

Seth MONAHAN

Eastman School of Music, 26 Gibbs Street, Rochester, NY 14604 ~ (585) 274-1556 ~ smonahan@esm.rochester.edu

UNIVERSITY POSITIONS

- 2014– University of Rochester, Eastman School of Music: Associate Professor of Music Theory (with tenure)
2008–14 University of Rochester, Eastman School of Music: Assistant Professor of Music Theory
2004–07 Yale University, Yale College: Instructor (PTAI), Music Department
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EDUCATION

- 2008 Yale University, Ph.D., Music Theory
Dissertation: *Mahler's Sonata Narratives* [accepted with distinction]; Advisor: James Hepokoski;
M.Phil., Music Theory (2005); M.A., Music Theory (2004).
2002 Temple University, M.M., Music Theory.
1998 University of the Arts, B.M., Composition.
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PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 “Managing the Big Picture: Adventures in Musical Form.” In *The Norton Guide to Teaching Music Theory*, ed. Rachel Lumsden and Jeffrey Swinkin (forthcoming).
2016 “Voice-Leading Energetics in Wagner’s ‘Tristan Idiom.’” *Music Analysis* (forthcoming).
2016 “Negative Catharsis as Rotational *Telos* in Mahler’s First *Kindertotenlied*.” *Intégral* 28 (forthcoming).
2015 *Mahler’s Symphonic Sonatas*, Oxford University Press.
2013 “Action and Agency Revisited,” *Journal of Music Theory* 57/2: 321–71. [Recipient of the 2015 SMT Emerging Scholar Award]
2011 “‘I have tried to capture you...’: Rethinking the ‘Alma’ Theme from Mahler’s Sixth Symphony,” *Journal of the American Musicological Society* 64/1: 119–78.
2011 “Success and Failure in Mahler’s Sonata Recapitulations,” *Music Theory Spectrum* 33/1: 37–58.
2011 “Sonata Theory in the Undergraduate Classroom,” *Journal of Music Theory Pedagogy* 25: 1–65.
2011 Review of Janet Schmalfeldt, *In the Process of Becoming: Analytic and Philosophical Perspectives on Form in Early Nineteenth-Century Music* (Oxford University Press, 2010), *Music Theory Online* 17.3.
2007 “‘Inescapable’ Coherence and the Failure of the Novel-Symphony in the Finale of Mahler’s *Sixth*,” *19th-Century Music* 31/1: 53–95.
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RESEARCH IN PROGRESS/UNDER REVIEW

Completion Dates are Estimated

- 2015 “‘Von anderem Planeten?’ Embodiment, Gesture, and Virtual Environments in the Orbit of (A)tonal Music” (with Matt BaileyShea)
2016 “Ambiguity, Cognitive Complexity, and the Limits of ‘Wit’: Six Ways of Hearing a Haydn Sonata”
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CONFERENCE PAPERS

(* = national conference)

- 2013* “Negative Catharsis as Rotational *Telos* in Mahler’s First *Kindertotenlied*.” *Society for Music Theory Annual Meeting*, Charlotte, NC (November 1).
- 2011* “Action and Agency Revisited.” *Society for Music Theory Annual Meeting*, Minneapolis, MN (October 29).
- 2011 “Grappling with Sonata Form in ‘Part One’ of Mahler’s Third Symphony.” *Mahler Centenary Conference: “Mahler, Contemporary of the Past?”* University of Surrey, Guildford, UK (July 8).
- 2010* “‘I have tried to capture you...’: Rethinking the ‘Alma’ Theme from Mahler’s Sixth Symphony.” *Society for Music Theory Annual Meeting*, Indianapolis, IN (November 7).
- 2010 “‘I have tried to capture you...’: Rethinking the ‘Alma’ Theme from Mahler’s Sixth Symphony.” *New England Conference of Music Theorists*, Storrs, CT (April 16).
- 2010 “‘I have tried to capture you...’: Rethinking the ‘Alma’ Theme from Mahler’s Sixth Symphony.” *Music Theory Society of New York State*, New York, NY (April 10).
- 2009* “Criteria of ‘Success’ and ‘Failure’ in Mahler’s Sonata Recapitulations.” *Society for Music Theory Annual Meeting*, Montréal, CA (October 29).
- 2008* “The *Tristan* Progression as Energetic Voice-Leading Paradigm: A Study in Kinetic Displacement Intervals (KDIs).” *Society for Music Theory Annual Meeting*, Nashville, TN (November 10).
- 2008 “Criteria of ‘Success’ and ‘Failure’ in Mahler’s Sonata Recapitulations.” *Music Theory Society of the Mid-Atlantic*, Washington, DC (March 28).
- 2008 “The *Tristan* Progression as Energetic Voice-Leading Paradigm: A Study in Kinetic Displacement Intervals (KDIs).” *New England Conference of Music Theorists*, Cambridge, MA (April 5).
- 2008 “‘I have tried to capture you...’: Rethinking the ‘Alma’ Theme from Mahler’s Sixth Symphony.” *Yale Graduate Music Symposium*, New Haven, CT (March 29).
- 2005* “Exploring the Relation of Aggregate Completion and PC Turnover to Local Harmonic Propulsion in Wagner’s *Parsifal*.” *Society for Music Theory Annual Meeting*, Nashville, TN (November 10).

INVITED PRESENTATIONS (SCHOLARLY)

- 2015 “Voice-Leading Energetics in Wagner’s ‘*Tristan* Idiom.’” Steve Larson Distinguished Lecture Presentation, University of Oregon (May 7).
- 2015 “Voice-Leading Energetics in Wagner’s ‘*Tristan* Idiom.’” Princeton University (April 6).
- 2014 Faculty, Institute for Music Theory Pedagogy, Eastman School of Music (June 23–27).
- 2013 “Theorizing Action and Agency.” University of Pennsylvania (September 19).
- 2013 “Sonata Form Pedagogy in the Written and Aural Curriculum.” Plenary workshop for the Music Theory Society of New York State, Stony Brook University (April 6). William Marvin, co-presenter.
- 2013 “Theorizing Action and Agency.” McGill University (February 22).
- 2013 Keynote speaker: “Imagining Sound in the Early Nineteenth Century.” Conference at Cornell University (April 5–6: *declined due to scheduling conflict*).
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INVITED PRESENTATIONS (GENERAL AUDIENCE)

- 2012 Pre-concert interviews for the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra's performances of Mahler's Fifth Symphony (October 18, 20).
- 2008 "Reading Mahler's 'Musical Novels': Narrative, Hermeneutics, and the Challenge of Fin-de-Siècle Musical Form." Invited lecture for the Yale Club of Philadelphia (February 15).
- 2006 Pre-concert lecture for the Yale Symphony Orchestra's performance of Mahler's Sixth Symphony (November 30).
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HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS

- 2015 Society for Music Theory Emerging Scholar Award (for "Action and Agency Revisited" [2013]).
- 2013 American Musicological Society AMS 75 PAYS Publication Subvention.
- 2010 Fellow, Mannes Institute for Advanced Studies in Music: Aesthetics.
- 2008 Prize Teaching Fellowship, Yale University.
- 2007 Whiting Dissertation Fellowship, Yale University.
- 2007 Yale Club of Philadelphia Graduate Research Fellowship.
- 2006 John F. Enders Fellowship (for dissertation research), Yale University.
- 2002 Richard J. Franke Fellowship, Yale University.
- 2002 Esther Boyer College of Music Distinguished Teaching Award, Temple University.
- 2001 Esther Boyer College of Music Distinguished Teaching Award, Temple University.
- 1998 Guido Novelli Memorial Award for Excellence in the Liberal Arts, University of the Arts.
- 1997 Liberal Arts Writing Award, University of the Arts.
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EDITORIAL WORK

- 2016–19 Editorial Board, *SMT-V*.
- 2013–16 Reviews Editor, *Music Theory Spectrum*.
- 2012–15 Typesetter, *Theory and Practice: The Journal of the Music Theory Society of New York State*.
- 2011–15 Editorial Board, *Mosaic: Journal of Music Research*.
- 2010–16 Peer reviews for submissions to: *Music Theory Spectrum* (×3); *Journal of the American Musicological Society*; *Music Analysis*; *Music Theory Online* (×8); *Intégral* (×2); Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF).
- 2009–12 Co-editor, *Theory and Practice: The Journal of the Music Theory Society of New York State*.
- 2005–7 Editorial Assistant, *Journal of Music Theory*, Ian Quinn and David Clampitt, eds.
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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2008–15 University of Rochester, *Eastman School of Music*
(* = supervised)
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| Model Composition & Tonal Analysis I | 2008–16 [9 semesters] |
| Model Composition & Tonal Analysis I (<i>intensive</i>)* | 2008–16 [9 semesters] |
| Model Composition & Tonal Analysis II (<i>honors</i>) | 2011 |
| Aural Musicianship II (<i>honors</i>) | 2011 |
| Model Composition & Post-Tonal Analysis (<i>honors</i>) | 2012 |

	Survey of Analytical Techniques	2009–13 [6 semesters]
	Topics in Tonal Literature and Analysis	2008–15 [9 semesters]
	Pedagogy of Music Theory I	2015–16 [2 semesters]
	Pedagogy of Music Theory II	2010–16 [4 semesters]
	Seminar: Sonata Theory	2010
	Seminar: Contemporary Views of Classical Form	2014
	Independent Studies	2010–16 [8 students]
	Dissertations advised	2014– [3 Ph.D. students]
2015	University at Buffalo (visiting instructor)	
	Seminar: The Songs and Symphonies of Mahler	2015
2004–7	Yale University, <i>Yale College</i>	
	Elementary Studies in Composition & Analysis I	2004, 2007
	Elementary Studies in Composition & Analysis II	2006 [2 semesters]
	Elementary Studies in Composition & Analysis III	2005 [2 semesters]
	American Popular Music after 1945	2005
2000–2	Temple University	
	Ear Training & Sight Singing I	2002
	Ear Training & Sight Singing II (<i>t.a.</i>)	2000, 2001
	Introduction to Music Theory & Literature (<i>t.a.</i>)	2000

DISCIPLINARY SERVICE

2016	Session Chair, SMT Annual Meeting (Vancouver, BC).
2015	Session Chair, “Beginnings and Endings,” SMT Annual Meeting (St. Louis, MO).
2015	Session Chair, “Form,” Music Theory Society of New York State (Binghamton, NY).
2012	Session Chair, “Late 19 th -Century Form,” SMT Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA).
2011	Patricia Carpenter Emerging Scholar Award Committee, Music Theory Society of New York State
2007	Nominating Committee, New England Conference of Music Theorists.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE (*select*)

2016–17	Chair, Music Theory Search Committee (two positions), Eastman School of Music
2016	Acting Chair, Music Theory Department (Summer/Fall)
2014–15	Chair, Music Theory Search Committee (two positions), Eastman School of Music
2013–15	Chair, Music Theory Ph.D. Admissions, Eastman School of Music.
2012–13	Music Theory Search Committee (two positions), Eastman School of Music.
2010–13	DMA Comprehensive Exam Committee, Eastman School of Music (chair 2012–13).
2008–15	Music Theory Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Eastman School of Music.
2008–10	Teaching Assistant Prize Committee, Eastman School of Music.
2007–8	McDougal Graduate Teaching Center Associate Director Search Committee, Yale University.
2003–4	Visiting Lecture Series Committee, Yale University.
2001–2	Music Theory Faculty Search Committee Student Representative, Temple University.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

2006–16 Freelance Music Graphics Consultant.

Designed/prepared graphics for scholarly conferences and publications (including pieces in the Journal of Music Theory, the Journal of Musicology, and on the University of Rochester Press). Redesigned Theory and Practice: The Journal of the Music Theory Society of New York State.

2006–7 Program Coordinator, McDougal Graduate Teaching Center, Yale University.

Hired, trained, and supervised staff of fourteen graduate-student teaching consultants offering department consultations, publications, classroom observation, and pedagogy workshops for the University teaching community. Developed, implemented, publicized, and oversaw program offerings. Designed all advertising and identity materials.

2005–6 McDougal Graduate Teaching Center Teaching Consultant, Yale University.

Prepared and facilitated workshops (ranging in length from one to four weeks) on basic and advanced teaching skills for graduate student teachers in the Humanities, Sciences, and Social Sciences.

2005 Author: *Music, Media, & Design: A Music Scholar's Guide to Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop*.
Published online at <http://www.sethmonahan.com/teaching.html>.

2002 Freelance Music Writer, America Online Digital City New York.

2001–2 Singing City “Composing Imagination” Project, Philadelphia, PA.

Developed and implemented workshops (typically five installments over several months) teaching urban elementary- and middle-school children about composition, conducting, and the creative process.

LANGUAGES

Reading ability in German and French.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Music Theory, Music Theory Society of New York State