

## Eric William Hirsh

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### EDUCATION

#### University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Bachelor of Arts in Music and Physics  
 Cumulative GPA: 3.8 Music GPA: 4.0 Physics GPA: 3.4

December,  
2006

### SUMMARY

- Professional-level, versatile pianist and keyboardist of 16 years
- Creative, intuitive composer, arranger, and band leader
- Strong live and studio recording, editing, and mixing skills
- Fluency with Windows- and Macintosh-based MIDI/audio sequencing programs including Sonar, Sound Forge, Digital Performer, Ableton Live, ProTools
- Fluency with digital music engraving in Sibelius
- Programming experience in LabVIEW and C#
- Improv comedy: basic training, musical accompaniment
- Technical theatre: sound design, musical direction
- Articulate, authentic writer – proficient with Microsoft Office

### EMPLOYMENT

#### **Zenph Studios**, Raleigh, NC <http://www.zenph.com> **Performance Analyst**

May, 2006 –  
present

- Perform computer-intensive analysis and conversion of original audio recordings to data files via proprietary Zenph technology and software so as to create note-perfect, micro-timed transcriptions of solo piano recordings (“re-performances”)
- Provide Quality Assurance analyses of final files to assure that a perfect match to original performances has been attained by fellow Performance Analysts
- Consult company members on issues relating to jazz piano performance
- Research and Development into creating a robotic upright bass instrument for re-performance
- Editing and engraving a collection of high-quality jazz piano transcriptions for publication
- Participate in development and testing of Zenph technology and software
- Audio recording sessions of re-performed album tracks
- Marketing support - including copy for investor packets, website content, concert program notes

#### **Goodman Laboratory**, Chapel Hill, NC **Lab Assistant**

May, 2003 –  
May, 2006

- Developed innovative ways to coat dichromated gelatin onto glass for making volume phase holographic gratings
- Designed and built a precision blade coater and a free-standing dark room
- Worked with LabVIEW graphical development environment to build a Windows-based interface to control argon lasers and optical stages
- Managed the laboratory, placing orders to various optics, electronics, and industrial suppliers

### PROFESSIONAL PIANIST

#### **Jazz Piano**

2000 -  
present

- Provide high-quality jazz music to Raleigh/Durham area restaurants, clubs, weddings, private parties
- Book both solo and ensemble engagements, negotiate rates, maintain and rehearse a roster of musicians
- Frequent work with the John Brown Entertainment Group

#### **Session Keyboardist**

2003 -  
present

- Club dates and studio dates with: Carnavalito, Orquesta GarDel, PrimeraJazz and Tito Gomez (salsa/Afro-Cuban); Pierce Freelon and The Remix Project (hip hop); The Hugh Swaso Project and Bibis Ellison (rock/pop); Who’s Bad (Michael Jackson tribute); The Andy Kleindienst Band (funk, reggae)

#### **Accompanist**

2003 -  
present

- Accompany choir for services at Newman Catholic Student Center Parish
- Cabaret/jazz accompanist for Ellen Williams, professor of voice at Meredith College
- Accompanist for Catherine Cheng, jazz vocalist

**BAND LEADER,  
DIRECTOR,  
PRODUCER**

- Orquesta GarDel** 2007 – present
  - Music director and arranger for a professional 11-piece salsa/timba all-star ensemble
  - Conduct rehearsals, maintain a book of charts, personnel management
- Four String Samurai** 2007 – present
  - Music director and accompanist for a professional long-form improv comedy team
  - Assist in producing The Samurai Hour, a monthly comedy revue; writing songs, transition cues, sketches; leading a one-man Ableton Live band during each show
- Full of Stars** 2004 – 2005
  - Co-founded an electronic indie-pop duo with lyricist/guitarist Jeff Fowler
  - Employed a combination of field recordings, software synthesizers, orchestral sample libraries and real instruments to program music for original songs
  - Mixed and mastered entire album in a Windows-based home studio.
  - Programmed and produced live concert for CD release, April 2005
- Bazungu** 2002 - 2005
  - Co-founded, wrote songs, and played keyboards for this Chapel Hill funk/disco band
  - *Now With A Dot* EP released 2004

**PROFESSIONAL  
SOCIETIES**

- Writer member of BMI
- Active member of IAJE (International Association of Jazz Educators)

**COMPOSITION  
EXPERIENCE**

- Currently composing the score to a work of musical theatre entitled *Puppets and Shadows*, with librettist/lyricist/director Dana Dobрева. Collaborating since 2005. Ran a workshop through the UNC Department of Dramatic Art's Advanced Showcase studio and produced a performance run in spring 2006. Continuing to edit and refine the work before seeking a first full production. 2005 – present
- Commissioned by Newman Catholic Student Center Parish to write *The Chapel Hill Mass*, a jazz Mass setting for choir, congregation, and band; premiered June 2006, used in weekly liturgy through November 2006 2005 – 2006
- Recorded original work "Urbane Asylum" on UNC Jazz Band's 2003 CD release *From One to Another* 2003
- Arranged and engraved noted jazz pianist Marcus Roberts' big band work "Journey Into Swing" 2005

**TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE**

- Week-long residency at Watauga High School music program in Boone, NC with the John Brown Quintet Spring, 2007
- Workshop session with Chapel Hill High School jazz band on arrangement of a ballad from *Puppets and Shadows* Spring, 2007
- One year of private-instruction experience 2006

**HONORS AND  
AWARDS**

- ASCAP Foundation Young Jazz Composers Award, 2005, 2007 (runner-up) 2005, 2007
- Ron and Marilyn Toelle Jazz Education Award 2006
- Thelma Thompson Composition Award 2005
- Fred and Gail Fearing Outstanding Jazz Musician Award 2004
- Phi Beta Kappa, elected junior year 2005
- Dean's List eight semesters 2002 - 2006

**UNDER-  
GRADUATE  
ACTIVITIES**

- 4 years of Jazz Band, 4 years of Jazz Combos 2002 – 2006
- 3 years with Charanga Carolina, UNC's Cuban salsa/danzón ensemble 2003 – 2006
- Workshops with visiting artists including Marcus Roberts, Libby Larsen, David Berkman, Barry Harris 2002 – 2006
- Rehearsal pianist and piano tech for UNC Wind Ensemble, (*...and the mountains rising nowhere...*) Spring, 2006
- Sound designer for the Lab! Theatre 2002 – 2004
- Keyboardist in various musical pit orchestras 2002 – 2004

**RELEVANT  
COURSEWORK**

- **Physics:** Analog and Digital Electronics, Electromagnetism, Musical Acoustics, Mechanics
- **Music:** Theory and History, Composition, Arranging/Orchestration, Conducting, Counterpoint
- **Other:** Epistemology, History of African-American Vernacular Music, Linguistics

**PIANO AND  
COMPOSITION  
TEACHERS**

- Thomas Otten, classical piano professor at UNC
- Stephen Anderson, jazz pianist and composer at UNC
- Ed Paolantonio, jazz piano
- Allen Anderson, composition professor at UNC
- Tyson Rogers, jazz pianist
- Carolbeth True, foremost jazz and classical pianist in St. Louis, MO

Fall, 2006  
2005 - present  
2002 - 2005  
Fall, 2005  
2001 - 2002  
1993 - 2000

**REFERENCES**

- Available upon request.