

Jake Berran

Composer

Pronouns: he/him | **LinkedIn:** www.linkedin.com/in/jake-berran | **Website:** jakeberran.com
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Education

M.M. in Composition | 2026 (exp.) | The Shepherd School of Music at Rice University | GPA: N/A
B.M. in Composition & B.A. in Mathematics | 2024 | Oberlin College and Conservatory | GPA: 4.21
Instructors: Anthony Brandt, Stephen Hartke, Jesse Jones, Michael Frazier, Jihyun Kim, Elizabeth Ogonek

Composition

Awards / Commissions

- **ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards, Honorable Mention, 2025**
- Walter E. Aschaffenburg Prize, awarded annually to a graduating Oberlin composition major, 2024
- *Music In The Air* (chorus & orch.) commissioned by Oberlin Conservatory for the Lorain County Bicentennial, 2024
- Commissioned for [Opera by the Sea](#) benefit concert in Sitka, AK, 2023
- *Icicle* commissioned by Unheard-of//Ensemble, 2022
- *The Convergence of The Twain* selected for performance by Oberlin College Choir, 2022
- Selected as *Sing Out Strong: Incarcerated Voices* composer for [White Snake Projects](#), 2021
- Winner of [Minnesota Sinfonia](#) New Works Composition Contest, 2020

Recent Works

- **Solos / Duos:** *Seven Regressions*, 2024 (piano, 18'); *Three Songs For Longing*, 2023 (two voices + piano, 10'); *Six Etudes for Bass Clarinet and Electronics*, 2023 (12'); *Marimba Sonata*, 2023 (6')
- **Chamber Ensemble:** *Monkey in the Middle*, 2025 (percussion quartet, 6') *String Quartet No. 1*, 2023 (12'); *Icicle*, 2022 (clarinet + cello + piano, 7'); *Overthrow the Conductor*, 2022 (Pierrot sextet, 8')
- **Large Ensemble:** *Music in the Air*, 2024 (choir + orchestra, 8'); *Slice*, 2024 (chamber orchestra, 8'); *...searching for...*, 2023 (large orchestra, 11'); *The Convergence of The Twain*, 2021 (choir + piano, 8')
- **Electronics:** Max patch for [interactive installation @ U of Houston](#) ([code](#)), 2025; *Six Etudes for Bass Clarinet and Electronics*, 2023 (12', [code](#)); *Particles*, 2021 (aleatoric composition rendered with [code](#), 4')
- **Musical Theater:** *All In Your Mind* (co-writer & [cast album](#) producer; 14 in cast, 10 in orchestra, 2h30m)
- **Film Scores:** *ofrain*, 2025 (film by Eli Johns-Krull, 7'); *Scam Magnet*, 2024 (dir. Kalina Mishev)

Performance & Other Skills

- **Piano:** performed in Oberlin's new music ensemble in 2024; repertoire includes *La Campanella* (Liszt)
- **Percussion:** past repertoire includes *SyNc* (Koshinski, snare), *Ilijas* (Zikovic, marimba); jazz vibraphone
- **Conducting:** served as Associate Conductor at College Light Opera Company in 2025
- **Voice:** [Performed The Crucifixion](#) (Barber) in 2023
- **Improvisation:** [recorded a performance with George Rogers](#) in 2024
- **Teaching & Working with Kids:** European Piano Academy teacher (ages 4-5) in 24-25, theory TA at Rice in 24-25, comp. lessons at Oberlin in 23-24, Head Counselor (ages 12-18) at [Sitka Fine Arts Camp](#) in '24
- **Arts Leadership:** Music Coordinator of Oberlin Musical Theater Association (trained MDs), 2022-2024
- **Mathematics:** researched musical scales and tunings for Oberlin honors curriculum, 2023-2024; placed in the [top 500 scores](#) out of 3,415 in the Putnam competition in 2022