

# BRENDON SHAPIRO

PIANIST | VOCAL COACH | CONDUCTOR

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## OPERA & MUSICAL THEATRE

### **Boston Lyric Opera** – Boston, MA

2016-2021

*Jane & Steven Akin Emerging Artist Pianist, 2018-2020*

- Répétiteur
  - *Cavalleria Rusticana* (2021)
  - *Pagliacci* (2019)
  - *The Rape of Lucretia* (2019)
- Pianist
  - Frequent concerts at BLO's Street Stage, the Museum of Fine Arts, and the Boston Public Library.
  - World premiere performance and professional recording of '*my name is Alondra*', a song cycle composed by Omar Najmi, with poetry by Boston Youth Poet Laureate Alondra Bobadilla, commissioned as part of BLO's *Poetry in Music* initiative. (2021)
  - Educational outreach programs throughout the Greater Boston area. Played for musical excerpts featured throughout *The World of Hansel & Gretel*, a virtual classroom visit. (2021)
- Vocal Coach
  - *The Handmaid's Tale* (2019)
  - *Hamlet* - workshop (2019)
- Assistant to the Conductor
  - *Greek* (2016)

Conductors: David Angus, Andrew Bisantz

### **Opera Steamboat** – Steamboat Springs, CO

2021

*Pianist, Coach*

- Répétiteur, Chorus Master & Recitative Pianist
  - *La Clemenza di Tito* (2021)
- Pianist
  - *The Music of Mozart & Nyman* – gave an hour-long lecture/solo piano recital on W.A. Mozart and Michael Nyman, two composers featured in Opera Steamboat's season. (2021)
  - Pianist for master classes given by Emily Pulley and Ashraf Sewailam.
- Music Director
  - Scenes Program (2021) – coached and accompanied scenes from *Falstaff*, *Rigoletto*, *La Cenerentola*, and *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*.

Conductor: Emily Senturia

**Opera Maine – Portland, ME**  
*Rehearsal Pianist*

2021

- Répétiteur
  - *As One* (2021)

Conductor: Jackson McKinnon

**Los Angeles Opera – Los Angeles, CA**  
*Domingo-Colburn-Stein Young Artist Pianist*

2018-2020

- Répétiteur
  - *Eurydice* (2020) - world premiere and co-production with the Metropolitan Opera, composed and conducted by Matthew Aucoin.
  - *The Light in the Piazza* (2019)
  - *La Traviata* (2019)
  - *La Clemenza di Tito* (2019)
  - *El gato montés* (2019)
  - *Satyagraha* (2018)
- Pianist
  - Performances with such artists as Susan Graham, J'nai Bridges, Sean Panikkar, and the YAs.
  - Collaborated virtually for numerous *LAO at Home* recitals, with artists including Raehann Bryce-Davis, Will Liverman, Alexander Birch Elliott, and Nicholas Brownlee. (2020)
  - Curated and performed the *Golden Age Musicals* virtual program with the YAs. (2020)
- Vocal Coach
  - *Eurydice* (2019) - coached the cast in NYC in preparation for the world premiere production at LAO.
  - *The Count of Monte Cristo* (2019) - prepared the cast for a workshop presentation.
  - Regular coachings with the Young Artist singers.

Conductors: James Conlon, Grant Gershon, Matthew Aucoin, Jordi Bernàcer, Kimberly Grigsby

**Phoenicia International Festival of the Voice – Phoenicia, NY**  
*Rehearsal Pianist*

2020

- Répétiteur
  - *Tosca* (2020)
- Music Director & Pianist
  - *En la ardiente oscuridad* (2022, upcoming) – world premiere

Conductors: Audrey Saint-Gil, David Wroe

**Workshop Performance of *En la ardiente oscuridad*** – Watertown, MA  
*Co-Producer, Musical Director, Pianist*

2019

- Co-Producer
  - Heavily involved in the creative process, casting, team building, grant writing, public relations, social media, promotional materials, venue search, piano rental, supertitle design, and program design.
- Musical Director & Pianist
  - Coached the cast, led music rehearsals, prepared promotional materials.
  - Performed the workshop performance of *En la ardiente oscuridad*, a chamber opera by Omar Najmi with solo piano accompaniment, based on the play by Spanish playwright Antonio Buero Vallejo.

**Opera NEO** – San Diego, CA  
*Apprentice Coach*

2016, 2018

- Chorus Master & Répétiteur
  - *Idomeneo* (2018)
  - *The Merry Widow* (2018)
- Répétiteur
  - *Don Giovanni* (2016)
- Pianist/Coach
  - Opera scenes, master classes, and aria concerts.

Conductor: Peter Kozma

**MASSOpera** (formerly MetroWest Opera) – Boston, MA  
*Musical Director and Pianist*

2011-2015, 2018

- Conductor & Pianist
  - *Miss Havisham's Wedding Night* (2018)
  - *The Beautiful Bridegroom* (2018)
- Répétiteur
  - *Suor Angelica* (2015)
  - *Trouble in Tahiti* (2015)
  - *Carmen* (2013)
  - *Don Giovanni* (2012)
  - *Cendrillon* (2011)

Conductors: Lidiya Yankovskaya, Adam Boyles, Andrew Altenbach

**North End Music Performing Arts Center** – Boston, MA  
*Assistant Musical Director*

2016-2018

- Répétiteur & Diction Coach
  - *Don Giovanni* (2018) – Recitative Pianist
  - *Fidelio* (2017)
  - *La Cenerentola* (2016) – Recitative Pianist

Conductor: Tiffany Chang

**Boston Opera Collaborative** – Boston, MA  
*Musical Director and Pianist*

2013, 2016-2017

“Music director Brendon Shapiro made the piano so colorful, I didn’t miss the orchestra.”

- Boston Music Intelligencer, 3/27/17

- Conductor & Pianist
  - *La Rondine* (2017)
  - *The Dangerous Liaisons* (2017)
- Pianist
  - *Mirror: An Immersive Song Cycle Experience* (2017)
  - *Opera Bites* (2016)
- Répétiteur
  - *Dead Man Walking* (2013)
    - Conductor: Michael Sakir

**Opera North** – Hanover, NH  
*Resident Young Artist Pianist*

2017

- Répétiteur & Assistant Coach
  - *Madama Butterfly* (2017)
  - *La Belle Hélène* (2017)
- Musical Director & Pianist
  - Opera scenes and aria concerts.

Conductors: Louis Burkot, Filippo Ciabatti

**Juventas New Music Ensemble** – Boston, MA 2013-2016  
*Assistant Music Director, Pianist*

- Assistant Music Director & Répétiteur
  - *The Little Blue One* (2014) – Orchestral Pianist
- Pianist
  - *The Body Politic* (2016) – Workshop Pianist
  - *Hackpolitik* (2013)

Conductor: Lidiya Yankovskaya

**Opera on Tap** – Boston, MA 2013-2016  
*Pianist*

- Pianist
  - Performances of opera arias at a variety of venues throughout the Boston area.

**The Woodstock Playhouse** – Woodstock, NY 2011-2014  
*Music Director*

- Piano/Conductor for the first four seasons of the newly renovated Woodstock Playhouse.
  - Shows conducted include *West Side Story*, *Les Misérables*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Chicago*, *Spamalot*, *Tommy*, *The Producers*, *Anything Goes*, *A Chorus Line*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Hair*, *Legally Blonde*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*.
  - Led music rehearsals, accompanied staging and dance rehearsals, recruited the pit orchestra, led orchestra rehearsals, curated cabaret programs, conducted mainstage performances.

**Opera Fayetteville** – Fayetteville, AR 2014  
*Répétiteur*

- Répétiteur for *Flight* (2014)
  - Conductor: Robert Mueller
- Performed for *Postcards from Opera Fayetteville* virtual series (2020)

**Boston Conservatory** – Boston, MA 2014  
*Music Director*

- *Company* (2014)

**New Repertory Theatre – Watertown, MA**  
*Pianist, Actor*

2013

- *Master Class* (2013)
  - Portrayed ‘Manny’, the onstage pianist character, and performed several arias within the play.

“*Brendon Shapiro... hits the right note as respectful, eager-to-please accompanist Manny Weinstock.*

*And the myriad of imaginative touches.... make a music all their own.”*

- The Boston Globe, 4/3/13

**Fiddlehead Theatre Company – Dedham, MA**  
*Music Director*

2011-2012

- Piano/Conductor
  - *The Fantasticks* (2012)
  - *The Pirates of Penzance* (2011)
- Keyboard 1
  - *Ragtime* (2012)
    - Conductor: Matt Stern

**Boston University School of Theatre – Boston, MA**  
*Pianist*

2012

- Rehearsal & Orchestral Pianist
  - *Assassins* (2012)
    - Conductor: Matt Stern
- Music Director & Pianist
  - *The Last 5 Years* (2012)
  - *Brecht on Brecht* (2012)

**College Light Opera Company – West Falmouth, MA**  
*Rehearsal Pianist*

2010

- Rehearsal Pianist for shows including *The Mikado*, *Evita*, *My Fair Lady*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Naughty Marietta*, *Kismet*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Patience*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*
  - *Conductors:* David Weiller, Jonathan Brennand, David Moeschler

## ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES

### **Newport Music Festival** – Newport, RI

July 16, 2021

*Pianist*

- “Opera Night” concert with Chelsea Basler, soprano and Omar Najmi, tenor on The Breakers Lawn.
  - Program includes solo performances of overtures from *Così fan tutti*, *Werther*, and *Moby Dick*

### **Indictus Project** – virtual performance

Aug 16, 2020

*Pianist*

- Performed “Elëanore” by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor. With Omar Najmi, tenor.

### **The Omniarts Foundation Inc.** – virtual performance

May 23, 2020

*Pianist*

- Performed for the *Lean On Me: American Song* virtual concert series in support of Covid-19 Relief
  - “When a Life Has Ceased” from *Volpone* by John Musto. With Omar Najmi, tenor.

### **Arts Society of Kingston** – Kingston, NY

June 4, 2017

*Pianist*

- *An American Timeline*: a program of American music “from Tin Pan Alley to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”.
  - With Laura Intravia, soprano & flute and Omar Najmi, tenor.

### **Video Games Live** - touring

2015-2016

*Recording Artist, Pianist*

- Performances of new classical arrangements of music from video games. Featured artist.
  - Venues include the Wilbur Theatre in Boston, MA and NJPAC in Newark, NJ.
- Pianist for two solo piano albums and other recording projects. (See Recordings)

**Collaborations with:** Susan Graham, J’nai Bridges, Sean Panikkar, Raehann Bryce-Davis, Will Liverman, Alexander Birch Elliot, Sandra Piques Eddy, Heather Johnson, Chelsea Basler, Omar Najmi, and many more

## OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

**The Empowered Musician** – Boston, MA 2021  
*Musical Coach for Singers*

- Regular vocal coachings with clients of The Empowered Musician LLC.

**Boston Singers' Resource** – Boston, MA 2016, 2021  
*Staff Pianist*

- Coach and pianist for the 2021 Composers' Lab
  - Leading rehearsals with singer and composer pairings, coaching singer as needed
  - Consulting with composer on possible tweaks/changes to score
  - Performing at the Composers' Lab outdoor concert
- Pianist for Audition Workshops (2016)

**University of Massachusetts Amherst** – Amherst, MA 2017-2018, 2021  
*Vocal Coach*

- Regular vocal coachings with UMass Amherst vocal students. Focused work on diction, dramatic interpretation, style, and musical accuracy. Preparation for *Hansel and Gretel*.

**First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington** – Arlington, MA 2014-2018  
*Organist*

- Select and perform music at each weekly service on organ and piano. Occasionally collaborate on chamber music with members of the congregation. Assist Jonathan Brennand, musical director.
- Accompany the adult and children's choirs, attend weekly choir rehearsals, coach soloists.

**Boston Saengerfest Men's Chorus** – Boston, MA 2012-2018  
*Assistant Musical Director, Pianist*

- Assist Tom Berryman and Michael Driscoll, music directors
  - Lead sectional rehearsals
  - Conduct several pieces on each concert
  - Serve as music director during tour through New Brunswick and Nova Scotia (2013)
- Accompany the choir at each performance, occasionally perform solo piano repertoire.



**Boston University College of Fine Arts – Boston, MA**

2012-2017

*Staff Pianist*

- Collaborate with School of Music students for recitals and juries through weekly lessons and rehearsals.
  - Partnerships with B.M., M.M., D.M.A., P.D., and Opera Institute students.

**Boston University Tanglewood Institute – Lenox, MA**

2015

*Vocal Coach*

- On faculty of the BUTI Young Artist Vocal Program.
  - Weekly vocal coachings with students.
  - Pianist for student and faculty recitals, master classes, and auditions.
  - Musically direct and play for opera scenes.
  - Perform at the Honors Recital at Ozawa Hall.

**Powers Music School – Belmont, MA**

2014-2015

*Piano Accompaniment Department Chair*

- Coordinate all collaborative partnerships throughout the school.
- Perform at student recitals and other events.

**Boston University Choral Society – Boston, MA**

2012-2014

*Pianist*

- Accompany choir at bi-weekly rehearsals, and perform for concerts
- Lead sectional rehearsals

**French Woods Festival of the Performing Arts – Hancock, NY**

2008

*Musical Director, Counselor*

- Worked with children K-12, encouraging artistic growth and rehearsing music.
  - Musicals included: *Ragtime*, *Damn Yankees*, *Les Misérables*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Aida*, *Ruthless*, *Cinderella*, and *Crazy for You*.
- As a counselor, supervised and offered support to campers outside of rehearsal.

**LANGUAGES**

- Native Language: English. Coursework in Italian, Spanish and the International Phonetic Alphabet.
- Diction studies and coaching ability in English, Italian, German, French and Spanish.

## EDUCATION

**Boston University College of Fine Arts** – Boston, MA

2010-2012

*Master of Music in Collaborative Piano Performance*

- Piano studies with Shiela Kibbe, Michelle Alexander. Diction studies with Allison Voth.
- Played for voice studios of Penelope Bitzas, Sharon Daniels, Lynn Eustis, Jerrold Pope, Jim Demler, Phyllis Hoffman, Bonnie Pomfret, and Maria Spacagna. Also collaborated with numerous instrumentalists.

**Ithaca College School of Music** – Ithaca, NY

2006-2010

*Bachelor of Music (Piano) in Combination with Outside Field (Writing)*

- Piano studies with Phiroze Mehta, Charis Dimaris. Conducting studies with Brian DeMaris, Jeffrey Meyer. Diction studies with Jennifer Kay.
- Played for voice studios of Jennifer Kay, Patrice Pastore, Randie Blooding, Deborah Lifton, Carol McAmis, Lee Steward, Deborah Montgomery-Cove, Marc Webster, and Brad Hougham. Also collaborated with numerous instrumentalists.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner of the Mary Hayes North Piano Competition Award (2010)

## RECORDINGS



**Hackpolitik** - Chamber Ensemble

2014

*Juventas New Music Ensemble*

*Innova Recordings*

Composer - Peter Van Zandt Lane

Recorded at the WGBH Fraser Recording Studio - Brighton, MA



**Through Time and Space** – Solo Piano Album

2015

*Video Games Live*

Arranger – Laura Intravia

Recorded at Futura Productions – Roslindale, MA

#1 Bestseller on Amazon.com



**Shall We Play?** – Solo Piano Album

2016

*Video Games Live*

Arranger – Laura Intravia

Recorded at Perfection Studio - Charlestown, MA



**Go Tell it on the Mountain!** – Men's Chorus

2016

*Boston Saengerfest Men's Chorus*

Co-collaboration with *Southern Rail*