

Born: September 1, 1977

Address: 854 Fayetteville Rd SE Atlanta, Ga 30316

Contact: cell phone – (614) 353-4974 or email – swensemble@yahoo.com

Higher Education:

September 1996 – May 1999: University of Montana, Missoula, MT

Area of Focus: Music Composition

Other relevant studies: Classical Piano Performance, Music Production, Audio Engineering

January 2000 – December 2001: **Bachelor of Arts**, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Area of Focus: Music Composition

Other relevant studies: Classical and Jazz Piano Performance

September 2010 - Present: Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

Area of Focus: **Master of Music** – Jazz Studies

Other relevant studies: Jazz Piano Performance, Pedagogy, Composition, and Arranging

Select Work Experience:

Independent Composer and Performer

2005 – present. *The Stephen Wood Ensemble*. I am the director, composer, performer, and booking agent for this modern jazz ensemble. The ensemble ranges in size from a quartet to a tenet. Select performance venues include Churchill Grounds Jazz Club, The Decatur Arts Festival, The Oakhurst Music and Arts Festival (Atlanta, GA), The Jazz and Rib Festival (Columbus, Ohio), Wine and All That Jazz (Charleston, WV), and The Main Street Arts Festival (Greenville, SC).

2001 – present. Freelance pianist and keyboardist as a soloist and sideman in Atlanta, GA and Columbus, OH. Select extended engagements for solo jazz piano include: Nathalie's Fish House, Decatur, GA. 2010 - bi-weekly engagement on Saturday nights; Mozarts Music Café, Columbus, OH. 2002 - weekly engagement for Sunday brunches.

2010. *American Muscle*. I was the music director, composer, performer, and collaborator for a contemporary dance performance choreographed by Blake Beckham and premiered at Eye Drum Art and Music Gallery. All musical compositions were based on American musical forms and performed by *The Stephen Wood Ensemble*.

2009. *Variations on the theme of Alicia*. I composed a quintet for contemporary dance choreographer Blake Beckham. The composition is based on saxophonist Eddie Harris' composition Alicia. The quintet instrumentation is alto saxophone, flute, bass clarinet, classical guitar, and piano. The dance performance was featured at The Decatur Arts Festival.

2004. *Faces*. A jazz composition commissioned by the Fisk University Jazz Ensemble directed by Gary Nash. Premiered at the Spring Arts Festival, Fisk University, Nashville, TN.

2003. *String Trio*. Commissioned by graduate dance students at The Ohio State University and premiered at the OSU Winter Dance Performance.

2002 – 2005. *Postal*. Organ groove ensemble based in Columbus, Ohio. I was the director, composer, performer, and booking agent for the ensemble. The ensemble varied in size from a quartet to an octet.

2000 – 2001. Student compositions at The Ohio State University include works for string quartet, string quintet, and woodwind quintet.

CD Production

2006. “Inaudible,” *The Stephen Wood Ensemble*. Produced and composed all the music for a full-length cd featuring *The Stephen Wood Ensemble*. Recorded and Mastered by Joe Veirs at John Schwab Studios in Columbus, OH.

2004. “Theory of Chaconne,” *Postal*. Produced and composed all the music for a full length cd featuring the organ groove band *Postal*. Recorded and Mastered by Jose Gonzalez at Supraphonic Studios in Columbus, OH.

Music Instruction

2011 – present. Private Piano and Music Lessons for students in Atlanta, Ga.

2011 – present. Substitute teaching for private piano instructors at Peggy Stills Music School in Alpharetta, Ga.

2000-2001. Piano Instructor for *Piano Lessons in Your Home* in Columbus, OH. I taught beginning piano students of all ages for young children to adults.

Honors and Achievements

2005, Fisk University Spring Music Festival. Guest Artist and Performer. Performed commissioned composition and other works with the University Jazz Ensemble.

2004, Bach Contemporary Music Festival, select attendee and composer, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR.