

Ryan Closs

Historical Plucked Strings Specialist

1650 Rugby Rd.
Merrick, NY 11566
+1(516) 724-3564
RClossMusic@gmail.com
www.RyanCloss.com

EXPERIENCE

Creative Corner, West Hempstead — Teacher/Manager

April 2015 - PRESENT

Duties include (not limited to): Teaching music students, organizing recitals, booking live music events, audio recording, video recording, sound engineering live music events, instrumental repairs, advertising, and organizing rented rehearsal space.

SUNY-Nassau, Uniondale — Adjunct Prof. Music

September 2019 - Present

Adjunct Professor of Music - Intro to guitar for non-majors, & Intro to piano for non-majors. Duties include creation of class syllabus, office hours, grades, public speaking, and clear presentation of new material.

Musician, Everywhere — Freelance

July 2005 - Present

Musical performance on a variety of instruments as demanded on a Per gig' basis. Organizing rehearsal times, making clean copies of music. Ryan has performed with orchestras, comedians, chamber ensembles, theatre troupes, ballet companies, choirs, recording groups, and students in the genres of Opera, Theatre, Ballet, Jazz, Rock, Heavy Metal, Classical, Baroque, Renaissance, Medieval, Klezmer, Greek, South American, African, Asian, Spoken Word, and Avant-Garde.

Video Editor, NY — Self-Employed

August 2022 - Present

Founder of the upstarting digital classical music organization [ShoeBox Opera], this is the culmination of audio recording, video editing, musical performance experience with the intention of bringing new audiences to classical repertoire, classic theater, and ballet.

Lute Society of America, NY — Local Chapter Leader

October 2019 - Present

Duties include, monthly newsletter, on-line presentations, outreach concert performances, board meetings, and maintaining interpersonal connections with members across the Americas.

SKILLS

Teaching and Performing,
Sight reading treble, bass,
some C clefs, short score,
figured bass, lead sheets, and
Broadway sheets.

Audio Recording, mixing, and
mastering.

Video Editing, standard
transitions, VFX, green
screen, basic coloring.

Instruments

Historical Instruments:

Lute, Theorbo, Baroque
Guitar, Renaissance Guitar,
Lyre, Recorders, Pan drum.

Modern Instruments:

Acoustic Guitar, Classical
Guitar, Electric Guitar, Piano,
Bass, Upright Bass, Cello,
Violin, Viola, Recorders,
Ukuleles, Mandolins, Banjo,
MIDI synth, Cuatro, Cajon,
Spoons, Drum Kit.

Errata: Clarinet, Irish Tin
Whistle, Musical Saw,
amplified paper.

LANGUAGES

English, basic Spanish, basic
Italian, conversational
German, some Latin.

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Academy, Forest Hills, NY — *General Music Teacher*

September 2020 - June 2021

Taught fundamentals of music from Nursery to Grade 8.
NYS clearance for Pre-K for all.

Adelphi University, Garden City, NY — *Adjunct Prof. Music*

September 2018 - December 2018

Teaching Keyboard proficiency skills to non-music majors.

EDUCATION

Adelphi University, Garden City, NY — *B.S. Lute Studies*

January 2014 - May 2015

Major in Music with a concentration in historical research methods pertaining (but not limited to) the Renaissance Lute Performance.

CUNY-Queens College, Flushing, NY — *Incomplete*

September 2012 - May 2013

Double Major: Lute Performance under Pat O'Brien, Music Education Major under Gregory Williams with concentrations in Violin, and Figured Bass (respectively).

SUNY-Nassau Community College, Uniondale, NY — *A.A.S. Classical Guitar Performance*

September 2007 - December 2010

Classical Guitar Performance Major under Steve Leonard, and Bill Zito.

REGULAR ENSEMBLE APPEARANCES

Four and Twenty Strings — *Plucked Continuo*

Long Island's Premiere historically informed string band. Four and Twenty Strings has brought 16-18th century music to new audiences in presentations that have demanded comeback concerts. The only group of its kind on geographic Long Island.

Kammermusik — *Plucked Continuo/Coach*

A Chamber ensemble on Long Island that specializes in 18th century music, but the focus is the clarity and rhetoric of the musical intention. Open to participants of all ages.

PUBLICATIONS

The Lute Duet Playbook, edited and arranged by Ryan Closs, published under Lulu (2020)

Lute Duet Playbook Vol. II (2024-pending) Duets for 2 or fewer Lutes. Arranged and edited by Ryan Closs.

'A Bard and a Giraffe walk into a bar' an Article published in the Quarterly Publication for Lute Society of America regarding acquiring new audiences. (2019)



BALAM Dance Theatre — *Plucked Continuo*

International performing ensemble which has gained much acclaim for its integration of Balanese dances and costumes into its performances in the western world. BALAM Dance Theatre regularly performs in dance outreach and awareness performances.

COMPUTER LITERACY

Microsoft Office Suite certified (word, excel, power point), Google literate (docs, drive, jam boards, meets, youtube, calendar, and classroom), CUNY/SUNY BlackBoard, Davinci Resolve (video editing software), Blender (3D modeling software), Audacity (audio editing software), CakeWalk by Bandlab (audio editing software), MuseScore (music notation software).

CERTIFICATIONS

Ryan is fingerprinted for New York State to work in schools and alongside minors, A.A.S. Guitar Performance, B.S. Lute Performance, VERTIS verified, ZOOM certified (N.C.C. pandemic distance learning training), Microsoft Office Certified (2015), Board Management Training - Opera America (2022).

AFFILIATIONS

Ryan is a member of AFM local 802 musicians union, Opera America, and the Lute Society of America



Lute Metal