

# DAREN BURNS

320 W A ST Brawley, CA 92227  
818.693.1734

daren@darenburns.com  
<http://www.darenburns.com>

## Education

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2008	<b>MFA, California Institute of the Arts</b> Performer/Composer African-American Improvisational Studies	Valencia, CA
1997	<b>BFA, California Institute of the Arts</b> Jazz Performance, Electric bass	Valencia, CA
1990	<b>Certificate, Musicians Institute</b> Electric Bass Performance	Hollywood, CA
1994	<b>Fullerton College</b> Transferred	Fullerton, CA

## Teaching Experience

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2015-16	<b>Full-time Assistant Professor of Music, Imperial Valley College</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Taught: Music Foundations, Classroom Piano, Classroom Guitar, Recording Class, Music Appreciation, Applied Music Bass, Guitar, Composition</li><li>• Developed curriculum</li><li>• Prepared syllabus outlining clear class expectations</li><li>• Actively recruited students to music department</li><li>• Organized performances on and off campus</li><li>• Conducted guitar and jazz ensembles</li><li>• Participated in various faculty committees and departmental meetings</li><li>• Supervised and maintained computer recording lab</li></ul>	Imperial, CA
2014-15	<b>Full-time Music Instructor, Squaw Valley Academy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Taught: music fundamentals, music skills, performance techniques, recording, ensembles, staging, and world music</li><li>• Developed curriculum</li><li>• Supervised and maintained computer recording lab</li><li>• Ran after-school activities: basketball, biking, snowboarding, tennis</li></ul>	Olympic Valley, CA
2013-14	<b>Adjunct Guitar Instructor, Yavapai College</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Taught: guitar, bass, improvisation lessons</li><li>• Developed personalized repertoire for each student</li><li>• Performed in faculty recitals</li><li>• Performed in Jazz ensemble</li></ul>	Prescott, AZ
2010-14	<b>Part-time Music Instructor, Verde Valley School</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art department head</li><li>• Developed curriculum</li></ul>	Sedona, AZ

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## Teaching Experience (cont.)

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### Part-time Music Instructor, Verde Valley School (cont.)

- Taught DP International Baccalaureate program (C2 level training). Topics include: Analysis, history, performance, composition, world music
- Organized student performances on and off campus
- Participated in jazz festivals
- Supervise and maintain computer recording lab
- Scheduling and maintaining the calendar for the school's theatre
- Resident Director
- General A/V duties

- 2013-14 **Part-time Music Instructor, Southwestern Academy** Rimrock, AZ
- Taught: general music, ensemble playing techniques, music reading, instrumental playing techniques, musicianship skills
  - Organized student performances
- 2010 **Substitute Instructor, California Institute of the Arts** Valencia, CA
- Substituted for Professor Ulrich Krieger's Survey of Heavy Metal class
  - Transcribed and presented music
  - Prepared lectures
  - Graded class presentations
- 2006-08 **Teacher's Assistant, California Institute of the Arts** Valencia, CA
- Assisted Professor Wadada Leo Smith
  - Taught classes when instructor was out of town, including: Administering tests and conducting ensemble rehearsals
  - Served as instructor's administrative assistant: Filled out institute paperwork, wrote letters and email correspondence

## Private Teaching

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- 1998- **Private Instructor** Imperial Valley/Los Angeles/Sedona/Prescott
- Taught weekly individual lessons in guitar, bass, piano
  - Developed personalized repertoire for each student
  - Prepared students for college auditions
- 1999-09 **Private instructor, Woodlowe Music** Woodland Hills, CA
- Taught weekly individual lessons in guitar, bass, piano
  - Developed personalized repertoire for each student
  - Prepared students for college auditions

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## Other Work Experience

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1999- 06      **Assistant Facilities Manager**, Freddie Mac (FHLMC)      Woodland Hills, CA

## Awards

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2013      Honorable Mention, Int'l Songwriting Competition      International  
2011-14      LA County Arts Commission Band Roster      Los Angeles, CA  
1994      3rd place Dan Radlauer Composition Scholarship      Fullerton, CA

## Publications

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2016-      Burns, D. *21st Century Music Blog*. Writings on music ed, business, practice, and technology  
2000      Burns, D. *Garageband*. Monthly paper, Bass Secrets columnist

## Lectures/Workshops

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2009      **Presenter**, "*Overview of Improvisation/Composition*", Pasadena Public Library, Pasadena, CA  
2008      **Presenter**, "*Imaginarias Fronteras*", Centro Nacional de las Artes Mexicali, Mexico  
Helped conduct a collaborative, multi-disciplinary work between faculty and students  
of the California Institute of the Arts and the Centro Nacional de las Artes in  
Mexicali, Mexico. Co-lead several workshops and performances in Mexicali.

## Professional Development

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2016      **Mindfulness Training**      Imperial Valley College  
Imperial, CA  
2016      **Introduction to Canvas**      Imperial Valley College  
Imperial, CA  
2015      **Special Needs of Men of Color in Higher Ed**      Imperial Valley College  
Imperial, CA  
2013      **Introduction to Music Production**      Berklee School of Music  
MOOC  
2012      **International Baccalaureate DP Music Level II**      IB World School  
Las Vegas, NM  
2002      **Myers-Briggs Training**      Federal Home Loan & Mortgage Co.  
Woodland Hills, CA

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## Recordings

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2016	Daren Burns	<i>Interstellar Echoes</i>	Jazz/Rock
2016	Daren Burns	<i>Onibaba: Anesthesia</i>	Electric Jazz
2015	Chris Jamison	<i>Lovecraft</i>	Americana
2014	Daren Burns	<i>Onibaba: Disintegration of Secrets/Aspirations of Kings</i>	Electric Jazz
2010	Daren Burns	<i>Fear Is Not the Natural State of Civilized People (featuring <b>Wadada Leo Smith</b>)</i>	Electric Jazz
2010	Chris Opperman	<i>The Lionheart</i>	Progressive Rock
2010	Decker	<i>Long As The Night</i>	Americana
2010	Improvising Composers United	<i>Debut</i>	Jazz
2008	Daren Burns/David Mills	<i>3 Squares: Have We Met?</i>	Jazz
2006	World Ambient Symphony	<i>Random Walk Out of the Sun</i>	Improvised Jazz
2006	John Pieplow	<i>John Pieplow</i>	Pop
2004	Daren Burns	<i>Black Nile Ensemble: Standards</i>	Jazz
2004	Brandy Repairs Utah	<i>Beautiful Dreamer</i>	Spoken Word/Improvised
2003	World Ambient Symphony	<i>Debut</i>	Electric Jazz
2003	Monica Mayhem	<i>EP</i>	Alternative Rock
2003	Muzzleloader	<i>EP</i>	Hard Rock
2003	Sheldan-Rivers	<i>The Storm</i>	Rock
2002	LXIX	<i>Naked Ecstasy</i>	Alternative Rock
2001	Muzzleloader	<i>The Not So Secret Lies of Bobby Scorpio</i>	Hard Rock
1998	JS Bach Experience	<i>Tribute</i>	Baroque Rock
1994	Girl On Top	<i>Debut</i>	Rock

## Ensembles

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2013-	Daren Burns Trio - Band leader/bassist/composer	Jazz
2008-	Onibaba - Band leader/bassist/composer	Electric Jazz
2010-	Divom - Bassist	Funk Jazz
2014	Spencer Day - Bassist	Smooth Jazz
2012-14	Mike Vax Band (Stan Kenton bandleader)- Bassist	Jazz

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## Ensembles (cont.)

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2010-14	Sweet Jazz a la mode - Bassist	Jazz/R&B
2009-10	John 'Drumbo' French (of Captain Beefheart) - Bassist	Experimental Rock
2009-10	The Kid and Nic Show - Bassist	Variety
2004-	World Ambient Symphony - Bassist/electronics	Improvised
2004-	Neil Sadler Band (feat. Mike Keneally, Bruce Fowler, Kurt McGettrick) - Bassist	Progressive Rock
2004	Neon Venus - Bassist	Latin Rock
2002-10	Dear Jon - Bassist	Rock
1999-10	LXIX - Bassist	Alt. Rock
1999-07	Pivot Point - Bassist	Variety
1999-03	Muzzleloader - Bassist	Hard Rock
1998-99	Eleanor Academia Band - Bassist	Rock
1997-99	JS Bach Experience - Bassist	Baroque Rock
1993-94	The New Originals - Bassist	Blues
1993-94	Girl on Top - Bassist	Rock
1992-93	Lemon Street Stompers	Trad Jazz
1992-94	Mike Parisi Band	Blues
1992-99	Sounds of Paradise - Bassist	Reggae/Calypso
1991-94	Fullerton College Big Band - Bassist	Big Band Jazz

## Tours

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2014	<b>3 Squares</b>	New Mexico, Arizona
2013	<b>3 Squares</b>	New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado
2009-10	<b>The Kid and Nic Show</b>	Oregon, South Dakota, Minnesota, Michigan, Arizona, Nevada, California, Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Wisconsin, Iowa
2004	<b>Neon Venus</b>	Turkey, Egypt, Spain, Italy

## Musicals

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2016	<i>The Musicman</i>	North County Coalition for the Arts, Brawley, CA
2008	<i>Seussical</i>	Mirman School, Los Angeles, CA
2008	<i>Tribute to Stevie Wonder</i>	Mirman School, Los Angeles, CA
2007	<i>Hello Dolly!</i>	Mirman School, Los Angeles, CA
2007	<i>Betty Garrett, Closet Songwriter</i>	Theatre West, Los Angeles, CA
2007	<i>Assassins</i>	The Meta Theatre, Los Angeles, CA
2005	<i>Saturday Night At Grossinger's</i>	Theatre West, Los Angeles, CA

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## **Performance Highlights**

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### **Orchestra/New Music**

- 2016 **Jimmie Cannon Performing Arts Theatre** El Centro, CA  
**Imperial Valley Orchestra** - Section leader for the guitar trio. We premiered composer/conductor Joel Jacklich's piece, *Zarabande* for guitar trio and orchestra.
- 2010 **Redcat Theatre** Los Angeles, CA  
**California EAR Unit** - Played electric upright bass for the American premiere of Lou Reed's *Metal Machine Music*, transcribed by Ulrich Krieger.

### **Jazz/Rock Performances**

- 2014 **Orpheum Theatre**, Phoenix, AZ  
**Spencer Day Band** - played bass with this jazz inspired singer/songwriter
- 2009 **Cryptonight @ the Museum of Neon Art** Los Angeles, CA  
**Onibaba** - played my original compositions
- 2008 **Jimmy Carl Black Benefit** Acton, CA  
**John 'Drumbo' French Band** - Captain Beefheart drummers solo project
- 2008 **Roy O. Disney Hall** Valencia, CA  
**John 'Drumbo' French Band** - Captain Beefheart drummers solo project
- 2008 **Rocco In LA Presents- "21st Century Solos and Duets... explorations in electro/acoustics"** Los Angeles, CA  
Motoko Honda/Daren Burns- Bass and Piano duet with electronics; as well as Andre LaFosse- Turntablist Guitar and Todd Reynolds- Violin and Electronics
- 2004 **Harbor City College** San Pedro, CA  
**Neil Sadler Band** - with Frank Zappa members: Mike Keneally, Bruce Fowler, and Kurt McGettrick; as well as Jason McKenzie, and Milen Kirov.

### **Festivals**

- 2012/2013 **Prescott Jazz Summit** Prescott, AZ  
Played bass in jazz combo's with Mike Vax, Dennis Rowland, Kim Richmond, Fred Radke, Carl Saunders, Jack Petersen, and Scott Whitfield
- 2010 **Kool Deadwood Nights** Deadwood, SD  
**Sturgis Bike Rally** Sturgis, SD  
The Kid and Nic Show
- 1998 **California Institute of the Arts Jazz Festival**, Valencia, CA  
**Wadada Leo Smith** - Played bass as part of the guitar ensemble (w/ Nels Cline, Jeremy Keller, Woody Aplanalp, Jamie Rosenn, and ) in highly acclaimed composer Wadada Leo Smith's *Odwira*, a piece for 12 multi-ensembles (52 instrumentalists)

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## **Performance Highlights (cont.)**

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### **Live Film Accompaniment**

- 2011 **Verde Valley School** Sedona, AZ  
Verde Valley School Orchestra - Composed and conducted music for F.W. Murnau's silent film *Nosferatu*
- 2011 **Cottonwood Center For the Arts** Cottonwood, AZ  
Zoetrope Orchestra - Composed and played soundtracks for silent films: Felix the Cat in *April Maze*, Charlie Chaplin's *The Tramp*, and Buster Keaton's *Steamboat Bill Jr.*

### **Residencies**

- 2007-09 **Poobah Records** Pasadena, CA  
World Ambient Symphony  
Two-year residency of my electronic improvised trio.
- 2003-04 **Bobby London** Los Angeles, CA  
Jazz Trio playing every Sunday-Thursday
- 2001-03 **Equator Coffee** Pasadena, CA  
Black Nile Ensemble  
Residency of my jazz ensemble.

### **Television**

- 2004 **MTV Puerto Rico**  
Neon Venus  
A documentary of the tour to Turkey, Spain, Italy, and Egypt appeared multiple times.
- 1999 **The Shim Show**  
JS Bach Experience  
Popular music public access show in Los Angeles, CA

### **Radio**

- 2009 **KXLU 88.9** Los Angeles, CA  
Emily Hay's Trilogy sunday night radio show. Interview with Improvising Composers United.

### **Miscellaneous Venues**

**The Roxy Hollywood, CA, The Whisky Hollywood, CA, Troubadour Hollywood, CA, Billboard Live Hollywood, CA, House of Blues Hollywood, CA, Viper Room Hollywood, CA, Knitting Factory Hollywood, CA, Hollywood Palace Hollywood, CA, Capitol Records Hollywood, CA, The Cat Club Hollywood, CA, Orange County Fair, Los Angeles Fair, Santa Barbara Fair, Fresno Fair, Universal Studios Hollywood, CA, Baked Potato Hollywood, CA, Community Theatre Morristown, NJ, The Plaza Theatre Glasgow, KS, Harbor City College San Pedro, CA, Redondo Beach Pier Redondo Beach, CA, Los Angeles Public Library Los Angeles, CA, Pasadena Public Library Pasadena, CA, Anti-Club Hollywood, CA, 2nd Street Jazz Los Angeles, CA**

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## Professional Services

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2015-16	<b>New Faculty Committee</b> , Imperial Valley College	Imperial, CA
2012-14	<b>Board Member</b> , Chamber Music Sedona	Sedona, AZ
2012-14	<b>Academic Committee</b> , Verde Valley School	Sedona, AZ
2008-11	<b>President</b> , Improvising Composers United	Los Angeles, CA

## Technical Abilities

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**Music Technology:** Logic Pro, Ableton Live, Protools, MIDI, Sibelius

**Recording:** microphones, cabling, running sessions, mixing, signal processing

**Basic guitar/bass setup and electronics:** wiring, soldering, components, intonation, string action, neck relief

**Live production:** monitors, microphones, mixing, lighting

**Self-releasing a music recording (DIY):** digital distribution, artwork, printing, reviews, websites, social media, touring

## Professional Organizations

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**ASCAP:** American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers

**ACF:** American Composers Forum

**NafME:** National Association for Music Educators

**New Music USA**

## Travel

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Japan, Mexico, Egypt, Turkey, Spain, Italy, Canada, Hawaii and most of the continental US



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## References

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<b>David Zielinski</b> Dean of Arts and Letters, Imperial Valley College	(760) 355-6470	david.zielinski@imperial.edu
<b>Carol Hegarty</b> Art Department Chair, Imperial Valley College	(760) 355-6198	carol.hegarty@imperial.edu
<b>Dr. Roy Breiling</b> Professor Emeritus, Yavapai College	(928) 308-5525	roy.breiling@yc.edu
<b>Wadada Leo Smith</b> Professor Emeritus, California Institute of the Arts	(805) 300-8041	wadadaleosmith1218@gmail.com
<b>Ulrich Krieger</b> Professor of Composition, California Institute of the Arts	(661) 877-5152	ukrieger@calarts.edu
<b>Vinny Golia</b> Professor of Music	(323) 663-5356	ninewinds@aol.com
<b>Dr. Rodney Oakes</b> Professor Emeritus, Harbor City College	(310) 514-8531	oakesr@mac.com
<b>Scott Collins</b> Registrar, Fulton-Montgomery Community College	(617) 838-7835	scottcollins2010@yahoo.com
<b>Andre LaFosse</b> Guitarist, Instructor	(818) 438-9851	altruist@earthlink.net