONS: HIGHLIGHTS

- May 2021 (forthcoming) *Remote Connection* (cello), to be performed by Mark Molnar via video for Ottawa New Music Creators pandemic livestream concert. Selected in competition.
- Feb 2021 Solo video concert of material from *Electric Currents*: on Youtube
- Aug 2019 *S(h)immer*, 21st Century Guitar conference and festival, University of Ottawa. Chosen in a peer-reviewed competition.
- July 2019 *River of Sky*, improvisation with William Beauvais, Mackay United Church, Ottawa
- Oct 2018 *Warp*, premiered by Cowan-Cicchillitti Guitar Duo at Cube Gallery, Ottawa. Presented by Ottawa New Music Creators. Chosen by the performers in a competition.

- May 2018 Performed *Broken Refraction*, *Randomly*, and *S(h)immer* (electric guitar and live electronics) at the annual conference of MusCan (the Canadian University Music Society) at MacEwan University, Edmonton, AB. Chosen in a blind peer-juried competition.
- Apr 2018 *Needing Space* (10-string classical guitar) premiered by Julian Bertino at University of Ottawa, M. Mus. recital
- Mar 2018 Performed *Broken Refraction*, *Randomly*, and *S(h)immer* (electric guitar and live electronics) at CreatorSpace, University of Ottawa School of Music
- Feb 2018 *Songs of Friction* (flute, clarinet, violin, cello), premiered by Hub New Music at Clark University
- Aug 2016 Performed *Locks and Ripples* (electric guitar, live electronics) at Toronto International Electroacoustic Symposium (peer-juried)
- April 2016 *When It Was OK* (flute, tuba, prepared piano), performed by Casey Granofsky, Andrew Nowry, and Daniel Mehdizadeh at Jacob Siskind Centre, Carleton University, Ottawa. Presented by Ottawa New Music Creators.
- June 2015 *Collapsible Spinning Flip* (violin, vibraphone, bass clarinet), performed by faculty of the University of Ottawa School of Music at the 2015 Conference of the Canadian University Music Society (in conjunction with the Congress of the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences); University of Ottawa. Chosen in a blind peer-juried competition.
- May 2015 Performed *Broken Refraction*, *Rondo 2015*, and *Locks and Ripples* (electric guitar, preparations, live electronics) at "J'Acousmatic, Vol. 3" electroacoustic concert, SAW Gallery, Ottawa
- Apr 2015 *The Anger Loop*, performed by Sarah Albu (soprano) at Double Feature III, St. Brigid's Centre for the Arts, Ottawa; presented by Ottawa New Music Creators. Chosen in a blind competition.
- Nov 2014 *Eight in Five*, performed by Chris Goddard (piano) at Double Feature I, Patrick Cardy Studio, Carleton University; presented by Ottawa New Music Creators
- Apr 2014 *Deadlines and Intersections*, Stephanie Chua (prepared piano) and Véronique Mathieu (violin) at Double Feature II, GigSpace; presented by Ottawa New Music Creators
- June 2013 Performed *Tension and Extension* and *Locks and Ripples* (electric guitar, preparations, live electronics) at Neutral Ground Gallery, Regina SK
- May 2012 Performed *Rondo* (prepared electric guitar), Cathedral Village Arts Festival, Artesian, Regina SK
- Mar 2012 Faculty composer, Living Music Under Living Skies New Music Festival, University of Regina: performance of *Collapsible Spinning Flip* (violin, bass clarinet, vibraphone) by Regina Symphony Orchestra players

- Mar 2012 Performed *Tension and Extension* (prepared electric guitar) at Sounds Like Theory: Intermedia Research Symposium, University of Alberta, Edmonton AB
- Feb 2010 Faculty composer, Windsor Canadian Music Festival: performance of *Collapsible Spinning Flip* (violin, bass clarinet, vibraphone) by University of Windsor faculty
- Sept 2009 Telematic improvisation (classical guitar, live electronics) with Germany's Blackhole Factory, Noiseborder, University of Windsor
- July 2009 *Theoretically Pretty* (flute, clarinet, violin, piano). Musselman Arts Triathlon, Smith Opera House, Geneva NY.
- Apr 2008 Performed *Extended in All Directions* (improvisation, prepared electric guitar) at The Extensible Electric Guitar Festival, Clark University, Worcester MA. Peer-juried competition.
- Apr 2007 *Diminished but Returning* (string quartet): students from the Eastman School of Music, SUNY Brockport. Received a grant from the GSA at SUNY Buffalo.
- Nov 2006 *Solipsism (Ten Bars)* (electric guitar): Seth Josel, Tonic, New York City.
- May 2006 *Diminished but Returning*: Madawaska String Quartet, Music Gallery, Toronto, ON. Received a grant from the GSA at SUNY Buffalo.
- May 2005 *A Swing Set in Space* (clarinet, piano, double bass, percussion): Arraymusic, Music Gallery, Toronto.
- Feb 2005 Performed *Rules of the Game* (prepared electric guitar) at the Society for American Music conference at University of Oregon, Eugene OR.

BROADCASTS OF COMPOSITIONS AND IMPROVISATIONS

- May 2018 Performance at MusCan conference livestreamed and archived via Facebook Video
- May 2015 *Broken Refraction*: Broadcast on *Infinite Ceiling*, CKCU, Ottawa
- May 2015 *Broken Refraction*: Broadcast on *Acoustic Frontiers*, CKCU, Ottawa
- Mar 2010 *Collapsible Spinning Flip*: National broadcast on *The Signal*, CBC Radio 2.
- Feb 2010 *Diminished but Returning*: Broadcast on *20th Century Limited*, CJAM, Windsor.
- Jan 2009 Telematic improvisation with Germany's Blackhole Factory, Noiseborder, University of Windsor. Broadcast in part on local CBC TV
- Oct 2008 *Diminished but Returning*: Broadcast on *Fresh Ink*, WCNY (NPR), Syracuse

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- July 2010 ***Ex Tempore: A Journal of Compositional and Theoretical Research* iv/2**

"Pitch Structures in Reginald Smith Brindle's *El Polifemo de Oro (Quattro Frammenti per Chitarra)*"

BOOK REVIEWS

Nov 2009 **Textbook Review**
Starr, Larry, Christopher Waterman, and Jay Hodgson. *Rock: A Canadian Perspective*. Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2009.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Aug 2019 **21st Century Guitar Festival and Conference, University of Ottawa**
Lecture on my creative practice
- Nov 2018 **Society for Music Theory, Annual Conference (in conjunction with the American Musicological Society), San Antonion, TX**
"The Grateful Dead's 'Blues for Allah': Syncretic Composition in Mid-1970s Rock Music", with Melvin Backstrom
- June 2016 **Canadian University Music Society, Annual Conference (in conjunction with the Congress of the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences), University of Ottawa, Ottawa ON**
"Young Woman's Blues': Form, Syntax, and Rhetoric in the Music of the 'Blues Queens' of the 1920s – A Case Study"
- June 2015 **Canadian University Music Society, Annual Conference (in Conjunction with the Congress of the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences), University of Ottawa, Ottawa ON**
"In the House Blues': Form, Syntax, and Rhetoric in the Music of the 'Blues Queens' of the 1920s – A Case Study"
- Oct 2014 **International Conference on the Blues, Delta State University, Cleveland MS**
"Wild Women Don't Have the Blues': Form, Syntax, and Rhetoric in the Music of the 'Blues Queens' of the 1920s – A Case Study"
- Mar 2012 **Sounds Like Theory: Intermedia Research Studio Symposium, University of Alberta, Edmonton AB**
"Four-Sided Guitar: Extending the Instrument via Preparations, Sampling, and Signal Processing"
- July 2009 **International Association for the Study of Popular Music Intl Conference, Liverpool UK**
"Saying 'Yes' to Semiology: Form and Syntax In 'Close to the Edge'". *Paper published in IASPM proceedings.*
- May 2009 **University of Western Ontario Music Graduate Student Symposium, London ON**
"Pitch Structures in Reginald Smith Brindle's *El Polifemo de Oro (Quattro Frammenti per Chitarra)*"
- Dec 2007 **International Society of Improvised Music, Northwestern University, Evanston IL**
"Composition and Improvisation: Synthesizing the Musical Approaches."

Feb 2005 **Society for American Music, University of Oregon, Eugene OR**
“*Rules of the Game: An Aleatoric Composition for Extended Electric Guitar*”

RECORDINGS OF COMPOSITIONS AND PERFORMANCES (HIGHLIGHTS)

Jan 2021 Full album *Electric Currents* self-released on CD via CDBaby

July 2019 Recorded and engineered *Warp*, performed by Cowan-Cicchillitti Duo. Released digitally via Bandcamp.

Nov 2016 Recorded and engineered *Dissociation* at Clark University Recording Studio. Released digitally via Bandcamp.

Nov 2015 *The Anger Loop* was recorded by Sarah Albu at McGill University. Released digitally via Soundcloud.

Aug 2015 Released EP *Ripples and Refractions* digitally via Bandcamp

Aug 2013 *Eight in Five: A Fugue* was recorded by Dr Penny Johnson, Conservatory Instructor in piano with University of Regina. Released digitally via Soundcloud.

May 2011 Uploaded recordings of three movements from *Four-Sided Guitar* and *Diminished but Returning* to Soundcloud

Dec 2009 Performed on The Noiseborder Ensemble - *Browsing Beauty* (LP released by University of Windsor School of Music)

Aug 2004 Recording session at Music Gallery, Toronto
Mystery Story (perf Prof David Mott)
Travelling Trio (perf Prof Christina Petrowska-Quilico, William Beauvais, Julian Knight)
Three Images (students, York University)
Trimurti (students, York University)

Mar 2004 *Shade* (a CD of my compositions) was released on Worthy Records.

May 2003 *Sine Tone and Overtones In Just Intonation* was included on the Mutek Festival's Virtual Compilation

Dec 2002 *Composition for Indian Harmonium* was included on Worthy Records' compilation CD release *Stars from Worthy Skies*

RECORDING AND PRODUCTION – OTHER ARTISTS (HIGHLIGHTS)

Aug 2015- Mixed and assisted with recording an eight-song demo by Alex Bilodeau Trio at
Oct 2015 Liverpool Court Studios

GUITAR PERFORMANCE (ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS)

Mar 2021 *One Page Score Project*. Vancouver New Music. Virtual.

- Mar 2021 Blake deGraw – *Polysymphanic Entropy*. 21st Century Guitar Festival. Virtual.
- Feb 2021 Shawn Bell – *Currents II*. Beauvais Creative Guitar Studio concert. Video, released on Youtube.
- July 2019 Ben Verdery – *Scenes from Ellis Island*. Guitar orchestra member. Chamberfest, Ottawa.
- Apr 2013 Arranged and performed electric guitar and live electronics for *Easter II: Alleluia - Deus Meus* with University of Regina Chamber Singers. Conducted by Dr. Dominic Gregorio.
- July 2009 Christian Marclay – *Shuffle*; Shawn Bell - *Electric Currents II*. The Scream Literary Festival, Toronto ON.
- Feb 2009 Performed in multiple contemporary works as part of *Too Blue to Fly*, a Noiseborder concert, University of Windsor.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Jan-Apr 2013 Attended seminars associated with the *University Teaching Certificate*. Offered by Centre for Teaching and Learning, University of Regina.
- July 2011 *Instructional Skills Workshop*. Offered by Centre for Teaching and Learning, University of Windsor.
- Jan-Feb 2011 *Leading Effective Discussions*. Half-course offered by Centre for Teaching and Learning, University of Windsor.
- Apr-June 2010 *Lecturing and Presentations*. Half-course offered by Centre for Teaching and Learning, University of Windsor.