

**Daniel Blake, Ph.D.**

**Curriculum Vitae**

47 Beverly Road, Mount Kisco, NY 10549

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**Education**

**The Graduate Center, CUNY**

Ph.D., Composition

2013

**Conservatory at Brooklyn College, CUNY**

Master of Music (Composition)

2008

**New England Conservatory of Music/Tufts University**

**5 year Double Degree Program**

Bachelor of Music (Jazz Saxophone)

2004

*Pi kappa lambda, distinction in performance*

Bachelor of Arts (Child Development), *cum laude*

**Principal composition teachers:**

Robert Dick, Tania León, Jason Eckardt, John McDonald, Steve Lacy, Danilo Pérez

**Teaching Positions**

**Lecturer, New School for Social Research**

2016 - present

**Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts**

Music and Collective Action (sole instructor)

Underground Music Scenes (sole instructor)

**College of Performing Arts, School of Jazz**

Ear Training levels 1 and 2

**Conservatory, Brooklyn College, CUNY**

2006-present

Director, Small Jazz Ensemble

Director, Big Band (Spring, 2018 semester)

Jazz Composers Seminar

Music of the United States (sole instructor)

Music Core Curriculum (sole instructor)

Keyboard Workshop levels 1 and 2 (sole instructor)

**New York City College of Technology, CUNY**

2014 - 2016

Jazz History (sole instructor)

20<sup>th</sup> Century Music (sole instructor)

Intro to Musical Styles

<b>Hofstra University</b> Jazz History, Theory (hybrid course, <b>sole instructor</b> )	2014
<b>Greenwich High School</b> (Greenwich, CT) Private saxophone instruction Ensemble coaching, 2 commissions for HS Jazz Band	2007-2013
<b><u>Selected Guest lectures, Masterclasses</u></b>	
<b>Scarsdale Adult School</b> Lecture, Jazz and the American Songbook	April, 2018
<b>Safaricom International Jazz Festival (Nairobi, Kenya)</b> Saxophone/improvisation masterclass	Nov. 5, 2017
<b>University of Toronto</b> Masterclass, "Composing for Improvisers"	Jan. 27, 2017
<b>Society for Music Theory, annual conference</b> Scholarly presentation, "Space Is The Place: Composition in New York's Improvised Music Scene"	Nov. 5, 2016
<b>Conservatory at Brooklyn College</b> Guest Lecture, Jazz History Seminar	Nov. 18, 2015
<b>Queensborough Community College</b> Guest artist (ensemble coaching)	May 15, 2015
<b>Brooklyn College</b> "Leveling the Playing Field: Tolerance and Improvisation"	May 7, 2014
<b>University of Minnesota Duluth</b> Performance/workshop, "Ovation Guest Artist Series"	Nov. 8-9, 2013
<b>New School for Community Service, Milwaukee, WI</b> In-class improvisation workshop	Nov. 2, 2013
<b>P.S. 2, New York, NY</b> "Improvisation as Play"	Oct. 17, 2013
<b>New York University</b> "Jazz improvisation and the American Songbook"	July 29, 2013
<b>York College, CUNY</b> "Hearing and feeling the perfect intervals"	May 21, 2013

<b>New England Conservatory of Music</b> Duke Ellington's <i>Creole Rhapsody</i> Ensemble coaching	April 1, 2013
<b>University of California, San Diego</b> Lecture/performance, Julian Lage Group	March 15, 2013
<b>Skidmore College</b> (Saratogo Springs, NY) Ensemble coaching, private lessons, master class	Nov. 1-4, 2012
<b>Expanso, NYC</b> "Ear To Mind" Newsletter, panelist and presenter	Jan. 21, 2012
<b>Texas A &amp; M University</b> Guest lecture, ensemble coaching	Feb. 7-9, 2007
<b>International Jazz Festival</b> , (Lima, Peru) Jazz/improvisation master class	April 10, 2006

#### **Board Memberships, Concert Production**

<b>Mount Kisco Arts Council</b> Founder, "pop-up concert series" Board member	2017 – present
<b>Buddhist Global Relief, "Concert To Feed The Hungry"</b> Founder, artistic director of yearly benefit concert Board member	2011-present
<b>Firehouse Collective</b> Curator, monthly concert series Board member	2013 - 2017
<b>The Defacto Series (Brooklyn, NY)</b> Co-founder, experimental concert series, co-curator	2007-2009
<b>The Artists-at-Large Monday night Workshop (Hyde Park, MA)</b> Co-founder, artistic director	2004-2006
<b>The Boston Jazz Collective</b> Co-founder, treasurer	2004-2006

## Performance Experience

### International Jazz Festivals and Extended Tours:

SafariCom Jazz Festival, (Nairobi, Kenya) Alune Wade	Nov. 4, 2017
The Digging, Canada Tour Dan Blake Trio	Jan. 26-31, 2017
Dominican Republic Jazz Festival Esperanza Spalding Quintet	Nov. 10, 2016
Canada Tour (Ontario/Québec) Dan Blake Trio	June 12-18 2016
Tbilisi Jazz Festival The George Mel Quartet	Oct. 25, 2014
North Sea Curaçao Jazz Festival Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	August 30, 2013
Nice Jazz Festival Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	July 12, 2013
Comblain-La-Tour Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	July 5, 2013
<i>Radio Music Society</i> 2013 US Tour Esperanza Spalding	April 5-21, 2013
Tokyo Jazz Festival Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	Sept. 9, 2012
Jazz À Marciac Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	July 28, 2012
Vittoria Jazz Festival (Vittoria, Spain) Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	July 19, 2012
Istanbul Jazz Festival (Istanbul, Turkey) Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	July 16, 2012
Latitude Festival (Suffolk, UK) Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	July 14, 2012
North Sea Jazz Festival (Rotterdam, Netherlands) Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	July 7, 2012
Teatro Astre (Vicenza, Italy) Julian Lage Group	May 12, 2011
Tanglewood Jazz Festival (Lenox, MA) Julian Lage Group	Sept. 5, 2010
Newport Jazz Festival (Newport, RI) Julian Lage Group	Aug 6, 2010
Umbria Jazz (Perugia, Italy) Julian Lage Group	July 15, 2010
Nice Jazz Festival (Nice, France)	July 14, 2010

Julian Lage Group “Jazz Today” 2010 Tour (Germany)	Jan. - Feb., 2010
Julian Lage Group Richie Barshay Roundtable Tour (UK)	October, 2007

Recent Notable Performances:

*All performances in New York City unless otherwise indicated*

7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Concert To Feed the Hungry St. Mark’s Church	April 29, 2018
Sofia Rei The Stone (NYC)	April 25, 2018
Dan Blake Quartet Smalls Jazz Club	Jan. 23, 2018
John Cale 75 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Retrospective Brooklyn Academy of Music (Wordless Music Orchestra)	Nov. 18, 2017
Dan Blake Trio Smalls Jazz Club	August 2, 2017
6 <sup>th</sup> Annual Concert To Feed the Hungry Middle Collegiate Church	June 17, 2017
Esperanza Spalding Cooper Hewitt Museum	June 8, 2017
Dan Blake with Mivos Quartet Bronx Community College Rotunda Series	March 16, 2017
Dan Blake and The Digging feat. David Liebman Smalls Jazz Club	Nov. 9, 2016
Esperanza Spalding Baryshnikov Arts Center	Nov. 1, 2016
Esperanza Spalding John Coltrane Jazz Festival (High Point, NC)	Sept. 3, 2016
Dan Blake and “The Digging” (CD release) Smalls Jazz Club	May 4, 2016
5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Concert To Feed The Hungry Middle Collegiate Church	April 9, 2016
Esperanza Spalding Club Bonafide	Feb. 13, 2016
Dan Blake with Mivos Quartet NY Winter Jazz Fest	Jan. 18, 2016
Solo performance Array Space (Toronto)	Dec. 21, 2015

Leo Genovese's Chromatic Gauchos The Village Vanguard	7/28 - 8/2, 2015
3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Concert To Feed the Hungry Kenny Werner Quartet, Interchurch Center	April 25, 2014
Dan Blake and "The Digging" Neighborhood Church of Greenwich Village	April 4, 2014
Dan Blake with Mivos Quartet Roulette (Brooklyn)	Dec. 13, 2013
Kenny Werner Shapeshifter Lab (Brooklyn)	Nov. 11, 2013
Dan Blake and "The Digging" Jazz Estate (Milwaukee, WI)	Nov. 5, 2013
Solo works of Steve Lacy Seeds (Brooklyn, NY)	October 5, 2013
Solo Performance Highwire Gallery (Philadelphia, PA)	June 6, 2013
Julian Lage Group Mondavi Arts Center (UC Berkeley)	March 6-9, 2013
Asif Tsahar Levontin (Tel Aviv)	June 4, 2012
Esperanza Spalding Webster Hall (NYC)	April 26, 2012
Julian Lage Group Kennedy Center (Washington, D.C.)	April 14, 2012
Julian Lage Group Winter Jazz Fest	Jan. 7, 2012
Dan Blake Quartet Wally's Jazz Club (Boston)	Dec. 10, 2011
Dan Blake Quartet Cornelia St. Café (Aquarian Suite, CD release)	Dec. 7, 2011
Dan Blake Quartet Twins Jazz Club (Washington, D.C.)	Dec. 6, 2011
Anthony Braxton Roulette	October 6, 2011
Julian Lage Group Bach Dancing and Dynamite (Half Moon Bay, CA)	June 2, 2011
Anthony Braxton Roulette (Brooklyn)	June 19, 2010
Kenny Werner Smalls Jazz Club	April 15, 2008
Sofia Rei Blue Note Jazz Club	Feb. 10, 2007

## Commissioned Compositions

<b><i>Parayana Songs</i></b> Oboe, eng. Horn, piano, voice	May, 2018
<b><i>When The Fire Goes Out (chamber ens., actor)</i></b> Multimedia video release	Jan. 21, 2017
<b><i>Laggo [stuck] (ten. Sx, fl, pno, perc)</i></b> Commissioned by Spring Roll Quartet (Paris)	April 7, 2016
<b><i>Agora, (chamber orchestra)</i></b> Commissioned by The Tri Centric Foundation (NYC)	Nov. 22, 2015
<b><i>Without Walls (actor, cl, vla, pno, perc)</i></b> Commissioned by Red Light New Music (NYC)	May 15, 2015
<b><i>Resonances for chamber ensemble</i></b> Commissioned by North-South Consonance Ensemble (NYC)	June 10, 2014
<b><i>The Dust Moves (string quartet, saxophone, live animation)</i></b> Commissioned by Jerome Foundation, New Music USA	Dec. 8, 2013
<b><i>Zoetrope (pno., perc.)</i></b> Commissioned by Doctor Faustus Series (NYC)	May 31, 2013
<b><i>The Home Stretch (jazz big band)</i></b> Commissioned by Greenwich High School Jazz Ensemble	March 26, 2012
<b><i>The Aquarian Suite (ten. Sax, tpt, cb, perc)</i></b> Brooklyn Jazz Underground Records (commercial release)	Oct. 17, 2011
<b><i>First Beginnings (recorder and 8-channel electronics)</i></b> Commissioned by Bird On a Wire (Montreal) Premier: Electronic Music Foundation 2011 annual symposium	June 15, 2011
<b><i>Chromatic Object In A Room (tape and stop-motion animation)</i></b> Commissioned by Fountain Studios (Chicago, IL)	August 29, 2010
<b><i>I once dreamt that... (fl, ob, vln, vcl, gtr)</i></b> Commissioned by Cygnus Ensemble	May 6, 2010
<b><i>On The One Hand (jazz big band)</i></b> Commissioned by Greenwich High School Jazz Band	March 26, 2010

<i>Mother's Blues (flute, sop. sax, soprano)</i> Commissioned by Five Words In A Line series (NYC)	Feb. 29, 2010
<i>One Time Work (sop. Sax, electronics)</i> Commissioned by Fountain Studios Sound Installation, Fountain Studios (Brooklyn NY)	Jan. 16, 2010
<i>Refractions (tenor sax, chamber orchestra)</i> Commissioned by Contermporary Music Ensemble	Nov. 18, 2009
<i>Portrait #4: Collisions (saxophone)</i> Commissioned by The Kenners (NYC) Premier: Hi-Fi Music festival	April 27, 2008
<i>Portrait #3</i> (soprano and electronics) Commissioned by "Composer's Voice Concert Series" (NYC)	Nov. 25, 2007
<i>Portrait #2</i> (percussion and electronics) Commissioned by June in Buffalo Premiered by redfish bluefish Ensemble	June 6, 2007
<i>Portrait #1 (trombone and suspended cymbal)</i> Commissioned by Daniel Linden	Nov. 15, 2006

### Awards and Honors

<b>CD of the Week</b> All About Jazz	Jan. 2017
<b>NY City College of Technology Open Lab Fellowship</b> Develop high-impact educational practices	2015
<b>New Music USA</b> Panelist	2015
<b>North-South Consonance Ensemble Composition Award</b> New Music USA	2014
Composer Assistance Program (CAP) Grant	2013
<b>Jerome Foundation Commission Grant</b> Commission for new work for Mivos Quartet	2011
<b>Baisley Powell Elebash Foundation</b> Funding for dissertation research	2010
<b>Atlantic Center for the Arts</b> Associate Artist, George Lewis Residency	2008
<b>Morton Feldman Composition Prize, CUNY</b>	2008
<b>June in Buffalo</b>	2008
<b>Fierstein Talent Scholarship</b> Granted by Brooklyn College	2007
<b>John Lennon Songwriting Contest</b>	2007



Grand Prize winner for “The Party Suite”	
<b>ASCAP Young Composer’s Competition Finalist</b>	2007
<b>ASCAP Young Jazz Composer’s Award</b>	2006

### Recordings and Broadcasts

#### Recent Radio/TV Broadcasts

WBGO’s “The Checkout”	August 1, 2013
The Daily Show with Jon Stewart Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	April 13, 2012
The Tonight Show with Jay Leno Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	April 10, 2012
The Late Show with David Letterman Esperanza Spalding, <i>Radio Music Society</i>	March 19, 2012
Toast of the Nation (Berklee Performance Center) Julian Lage, Larry Grenadier, Eric Harland	Dec. 31, 2011
WRTI, Jeff Duperon Show On-air interview for <i>Aquarian Suite</i>	Dec. 3, 2011
Toast of the Nation (BPC) soloist with Danilo Perez’s <i>Panama Suite</i>	Dec. 31, 2008
WGBH, Eric In The Evening On-air interview for <i>The Party Suite</i>	Nov. 2, 2005

#### Discography

Dan Blake, “The Digging” (Sunnyside Records)	2016
Kenji Herbert, “The Way the Light Falls” (Inner Circle Music)	2016
Dan Blake, “The Dust Moves” (Infrequent Seams)	2016
Leo Genovese, “Seeds” (Palmetto Records)	2014
Dan Blake/Leo Genovese, “Sometimes Is Like That” (self-released)	2013
Esperanza Spalding, “Radio Music Society” (Columbia)	2012
Dan Blake, “The Aquarian Suite” (Brooklyn Jazz Underground Records)	2011
Julian Lage, “Gladwell” (Emarcy/Universal)	2011
Ricardo Gallo “Tierra de Nadie” (Clean Feed Records)	2011
Anthony Braxton, “Trillium E” (New Braxton House)	2011
Oscar Penas, “From Now On” (Brooklyn Jazz Underground Records)	2010
Sofia Rei Koutsovitis, “Sube Azul” (World Village Records)	2009
Carmen Staaf, “Hole in the Sky” (self released)	2008
Danilo Perez, “Panama Suite” (ArtistShare)	2007
Richie Barshay, “Homework” (Ayva Records)	2006
Dan Blake: “The Party Suite” (self-released)	2005
Sofia Koutsovitis, “Ojala” (self-released)	2005

## Published Articles, Interviews, Panels

### Published articles and academic writing:

- “Space Is The Place”, *Music Scholarship*, No. 3 (Fall 2017), pp. 77-83  
“Space Is The Place: Composing in New York’s Improvised Music Scene”, *American Music Review*, Spring 2016.  
“Music and Compassion”, *Helping Hands Newsletter*, vol. 8/2 (Summer 2016)  
“Concert To Feed The Hungry”, *Helping Hands Newsletter*, vol. 6/3 (Spring 2014), url: <https://buddhistglobalrelief.org/active/newsletters.html>  
“Performed Identities: Theorizing in New York’s Improvised Music Scene,” Ph.D. diss., The Graduate Center, CUNY, 2013.  
Grove Dictionary of American Music (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), entries on *Bruce Saylor*, *Jeff Chan*, *Lonnie Smith*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.  
“How To Make It On The Internet,” *Tufts Magazine* (Winter 2007), url: <http://www.tufts.edu/alumni/magazine/winter2007/features/music-instruments.html>

### Selected Interviews/Reviews:

- Budd Koppman, “Dan Blake: The Digging”, *All About Jazz*, July 31, 2016  
Elliott Simon, “The Digging”, *New York Jazz Review*, August, 2016  
*Concert To Feed The Hungry*, *New Yorker* “Goings On About Town,” April 21, 2014  
*Daniel Blake: Saxophonist/Composer* (Our Net News), June 7, 2013  
*Daniel Blake: A Master of the Improvisatory Arts* (American Composers Forum), April 2013  
*Ear To Mind* (published *First Beginnings* plus roundtable interview), March 2012  
*Best Saxophone Website* (web journal), “Dan Blake’s Path to Intuitive and Enlightened Musical Mastery”, October, 2011  
*Point of Departure* (web journal), Steve Lacy Roundtable (April 2010)  
*The Boston Globe*, “Jazz Catalyst Brings ‘Aquarian Suite’ to Boston” (December 9, 2011)  
*201 Magazine*, “People to Watch” (December 6, 2005)

**Primary Instruments:** Soprano and Tenor Saxophones

**Secondary Instruments:** Piano, alto and baritone saxophones, piano, Bb clarinet, flute

### Other Experience:

**Technology:** Finale, Max/MSP, Cinema 4D, Adobe Premier, ProTools

**Languages:** English (first language), French (fluent), Spanish (proficient), German (proficient)

--References Available Upon Request--