

MUSIC SKILLS/SPECIFICATIONS:

-Versatile composer, improviser, dance accompanist, teacher. Well honed "one man band" skills.

-Audio producer, recording, mixing and live sound engineer, sound designer.

-Multi-lingual vocalist with 3.5 octave range, multiple styles incl. beat box and overtone singing.

Instruments played: Lutes (laouto, bouzouki, bağlama, divan sazı, cura, oud, 6 and 12 string guitar), Percussion (drum set, doumbek, riqq, davul, djembe, djun djuns, conga, other), piano, middle eastern flutes, accordion, electronics, laptop, field recordings, and many objects not typically used for musical purposes.

Project Studio: 550 sf, with iso room, Mac, Logic Pro, 1919 Steinway 6' grand piano, 24 ch. digital mixer, MOTU interface, Grace and API pre-amps, Korg and Kurzweil synths, AKG, Røde and Chameleon mics.

Foreign languages: French (competent); Turkish (basic); Indonesian, Spanish, Italian, German (limited).

INSTITUTIONAL EMPLOYMENT/TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

University of Colorado, Boulder Dept. of Theatre and Dance 50% appointment 1991-Present

Senior Instructor (Currently Dnce 3014/5014 Rhythmic Analysis and Dnce 3024/5024 Musical Resources, previously Dnce 5064 Graduate Music Seminar), *Music Director* (hiring, training, purchasing, maintenance, budget management), *modern and african dance accompanist* (8-10 hrs/wk), *Committee service:* merit review, faculty search, program fee, ACDA conference, MFAs and BFAs. *Associate hourly accompanist* from 1984-1991.

Bates Dance Festival [Bates College, Lewiston, Maine](#). *Modern dance accompanist, composer, workshop leader, performer, concert director.* 2-5 weeks every summer, 1998-present.

Naropa University *Adjunct faculty-* music composition 2001, *composer-performer*, occasionally 1988-present.

Colorado Dance Festival *Music Director, instructor, scholarship award committee member*, 1992-2000.

American College Dance Festival Association *Music Director, accompanist, teacher of classes: Collaborating with Composers and Musicians, Rhythm Skills, Interlocking Rhythms, CO, AZ, WY, UT, MT, WA*, 2006-present.

New Directions Cello Festival, NY, Armory for the Arts, NM *Music master classes*, 2006-09.

EDUCATION:

University of Colorado, Boulder B.A., **Asian Studies**, 1988. Thesis: Interrelationships between classical music and cultural principles in Bali. Professors [John K. Galm](#), [Paul W. Kroll](#), advisors. Multiple courses in music theory, world musics, impressionist composition, jazz improvisation, and CU music ensembles.

Balkan/Middle Eastern Workshops: Makam theory, Singing (Greek, Turkish, Arabic, Persian, Albanian), Lutes (bouzouki, oud, baglama), Drums (Tapan, Riqq, Doumbek) with [Souren Baronian](#), [Christos Govetas](#), [Omar Faruk Tekbilek](#), [Georges Lammam](#), [Ergun Tamer](#), [Haig Manoukian](#), [Beth Bahia Cohen](#), [Merita Halili](#), [Naser Musa](#), [Bob Beer](#), [Mamek Khadou](#), [Brenna MacCrimmon](#). Mendocino Woodlands, CA 1985-present.

Private Study [Naser Musa](#) (oud), [Chris Kenney](#) (voice), [Bill Elliott](#), [Patricia Burge](#) (composition, piano). **Fort Collins High School** 1981-84, music focus. Honor and all state ensembles, state guitar soloist award.

Selected PERFORMING ENSEMBLES:

Sherefe Balkan & Middle Eastern Ensemble *co-founder, performer*, [CO](#), [CA](#), [NY](#), [WY](#), [NM](#) 1997-present.

ImprovExotica *co-founder, improviser* with [Beth Quist](#) and [James Hoskins](#), [CO](#), 2010-present.

Mishkhah *multi-instrumentalist* Episcopal Music Redux with [Kate Eaton](#), [CO](#), [NY](#), [TX](#), [FL](#), [CUBA](#) 2010-15

The Peace Project directed by "Fiddler For Peace" [Kailin Yong](#), *performer*, [CO](#), [KA](#), [NE](#), [NY](#) 2007-12.

Robert Een *collaborating arranger/performer*, [CO](#), [CA](#) & [ME](#) 2003-2008.

Rachid Halihal and Friends *multi-instrumentalist*, music of the Arab diaspora, [CO](#) & [WY](#) 2003-2009.

Boulder Klezmer Consort led by [Sheldon Sands](#), *drummer*, [CO](#), [WY](#), 2004-present.

Latif Bolat Ensemble *performer, concert producer*, Turkish Sufi Devotional music. [CO](#), [TX](#), 1997-present.

The Buzz Band *composer, multi-instrumentalist*, Original music on instruments that buzz. [CO](#), 1994-2002

Lost Angel Stone Ensemble *co-composer, performer*, Stone instruments with [Tom Wasinger](#), [CO](#) 1991-2004.

SPECIAL EVENTS Partial list, Chronological:

Legislative Intercultural Dialogue Dinners Featured performer of Turkish, Greek, Israeli and Armenian music for [State Governors](#), [State Senators](#), [other politicians](#), [business leaders](#). Presented by **West America Turkic Council** and **Multi-Cultural Mosaic Foundation**, [CA](#), [AZ](#), [WY](#), [CO](#) State Capitols, 2011-Present.

Ubuntu African Festival Sound Designer/Engineer with [Luke Manno](#) for 100+ performer event directed by [Nii Armah Sowah](#), [Glenn Miller Ballroom](#), [CU Boulder](#), April 2014.

Come To Your Senses Closing event, **16th annual Los Angeles Art Show**, with aerial dancers [The Stebens Twins](#), [Turning The Wheel](#), [Timothy Yarger Fine Art](#). [Cooper Design Space](#), [Los Angeles CA](#), 2011.

The Gathering Of Waters Ice Sculpture ceremony with co-composers **James Hoskins** and **Dave Willey**, **Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art**, Eco Arts, Boulder, CO, 2007.

Museum After Dark- a party of Jurassic Proportions Two musical performance installations celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Prehistoric Journey exhibit. **Denver Museum of Nature and Science**, 2005

Hong Kong Sovereignty Ceremony composition; sound design for 40 foot dancing dragon designed by **Lonnie Hanzon** for **Government Handover Ceremonies**, Pacific Place, **Hong Kong**, Mar-June 1997.

COMMISSIONED ORIGINAL SCORES Partial List,

Chronological:

-From 30+ evening length works and 150+ shorter works for Dance, Theater, Film, Multimedia.

Re-Membering Me 18 min. Dance/Theatre piece by **Amanda Benzin**, **CU Dance**, Nov. 2015.

The Otherland 45 min. Dance/Theatre piece by **Rosely Conz** and **Bailey Anderson**, **CU Dance**, Oct. 2015.

"Helene" 12 minute Dance piece by **Robert Moses**, **Bates Dance Festival**, **Maine**, August 2015.

Unsettled 60 min. Dance/Theatre piece by **David Dorfman** and **Korhan Basaran** commissioned by **Dance Motion USA**, with **Sam Crawford**, **Brooklyn Academy of Music** Fisher Hall, **Brooklyn, NY**, Aug. 2014.

Settle 50 min. Dance/Theatre piece choreographed by **Rachel Oliver**, premiered at **Atlas Black Box Theatre**, **CU Boulder, CO** January 2014, **University Of Montana PARTV Center**, April 2014.

Birdwatchers 80 min. independent feature film written and directed by **Tom Wingerd**, **Soulless Cinema**, Premeired at **Boedecker Cinema**, **The Dairy Center**, **Boulder CO**, September 2013.

Utopia Parkway 70 min. multimedia homage to visual artist Joseph Cornell. Directed by **Chris Aiken** and **Angie Hauser**, premeired at **Dance Improvisation Fest**, **Columbia College, Chicago, IL**, with **Ty Burhoe**; **CU Boulder Irey Theatre** and **Mendenhall Center, Smith College, MA** with **Tigger Benford**, 2011-2014.

2016

Buster Keaton's Birthday Party at The Roxy One Man Band live music for [Buster Keaton](#) films **The General** (78 mins) and **Sherlock Junior** (43 mins), [The Roxy, Missoula MT](#), October 2013.

The Space Between These Lines- Not Dedicated 45 min. Dance/Theatre piece based on Bosnian war stories, choreographed by [Kate Speer](#), [CU Boulder Irey Theatre, CO](#), November 2013.

Metaphor 70 min Multimedia Performance work directed by [Betsy Tobin](#), **Now or Never Theatre Co**, Premiered at [The Dairy Center, Boulder CO](#), June 2013.

Junk 45 min. Circus Arts/Dance piece by [Peter Davison](#), [Boulder CO](#), and [Lawrence KA](#), 2013.

Lazer Vaudeville 90 min. score for performance with Lasers, juggling, black light, indoor kites, directed by [Carter Brown](#), featuring [Cindy Marvell](#). presented at [Lamb's Theater and John Houseman Theatre Off Broadway, NYC](#) most of 2005. Extensive touring in USA, **Canada, Taiwan, Saudi Arabia** 1998-present.

Cirque De Minuit (The Midnight Circus) 90 min. Aerial dance/Theatre work directed by [Nancy Smith](#), **Frequent Flyers Productions**, premiered at [The Dairy Center, Boulder, CO](#), April 2012.

Rainforest Quadraphonic 65 min. multimedia ballet for **David Taylor Dance Theatre**. [Denver Auditorium Theatre](#). Extensive touring and educational outreach, [CO, CA, WY, LA, MT, SD](#) 1996-present.

I Knew That Once (2011-13) **Nearly Invisible** (2005-8), **The Stringmaker** (2003-6), **Confetti Conspiracy** (2000-2), **I Dreamed 100 Owls** (1996) **Paper Doll Shadows** (1993), **Who's There** (1991), Evening length Intergenerational Dance Theatre pieces for **Turning The Wheel, Inc.** Director: [Alana Shaw](#), [Seattle WA](#), [San Francisco](#), [Los Angeles CA](#), [Wilmington NC](#), [Andover MA](#), [Missoula MT](#), and [CO](#).

Come, and Back Again *Music director, arranger, performer*, 12 min. dance theater piece exploring the work of Patti Smith. Choreographed and directed by [David Dorfman](#), **Bates Dance Festival**, [Maine](#), 2011.

You and Me, An Evening of Intimacy 60 min. Site Specific Dance/Theatre Installation with [James Hoskins](#) and [Dave Willey](#). Directed by [Tara Rynders](#), Premiered [Denver, CO](#), 2011.

I, Disappear 12 min. modern dance work for laptop, Turkish Saz, and vocals, choreographed by [Michael Foley](#). Commissioned by **Bates Dance Festival**, [Bates College, Maine](#), 2010.

Rounds 23 min. all vocal score for playful contemporary ballet with circus props choreographed by [Peter Davison](#), Artistic Director of **Boulder Ballet**. Premiered at [Dairy Center for The Arts, Boulder](#), 2010.

Spirit of Adventure Performance sections on Egypt, Greece, India, and Nepal for travel photographer [Mike David](#)'s multimedia shows. [Gates Concert Hall, Newman Center, Denver](#). Annually, 2002-2012.

The Escape Artist by composer, vocalist & Cellist [Robert Een](#) (of Meredith Monk ensemble), *Collaborating performer*, **World Festival of Sacred Music**, [Redcat Theatre, Los Angeles, CA](#), 2008.

A Collection of Keepers Culminating performance for **The Museum of Outdoor Arts** "Design and Build" program, percussion/vocal work, directed by [Lonnie Hanzon](#), [Englewood Cultural Center](#), 2008.

Kiva: What Do We Hold Sacred? 30 min. work for **Mesa Verde National Park**'s 100th Anniversary; co-composer [Michael Stanwood](#), **Speaking Of Dance**. Performed there and [Colorado History Museum](#), 2005.

I, Dancer TV production including dance piece with developmentally disabled performers. Prof. [Nora Zuniga Shaw](#) (OSU dance) and [Mary Rathke](#) (**Ohio PBS**), directors. [Columbus, OH](#), 2005.

Twelfth Night ([Shakespeare](#)) All new music for a 1940s Carribean setting directed by [Robert Cohen](#) (CA); 30 min. for steel drums, guitar, cello, voices and percussion. **Colorado Shakespeare Festival**, 2005.

Mothers Acting Up 10 min. documentary film produced by [Beth Osnes](#) and [Ontos Media](#), 2005

Once Before a Time 35 min. wordless fairy tale filmed in rural France by [Nancy Spanier](#) and [TellStarr](#). Set for voices, concertina, lutes, cello, drums, strings. Premiere: **Sarlat Film Festival, Sarlat France**, 2004.

Mountain Wake 55 min. surround sound score for contemporary butoh piece by [Onye Ozuzu](#) and [Darrell Jones](#) of **Skeleton Dance Works**. [Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art](#) performance series, 2003.

Intimacy in Transition with co-composer Mike Vargas. 10 min. Post modern piece by choreographer [Chris Elam](#), **Misnomer Dance Theatre**. Premiered at [P.S. 122 performance space, NYC](#), 2003.

To Lie Tenderly Collaborating performer, 35 min. work with [David Dorfman](#) [Dance](#) and [Amy Denio](#). **BAM Next Wave Festival, NYC**, December 2000. Continued touring in [ME, NC, CO, AZ](#), 2001.

The House Not Touched By Death a full length play by [Janna Goodwin](#) about death and denial. Premiere: **Colorado Shakespeare Festival**, 1997, [Hospice centers throughout New England](#), 2001-2.

My Magdeline (with co-composer [Beth Quist](#)) a new biographical play and video production about Mary Magdeline by [David Tresemer and Laura Lea Cannon](#). Premiere at [Nomad Theatre, Boulder](#), 2000.

Let It Be For Naught [Elizabeth Barrett Browning](#) poems choreographed by [William Starn](#), **Ballet Nouveau Colorado**, 20 min work for 2 cellos, soprano, keyboard. [Denver metro area](#) shows, 2000-2001.

Junkwrath Choreography by [Gabriel Masson](#). 12 min. work for four musicians playing a specially designed sculpture comprised primarily of car parts. **Bates Dance Festival**, [Bates College, Maine](#), 2000.

The International Channel Contributing composer for **International Channel CATV network** i.d. spots directed by [Jean Kopeck](#) and produced by [Kip Kuepper](#) at [Coupe Studios, Boulder, CO](#), 1999.

Merci a Dieu 8 minute work for pipe organ, cello and SATB chorus commissioned by organist [Robert Moore](#), **National Guild of Organists National Festival**, [Saint James Episcopal Church Denver](#), 1998.

Workspace 55 min. modern dance/theatre piece by [Nancy Seitz-McIntyre](#) for **Desperate Figures Dance Theatre**. [Germany and The Netherlands](#), various cities, 1997-98.

The Industrial North 25 min. of music for educational CD rom on North American History, commissioned by **Digital Creators, Inc.** ([Mark Schroeder](#)) for **KRMA Denver PBS**, 1997.

Mir Zienen Doh (with co-composer [Mike vargas](#)) modern dance/theatre work based on WW II holocaust survivor stories. **Jan Justis Dance Co.**, [Schwayder Theater, Denver](#), 1994.

Second Breakfast 55 min. post modern dance/theatre by [Nancy Seitz-McIntyre](#) for **Desperate Figures Dance Theatre**. [Germany](#), various cities, and at the **Edinburgh Fringe Festival**, [Bedlam Theatre](#), 1992.

Encontre 13 min. modern dance piece by **Kim Robards Dance**. Performances throughout Colorado and at [Merce Cunningham studio theatre, NYC](#) 1992.

Theater Of The Vampires 30 min. aerial dance/theatre piece by [Nancy Smith](#) for **Frequent Flyers Productions**, premiered [Boulder Theater](#), ongoing reprises, [Boston, New Orleans, CO](#), 1990-present.

AUDIO PRODUCTION/DISCOGRAPHY partial list *original work underlined:*

Ghosts Of Zanzibar with [Lara Jai](#), *co-producer, multi-instrumentalist* 2015.

Maiden Of Midnight with [Ariana Saraha](#), *co-producer, multi-instrumentalist, consultant*, 2014-15

King Of Love with [Kate Eaton](#), *multi-instrumentalist, vocalist*, 2014-15

Resonance Meditations with sound healer [Vickie Dodd](#), *producer, vocalist*, 2013

My Problem Was My Solution with Sufi troubadours [Zevk Ensemble](#) (NM), *producer, lutes*, 2012

Ariana Saraha- Live at Immersive Studios *producer, mixing engineer*, 2011

Sala Sala with [Sherefe Balkan and Middle Eastern Ensemble](#) *producer, vocalist, multi-instrumentalist*, 2010.

Rest Assured with sound healer [Vickie Dodd](#) (WA) and cellist [James Hoskins](#), *producer, performer*, 2010.

The Color of Sound produced by [Mickey Houlihan](#), *co-composer, multi-instrumentalist*, 2009.

Bowing With The Flow with Chinese violinist/composer [Kailin Yong](#), *Multi-instrumentalist, consultant*, 2008.

Kuluk Misafir with Canadian/Turkish vocalist [Brenna MacRimmon](#), *co-recording engineer, saz player*, 2008.

Songs From The Second World with [Tigger Benford & Peter Jones](#), *Co-composer, producer*, 2007.

Unlock The Mystery with singer/harpist [Lara Jai](#). *Arranger, co-producer, multi-instrumentalist*, 2007.

Tibetan Meditation Music with Tibetan flautist [Nawang Khechog](#), *Oud player*, 2007.

Gül- Turkish Sufi Songs of Devotion with Sufi troubador [Latif Bolat](#), *multi-instrumentalist, engineer*, 2005.

Dead Sea Strolls with composer [Sheldon Sands](#), *Greek and Turkish Lutes*, 2002.

Opium with [Sherefe](#), *co-producer, multi-instrumentalist*, 2001.

The Midnight Circus, Lazer Vaudeville, Rainforest, Theater of the Vampires, Mountain Wake, The Stringmaker, Sea Spirits original soundtracks 1993-2013.

COLORADO BASED WORK partial list:

City of Denver *composer, performer*; Library, Art Museum, Mayor's office on Art, Culture and Film, Natural History Museum, Zoo, Botanic Gardens, Performing Arts Festival and others, 1992-present.

City of Boulder *composer, performer*; Downtown Management Commission, Museum of Contemporary Art, CATV 54, Dairy Center for the Arts, Public Library, International Festival and others, 1989-present.

Mary Rose
Fourmile Canyon Fire Dept.
Sawagi (Tsunami relief)
Mothers Acting Up
Talent West

St. Spyriou Greek Festival
St. John's Episcopal
Cathedral
Multi Cultural Mosaic
Foundation

First United Methodist
Church
Unitarian Universalist
Fellowships
Jewish Community Center

CU Muslim Student
Association Sterling
Regional Medical Center
Saints Peter and Paul Greek
Orthodox Church

Beth Quist
Colorado Shakespeare
Festival
Moondance Intl. Film
Festival
Museum of Outdoor Arts
Coupe Recording Studios

Immersive Recording
Studios
Café De La Culture
BMOCA
Third Law Dance Theater
Boulder Ballet
Wind Over The Earth
Recording
St. Julien Hotel
Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse
Colorado Business
Committee for the Arts

Colorado State University

Boulder Jewish Festival
The Audoban Society
Planina Balkan Chorus
Farell Lowe's MIME
Now or Never Theatre
KRFC Fort Collins
KGNU Boulder
Boulder County Aids Project
Mishkhah/Kate Eaton
Ty Burhoe/Tala Records
Ariana Saraha
University Club, Denver
Golden Sun Foundation for
World Culture

WORK WITH NATIONAL-INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

[Arizona](#) Council on the Arts (*Artist Project Grant committee.*)
Desperate Figures Dance Theater ([Germany](#), [Netherlands](#))
David Dorfman Dance ([NY](#), [AZ](#), [NC](#), [ME](#), [CO](#))
Los Angeles Art Show ([CA](#))
Sound Body Productions ([Vickie Dodd](#), [WA](#), [OR](#), [CO](#))
Big Buddha Baba Design Studio ([Los Angeles](#), [CA](#))
East European Folklife Center ([WA](#), [CA](#))
Universities of [Wyoming](#), [Utah](#), [North Carolina](#), [Montana](#).
Swire Properties, Ltd. ([Hong Kong](#))
Dance Motion USA, U.S. State Department ([NY](#), [ME](#))

Florida Dance Festival ([Tampa](#), [FL](#))
Dance Improvisation Fest ([Chicago](#), [IL](#))
Turning The Wheel ([CA](#), [NC](#), [MA](#), [MT](#), [TX](#), [WA](#), [OR](#), [CO](#))
SaltDance Festival ([Salt Lake City](#), [UT](#))
National Playback Theatre ([Chicago](#), [IL](#))
Orthodox Jewish National Conference ([CO](#))
International Conference of Jesuit Clergy ([TX](#), [CO](#))
West America Turkic Council ([CA](#), [WY](#), [AZ](#), [CO](#))
Pomegranite Productions Teen Mentorship Program ([NM](#))
Mishkhah/Kate Eaton ([NY](#), [TX](#), [CO](#), [FL](#), [Havana](#) [CUBA](#))

MEDIA FEATURE STORIES/INTERVIEWS partial list:

Istanbul Star Pazar (major Turkish newspaper)
“**Sıradaki Türkümüz Johnathan’dan**” by [Inci Döndaş](#). Interview; feature article on notable non-Turks who play Turkish Music, with [Ross Daly](#), [Hilde De Clercq](#), [Bob Beer](#), and [Brenna MacCrimmon](#). July, 2010.

Boulder Daily Camera

- 1- "Night Circus Takes Flight" review/interview by [Lyn Rinehart](#) "Impressive. If the book The Night Circus had a soundtrack it would be the score to Cirque de Minuit composed by Jesse Manno", April, 2012
- 2- "Danceworks features new Manno score" Interview by [Wes Blomster](#) for feature on dance/music collaborative process working with visiting choreographer [Heidi Henderson](#). April, 2009.
- 3- "Music Enhances Twelfth Night" by [Mark Collins](#) on Music for Colorado Shakespeare Festival production directed by [Robert Cohen](#), June, 2005.

4- "Dance Classes Move to a Unique Soundtrack" feature on live music in the CU Theatre and Dance Department by [Cari Cunningham](#) with multiple photographs, December, 2004. Boulder

Metro Beat TV, Denver

Interviewed at home studio for "Local Legends" segment on [David Taylor Dance Theatre's RAINFOREST](#) performance (also interviewed: [David Taylor](#), [George Peters](#)). Aired April, 2007.

Colorado Public Radio- Colorado Matterstm

Interviewed by [Dan Drayer](#) on creation of score for SOARING with **Ballet Nouveau**, April 2002.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW PRESS QUOTES partial list:

The New York Times 'A Search For Reconciliation From the Mideast To America' "The music beguilingly blended Western and Middle Eastern styles and instrumentation. It borrowed the folk song Sari Gyalin or Sari Gelin, which in Turkish, Armenian and English versions laments the failure of love across ethnic divides." Review by [Brian Seibert](#) (re: Unsettled at **BAM**, David Dorfman/Korhan Basaran Dance).

The New Yorker "a catchy soundtrack really moves things along" (re: Lazer Vaudeville Off Broadway).

Habibi Magazine "Legendary...an extraordinary group of musicians...Jesse's vocals soared in Turkish and Arabic...his expert commentary throughout the evening was delightful...lines between musician and dancer blurred...an irrepressible standing ovation demanded Sherefe's return." (re: Sherefe in Santa Fe, NM).

Rocky Mountain News "Jesse Manno's quadraphonic score flirts with these effects but moves far beyond cliché, nimbly blending all manner of real and electronic sonic splashes, all remaining in perfect sync with the onstage action. The sound is unforgettable." [Marc Shulgold](#), (re: Rainforest).

Allgemeine Zeitung, Germany "The humor and music -a sophisticated sound tapestry by Jesse Manno resembling Laurie Anderson- made for a lively and refreshing show." (re: Second Breakfast).

Mainzer Rhein Zeitung, Germany "Mystical, Penetrating, unconventional music." (re: Foreign Body).

Westword "Unbelievably surreal and beautiful. The songs are delightfully bent, pulsing celebrations that ring like calliope music from a primitive, otherworldly dimension." (re: The Stone Ensemble).