

Recording of Improvisations on a Painting by Jules Olitski

As an aspiring composer, I am always looking for ways to progress my budding career. Currently, I am studying composition with Prof. Leah Reid and piano with Prof. John Mayhood. I am in the midst of applying to graduate school for composition and I have recently finished working as an orchestrator, copyist, and assistant for composer Chad Cannon in Los Angeles. My compositional output is broad and I have written orchestral music, chamber music, choral arrangements, music for motion picture, and music that incorporates acoustic instruments with electronics. I believe that my studies at UVa and my work experience with Chad Cannon have put me in a good position to be a successful. However, to make greater strides in my professional development I need to start creating professional, collaborative relationships with talented musicians. These relationships will lead to commissions and larger scale projects in the future.

This March, I have the opportunity to create professional quality recordings for a work I am writing for piano and live electronics with my friend Alexa in Glasgow, Scotland. I will incorporate these recordings into the electronics, and my piece will be premiered in May at Old Cabell Hall. This is a great chance to have a work of mine professionally recorded and collaborate with an incredibly talented young musician. As a student of the local conservatoire, Alexa will be able to use the space for free. I need to be at the recording session in order to convey to Alexa my artistic vision in real time. Additionally since my piece has unconventional notation, I will consult with Alexa about the most appropriate notation for the piece. I am requesting a minigrant of \$500 to offset the costs of traveling to Glasgow, Scotland so I can help create a recording that accurately represents my artistic vision.

Alexa is an incredibly accomplished young pianist. She recently placed third in the 'Merci, Maestro!' International Piano Competition for Young Pianists in Brussels, Belgium and was selected as a finalist in the Enschede International Piano Competition. As an active performer, she has been a soloist for orchestras in Romania and Scotland. She has also recently performed at Glasgow City Hall in a concert in conjunction with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. A link to Alexa's performance of Saint Saens' Piano Concerto in G minor with the Dinu Lipatti Symphonic Orchestra can be found here (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUJ5GkqebTw>). She has studied with some of the world's most accomplished pianists, including Fali Pavri, Steven Osborne, and Jenő Jandó. Alexa is currently a student at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and is on exchange this semester at the Liszt Academy in Budapest, Hungary. These accomplishments make me confident that Alexa can successfully record the samples I need.

In order to both develop a collaborative artistic relationship with Alexa and create a recording that accurately represents my vision, it is critical that I am in attendance at the recording session in March. This experience will certainly lead to more

opportunities in the future, whether it is through working with Alexa again or through the opportunities that a high quality recording will afford me. If I receive the grant I intend to submit a link to my recording with my outcome report. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Budget:

Round-trip airfare from Newark to Glasgow	\$400
Transportation costs from Charlottesville to Newark.....	\$100
Recording costs.....	\$0
Total.....	\$500

I will be staying with my friend Laurence who lives in Glasgow for the duration of my time there. As mentioned earlier, Alexa gets to record for free in the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland’s recording studio. Any incidental costs can be covered through personal savings.

Timeline

October 2017 – January 2018: Work on writing piece and developing the live electronics. Workshop my piece with Prof. Reid and Prof. Mayhood

Mid January 2018: Send Alexa a working version of piece. Receive comments from her; Alexa will begin work on learning the piece

Late January 2018 – February 2018: Make final revisions on piece. Continue working with Prof Reid and Prof Mayhood in our lessons on the piece

March 4 – March 11, 2018 – Travel to Glasgow, Scotland over spring break, record with Alexa

Late March 2018: Finish mixing piece and creating a studio version.

May 2018: *Improvisations on a Painting by Jules Olitski* is premiered at UVa, share recording with outcome report