

# Benjamin Thoreau Baker

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## Education

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- 2016–2020 Ohio University | BMus Composition, Minor in Screenwriting/Digital Storytelling | Athens, OH
- 2021–2023 University of Missouri-Kansas City | MMus Composition | Kansas City, MO

## Leadership Experience

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- 2023–present Co-founder, II-WANDS Record Label
- 2018–2020 President of Ohio University Composers' Association.
- 2022–2023 President of University of Missouri-Kansas City Composers' Guild.

## Awards

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- 2023 ArtsKC Inspiration Grant
- 2022 ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Award; PRIMORDIAL (2019) for alto saxophone and live electronics.

## Professional Memberships & Affiliations

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- 2021–present Extemporaneous Music and Arts Society, Kansas City (emaskansascity.com).
- 2020–present ASCAP, writer and publisher.
- 2019–present Society of Composers, Inc.

## Guest Teachings and Presentations

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- 12.10.22 Guest composer/performer on saxophone, composition, and improvisation, Wright State University Saxophone Festival, Dayton, OH.
- 10.14.22 Guest lecture on electroacoustic composition and Max MSP, Johnson University Music Technology, Knoxville, TN.

## Attended Programs and Residencies

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- June 2023 Composing in the Wilderness (composinginthewilderness.com)

## **LIST OF WORKS and NOTABLE PERFORMANCES**

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### **Solo Works**

*PRIMORDIAL* (2019) for alto saxophone and live electronics [9']

04.07.23 at the Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States, NYC

06.25.22 at New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival, NYC

10.30.20 at Indiana State University's Contemporary Music Festival, Terre Haute, IN

03.14.20 at EMCC in Kansas City, MO (\*cancelled due to COVID-19)

11.20.19 at Glidden Recital Hall, Ohio University, Athens, OH

*ARIA* (2023) for alto saxophone and live electronics [10']

07.02.22 at the SPLICE Institute, Kalamazoo, MI

*making -time-* (2021) for trombone and live electronics [12']

04.19.21 at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA

### **Large Ensemble**

*the world is made and will soon sit still* (2020) for wind ensemble [8'45"]

04.19.23 at the Folly Theater, Kansas City, MO

### **Vocal Works**

*Songs on Home* (2019) for soprano and chamber ensemble [15']

11.20.19 at Glidden Recital Hall, Ohio University, Athens, OH

*Spiralling, She* (2019) for 3 sopranos and mezzo-soprano [5'30"]

Recorded by Quince Ensemble on 10.18.19 at Ohio University, Athens, OH

### **Chamber works (With and Without Electronics)**

*It Ticks Down, Down, Down* (2023) for multimedia chamber opera or short film [12'45"]

*Above, The Lungs Freeze Rot. For a Tiger Moth and Polychrome* (2023) for chamber ensemble [6']

09.15.23 at University of Missouri-Kansas City (world premiere)

*Sketch Cinémathèque no.1 "Found Object Variations"* (2022) for low string trio [10']

*together it sustains* (2021) for wind quintet and live video

12.02.21 at Grant Hall, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, MO

ϕømwpũñçæ†ë (2021) for SPLICE Ensemble [5'30"]

11.05.21 at University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, MO

*Ode to Cave Music* (2018) for baritone saxophone and drum set [5'45"]  
Recorded by Patchwork Duo on 02.09.19 at Ohio University, Athens, OH

### **Installation/Electroacoustic**

*Digital Organum* (2022) audiovisual installation,  
collaboration with UMKC Senior Design Engineering Team

*you find that there's pressure* (2021) for stereo fixed media

*For Cosmo* (2018) for 8-channel surround fixed media [6'30"]

### **Collaborations/Miscellaneous Works**

Largemouth Symphony (2019) for New Orleans brass band and wind ensemble [11']  
(Collaboration with composers Ryne Siesky and Seth Alexander)  
03.24.19 at Ohio University's Memorial Auditorium, Athens, OH (world premiere)  
02.16.20 with Muskingum University, New Concord, OH

Commercial jazz album (2020-21): REPILOT, Largemouth Brass Band.  
Original compositions: *REPILOT*, *Night Lightning*, *Tarantula*, *Rum and Cider*, and *We're Guessin'*

### **Notable Commercial Releases:**

- 2023 "Til Death" (album) with Friendly Thieves, Kansas City
- 2022 "EMS" (album) with EMAS Records
- 2021 "Singles" (album) with Baker and Verploegh, EMAS Records
- 2021 "REPILOT" (album) with Largemouth Brass Band

## REFERENCES

Yotam Haber  
Associate Professor of Music Composition  
University of Missouri-Kansas City  
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Paul Rudy  
Curators' Distinguished Professor of Music Composition, Composition Area Coordinator  
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Robert McClure  
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