

Dr. Steven Cunningham

7 Ivy Ln, Petersburg, VA 23805

(804)-731-1249

sbcunni2@gmail.com

www.sctrumpet.com

Academic Degrees

Doctor of Musical Arts in Trumpet Performance, 2017

University of Maryland, College Park

Graduate Assistant

Advisor: Chris Gekker

Dissertation: A Survey of Solo Repertoire for the Cornet

Master of Music in Jazz Trumpet Performance, 2014

University of Maryland, College Park

Graduate Assistant

Bachelor of Music in Trumpet Performance, 2011

Virginia Commonwealth University

Teaching Experience

Director of Bands

Dinwiddie High School, Dinwiddie, VA, 2021-present

- Marching Band
- Concert Band
- Jazz Band
- Percussion Class

Adjunct Instructor of Music

Grambling State University, Grambling, LA, 2021-present

- *Virtual Applied Trumpet Lessons*. Students receive one-hour lessons each week in preparation for juries and/or recitals.

Assistant Professor of Music-Upper Brass and Assistant Band Director

Grambling State University, Grambling, LA, 2018-2021

- Conrad Hutchinson Endowed Professorship in Music
- Department of Music Advisor
- Department of Music Social Media Content Administrator
- Faculty Senate- Department of Music Representative

World Famed Tiger Marching Band

- Arrange music for the marching band and pep band.
- Assists with marching and band field shows, section practice, marching bands, and high school bands.
- Assist with recruiting of student personnel – bands.
- Conduct Sectionals
- Rehearse marching band music.
- Supervise student arrangers and arrangements for the marching band.
- Social Media Band Content Administrator
- Developed online applications for High School Seniors

Teaching: Undergraduate Courses

Applied Trumpet: The purpose of this course is to expose students to major aspects of trumpet performance and pedagogy, as well as to develop a strong fundamental approach to the instrument. In addition to the standard etude and solo literature appropriate to the individual student's playing level, areas of concentration may include (but are not limited to): transposition, orchestral excerpts, exposure to high-pitched trumpets, sight-reading, range development, tone production, endurance, flexibility, articulation, and appropriate style. Students receive one-hour lessons each week in preparation for juries and/or recitals.

Experimental Jazz Ensemble: This ensemble rehearses and performs standard Jazz Ensemble literature and also experiments with a variety of other styles like gospel, funk, and hip-hop.

Harmony I: This course begins the study of Tonal Harmony in the "Common Practice" period of the eighteenth century. The musical materials involved are keys, intervals, triads, and chords that are fundamental and characteristic of this style period. Rules of harmonic progression are studied thoroughly in preparation for the ensuing courses, Harmony II through IV.

Harmony II: A continuation of Harmony I, this course offers additional training in the harmonic practices of the "Common Practice" period. It includes the study of embellishments, cadence functions, harmonic rhythm, and an introduction to dominant chords. This course should be taken concurrently with MUS 126.

Harmony III: Expands the student's harmonic vocabulary to include dominant seventh chords, secondary dominants, and irregular resolutions. In addition, problems in harmonic analysis and the topic of musical texture are examined. Also studies the theory and compositional technique of 18th century counterpoint. Works of J. S. Bach will be examined and analyzed in detail. Form

such as the invention, the canon, fugue, and choral forms will be the primary focus of this study. It should be taken concurrently with MUS 225.

Harmony IV: The course also includes and Studies ninth, eleventh and thirteenth chords, advanced modulations, chromatic alterations and possibilities of the Neapolitan sixth chord and augmented 6th chords. The course also includes an introduction to some parameters of twentieth century harmony. In addition, the course examines various techniques of analyzing form, texture, and style in music are applied to a variety of compositions. It should be taken concurrently with MUS 225.

Ear Training and Sightsinging I: This is a practical course for the development of skills in melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic reading, as well as aural perception. Topics include intervals, triads, solfege, sight reading, and simple conducting patterns.

Ear Training and Sightsinging II: This is a practical course for the development of skills in melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic reading, as well as aural perception. This course will review identifying intervals and triads by ear. Seventh chords, inversions, and chord progressions are introduced. Student's sight read more complex rhythmic patterns in numerous time signatures.

Ear Training and Sight Singing III: This course is a continuation of MUS 126 and continues to develop aural and reading skills on an advanced level. It should be taken concurrently with MUS 215.

Ear Training and Sight Singing IV: This is the last course in the series and continues training on the most advanced level. It should be taken concurrently with MUS 216.

Music Appreciation for Music Majors: Emphasis is placed upon the development of listening skills and the systematic study of masterpieces of music. A logical approach is made through the use of fundamentals of music in style analysis. The course is required for all music majors.

Additional Duties:

- Conduct performances, schedule performances on campus and off-campus Wind and percussion Jury coordinator for the Music Department.
- Recruit, audition, select, and train musicians for the Grambling State University Jazz and Marching Band.
- Manage social media accounts for the Department of Music and World Famed Tiger Marching Band
- Maintain Jazz Ensemble scholarship budget.

Adjunct Instructor of Music

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2017-2018

Teaching: Undergraduate Courses

Jazz Orchestra II: Ensemble performs a range of contemporary and historical styles and performs multiple times throughout the semester. In addition to rehearsals, weekly one-hour sectionals are

required. Commissioned to arrange *La Juventud* by Seven-time Grammy-nominated percussionist, John Santos for the “Salsa for Change” Concert

Small Jazz Ensemble: Jazz ensembles of typically five to nine players rehearse and prepare existing repertoire and student compositions. Independent problem-solving and ensemble-playing skills developed through weekly rehearsals and coaching.

Trumpet Ensemble: Chamber ensembles of three to five players, involving various combinations of brass instruments. Coached by various music faculty on a weekly basis. Arranged Beethoven Sextet for 2 Horns and String Quartet in E-flat, Op.81b for Trumpet Ensemble to compete in the National Trumpet Competition Trumpet Ensemble Division

Assistant Music Director- VCU Athletic Bands

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2011-2012

Arranged music for the Pep Band.

- Conducted rehearsals when Director was absent.
- Conducted Pep Band at select Women’s Basketball, Soccer, Field Hockey, and Volleyball games

Graduate Assistant

University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 2012-2017

- Trumpet clinic for UMD Marching Band Trumpet section focusing on fundamentals and high register development.
- Lecture on the development of Trumpet Articulation and Phrasing
- Performed as Lead Trumpet for Jazz Ensemble, and served as Principal Trumpet for selected pieces with the Symphony Orchestra and Wind Orchestra

Assistant Jazz Band Director

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2017-2018

- High School Honors Jazz Band, coached and prepared High School Students for performances.

Trumpet Instructor

Springbrook High School, Silver Spring, MD, 2016-2017

- Taught trumpet students bi-weekly by group format Prepared students for Band Festivals and All-District Band auditions

Selected Solo and Chamber Music Performances

Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass- Performed with the famous brass ensemble at concert series in upstate New York, Ogdensburg, NY, 2020.

Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass- Performed with the famous brass ensemble at New Jersey City University, Jersey City, NJ, 2020.

Trumpet 4 Kids- Performed with an artist trumpet ensemble, coached Trumpet Wars competition, Fort Worth, TX, 2020.

Douglas Hedwig Residency at the University of Louisiana-Monroe- Performed the works of World-Renowned Composer Douglas Hedwig with the ULM Brass Faculty,

Scott Hartman Residency at the University of Louisiana-Monroe - Performed with the ULM Brass Faculty, Former Empire Brass Trombonist and Trombone Professor at Yale University, Scott Hartman, Monroe, LA, 2020

New Music on the Bayou Festival, Monroe, LA, 2019, 2021

Jubilate Deo Summer Music Camp Orchestra, West Monroe, LA, 2019, 2020, 2021

DAR Constitution Hall- soloist with multi-platinum singer Josh Groban
Washington, DC, 2015

The Tower Theatre- soloist with multi-platinum singer Josh Groban
Upper Darby, PA, 2015

UMD Symphony Orchestra, *Brandenburg Gate*, 2012

West Point High School Concert Band, *Carnival of Venice*, 2012

Washington National Cathedral- performer, Brass Quintet- Easter Services
Washington, DC, 2012

Virginia Repertory Theatre, *The Color Purple* (2015), *Marry Poppins* (2017), *West Side Story* (2018) pit orchestra.

VCU Concerto Competition Winner, *Trumpet Concerto* by Alexander Arutunian, 2008

International Trumpet Guild Conference-student participant, VCU Trumpet Ensemble
Minneapolis, MN, 2011

National Trumpet Competition Trumpet Ensemble Division Quarterfinalist- VCU Trumpet Ensemble
Fairfax, VA, 2013

UMD Symphony Orchestra, *Pictures at an Exhibition*, principal trumpet, 2014
Operetta, *Qadar*, by Tony Small, pit orchestra, 2015

Orchestral Experience

Lancaster Symphony Orchestra- Principal Trumpet for Sounds of Season Concert
Lancaster, PA, 2017

Black Pearl Chamber Orchestra- Section Trumpet
Philadelphia, PA, 2017

National Orchestral Institute- performer with NOI Symphony Orchestra
College Park, MD, 2015

Music Festival Performances

Toronto Jazz Festival- performer with NO BS! Brass Band
Toronto, ON, 2017

Millennium Park Concert Series- performer with NO BS! Brass Band
Chicago, IL, 2017

Artscape – performer with Jah Works
Baltimore, MD, 2016

Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola Club, a performer with Mid Atlantic Collegiate Jazz Orchestra
New York, NY 2015 and 2016

Carnegie Hall- student participant with VCU Symphonic Wind Ensemble
New York, NY, 2009

Richmond Jazz Festival- performer with Maestro J and KG Experience
Richmond, VA, 2013, 2014, 2016

Golden Festival- performer with Black Masala
Brooklyn, NY, 2015

UDC Carl Jones Jazz Band Festival- performer with UMD Jazz Ensemble
Washington, DC, 2013

Musikfest- performer, Black Masala
Bethlehem, PA 2014-2016

New York Gypsy Festival- performer, Black Masala
New York, NY, 2014

2nd Street Festival-performer, KG Experience
Richmond, VA, 2013

Discography

The Historian, Lucy Dacus: iTunes, Spotify

Dacus' breathtaking 2015 debut album, *No Burden*, earned her the heavy title of indie rock's "next big thing." It wasn't without merits: a gifted songwriter and skilled guitarist with a shape-shifting voice that growls as effortlessly as it glides, she's the rare sort of artist who seemed to arrive fully formed. But *Historian* proves the 22-year-old is just getting started. Rich with daring left turns (album opener "Night Shift" stretches an intrepid six and a half minutes) and penetrating lyrics about death and grief ("Pillar of Truth"), it's a scintillating sophomore album that's rooted in sadness and resolved in hope.

*Recorded on the following tracks: *Body to Flame*, *Pillar of Truth*, *Addictions*

Food for Thought, The Flavor Project, 2020: Spotify

Second full album the Richmond, VA-based group.

Jelly Roll, Tongue in Cheek Jazz Band: iTunes, Spotify

Second studio album by Baltimore-based neo-traditional jazz band, Tongue in Cheek.

*Recorded on the following tracks: *Baltimore*, *Big Chief Battle Axe*, *There Aint No Sweet Man Worth the Salt of My Tears*

Corigliano Symphony No.1, National Orchestral Institute Philharmonic, David Alan Miller: iTunes

This is the first recording for Naxos by the National Orchestral Institute Philharmonic, which is composed of elite conservatory students from across the United States and abroad. The chosen works reflect the richness and variety of the American repertoire. A work of immense poignancy and power, John Corigliano's *Symphony No. 1* is a commemoration of friends of the composer who died during the 1980s and '90s. Michael Torke's *Bright Blue Music* evokes rich lyricism couched in the composer's favorite key of D major. The suite from Copland's *Appalachian Spring* is one of the great, quintessential American works.

*Recorded on *Corigliano Symphony No. 1*, 4th Trumpet.

I Love You Madly, Black Masala: iTunes, Spotify.

With great anticipation and excitement, Black Masala is ready to take their fans on the next musical adventure with their second full length album, "I Love You Madly," Due out October 30,

2015! The title track “I Love You Madly” is the perfect track to kick off the new album, it’s hard to sit still while listening to this gypsy punk anthem. A fun and upbeat tune about unrequited love, “I Love You Madly” features the driving horns section that is a key part of the Black Masala sound. With great anticipation and excitement, Black Masala is ready to take their fans on the next musical adventure with their second full length album, “I Love You Madly,” Due out October 30, 2015! The title track “I Love You Madly” is the perfect track to kick off the new album, it’s hard to sit still while listening to this gypsy punk anthem. A fun and upbeat tune about unrequited love, “I Love You Madly” features the driving horns section that is a key part of the Black Masala sound.

*Cool Breeze- Original Composition by Steven Cunningham

Splankify, Backbeat Underground: iTunes, Spotify

Born in the depths of subterranean groove gatherings, Backbeat Underground is a Washington, DC based instrumental funk group with soul jazz influences. Bringing their years of collective experience in the DC and NYC music scenes, the band delivers tight, energetic sets steeped in fresh improvisation and head-bopping, booty-shaking pockets. Backbeat Underground was proud to serve as stewards of the funk in DC’s first, second, and third annual Funk Parade, and the band is quickly gaining notoriety for their organic and smoldering blend of soulful funk and jazz.

Retro Love Song, Joye B. Moore: iTunes, Spotify

Joye B. Moore is a songwriter and vocalist; co-writing and co-producing her debut inspirational album “Project Butterfly” and co-wrote and produced singles "Where I Am", "Should Have" and "Retro Love Song".

Should Have, Joye B. Moore: iTunes, Spotify.

Joye B. Moore is a songwriter and vocalist; co-writing and co-producing her debut inspirational album “Project Butterfly” and co-wrote and produced singles "Where I Am", "Should Have" and "Retro Love Song".

I Love You Madly Remixed Volume One, Black Masala: iTunes, Spotify.

Washington, DC based Black Masala returns with the first Volume in their new remix release series. Volume One features DJ Inko, Omegaman, Lazarus Soundsystem, and Los Chicos Altos on Black Masala originals from their I Love You Madly LP. The EP cuts between deep bass lines, chopped up breakbeats, dance floor Balkan vibes, and hyper upbeat grooves to get you moving.

I Love You Madly Remixed Volume Two:

Bhangra Ramo (DJ Inko Remix) Bhangra Ramo (Omegaman Remix) I Love You Madly (Lazarus Soundsystem Remix) Cool Breeze (Los Chicos Altos Remix)

I Love You Madly Remixed Volume Two, Black Masala: iTunes, Spotify.

The second volume of remixes from I Love You Madly offer a good mix of genres, sounds and moods – perfect for djs and music lovers alike. Black Masala has had a great time collaborating with all these great artists around the word to reinterpret our music and add their own influences. Coming soon will be I love You Madly Remixed Volume 3 with three more new remixes.

I Love You Madly Remixed Volume Three, Black Masala: iTunes, Spotify.

Black Masala are excited to share these reinterpretations of their music with the world, taking their sound in new directions and incorporating a variety of styles. The third and final installment of the remix series includes genres as varied as Breaks, Funk, Trap and Balkumbia. This is the globalization of music and it's a lot of fun, so enjoy the music and get down to these beats.

Happy Holidays, T-Soul: iTunes

Soul music can best be defined as Music that you can feel. Singer/Songwriter/Producer T.Soul is an artist from Virginia whose music has been described as doing just that.

Masterclass/Clinics

Northern Kentucky University Trumpet Studio Masterclass (2021)- Gave a brief overview of HBCU marching bands and how to maintain trumpet fundamentals.

Online GSU Marching Band Recruiting Seminar (2021)- Provided audition advice for high school seniors and information on GSU Band Scholarships.

Illinois State Trumpet Studio Virtual Masterclass (2020)- Provided insight on practice routine for crossover trumpet players and coached two students on transcriptions.

Trumpet 4 Kids: Fort Worth, TX (2020)- Judged Trumpet Wars Competition. Provided feedback for young trumpeters.

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff: Pine Bluff, AR (2019)- Presented a trumpet clinic and coached students on trumpet solo repertoire

Huntington High School: Shreveport, LA (2018)- Presented a trumpet clinic on trumpet fundamentals and prepared students for All-District and All-State auditions

University of Maryland: College Park, MD (2015)- Presented a trumpet clinic on trumpet fundamentals and High Register Development.

Virginia Commonwealth University: Richmond, VA (2015)- Presentation on Graduate School music auditions and music career discussion.

Guest Clinicians Hosted at Grambling State University

Dr. Demar Woods, from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (2019 and 2020)- Trumpet masterclass, three students performed various solo pieces.

Dr. Anne Mcnamara, from Illinois State University (2020)- Music Education careers masterclass

Musician 1st Class David Smith, from the United States Navy Band in DC (2020)- Military music careers

Steven Vogel, from Texas Lutheran University- Trombone Masterclass, coached student on solo repertoire

Dr. William Lake, Jr, from Purchase College, State University of New York (2020) - “Teach Music”, Music Education masterclass

Terence Bradford, Grambling State University Alumnus and University of North Texas graduate (2020)- Jazz Improvisation Masterclass

Peacherine Ragtime Orchestra Brass Section- Coached brass students on solo literature

Publications

Sextet in Eb for Trumpet Ensemble

Composer: Beethoven, Ludvig van

Arranger: Cunningham, Steven

Instrumentation: Sextet Instruments: Flugelhorn, Piccolo Trumpet, Bb Trumpet

Genre: Classical

Instrument, Flugelhorn, Piccolo Trumpet, Trumpet

Instrumentation, Sextet

Genre, Classical

Grade, 4

Duration, 4 minutes

Publisher, Cimarron Music Press

SKU, CM4491

Selected Trumpet Master Class Performances

Jens Lindemann- International Trumpet Soloist, 2012

Chris Gekker- Professor of Trumpet at the University of Maryland, 2014

Allen Vizzutti- International Trumpet Soloist, 2010

Marvin Stamm- Jazz Trumpet Soloist, 2008

Kevin P. Gebo- International Trumpet Soloist, The U.S. Army Ceremonial Band, 2010

Anthony Plog- International Composer and Trumpeter, 2010

Rodney Marsalis- Principal Trumpet with Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, 2011

Jose Sibaja- Boston Brass, Associate Professor of Trumpet at Vanderbilt University

Honors, Awards, and Scholarships

Conrad Hutchinson Endowed Professorship of Music (2018-present)

Cannonball Trumpet Artist

2016 Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Jazz Orchestra- Second Trumpet

2015 Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Jazz Orchestra- Third Trumpet

2014 Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Jazz Orchestra- Lead Trumpet

Trumpet Graduate Assistantship- University of Maryland (2012-2017)

Jonathan L. Mela Trumpet Memorial Scholarship (2010)

Academic Achievement Award (2010, 2011)

Jazz Students Fund Scholarship (2008,2009)

Civic Organization Scholarship (2007)

Good Shepherd Baptist Church Scholarship (2007, 2008, 2010)

Professional Associations

National Association for Music Education
Virginia Music Education Association

International Trumpet Guild

Ark-La-Miss International Trumpet Guild Affiliate Chapter Co-Founder

Adjudicator Experience

Next Generation Trumpet Competition Panelist and Judge (2020)

All-District III Audition Judge (VA): High School Trumpet Sight-reading (2009,2010)

Greater Richmond Youth Ensemble Judge (2009)

Related Experience

Trumpet Specialist

Baltimore Brass, Catonsville, MD, 2017

- Sales, Website Maintenance, Inventory
- Vendor at International Trumpet Guild in Hershey, PA (2017)
- Customer Service

Audition Day Assistant

University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 2016

- Assisted with Audition at the School of Music
- Talked to parents/prospective students about the UMD School of Music degree programs.

Box Office Assistant

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2009

- Ticket Sales
- Customer Service

References

Dr. Terry Austin, Director of Bands
Virginia Commonwealth University
(804) 828-1166, taustin@vcu.edu

Chris Gekker, Professor of Trumpet
University of Maryland, College Park
(240) 888-7883, cgekker@umd.edu

Dr. Rex Richardson, Professor of Trumpet and Jazz Trumpet
Virginia Commonwealth University
(804) 543-3569, errichardson@vcu.edu

Antonio Garcia, Director of Jazz Studies
Virginia Commonwealth University
(804) 354-1915, ajgarcia@vcu.edu