

Curriculum Vitae
Karola Obermueller

kaob@unm.edu	Assistant Professor
ko@karolaobermueller.net	Department of Music
http://karolaobermueller.net	College of Fine Arts MSC04-2570
https://soundcloud.com/karola-obermueller	1 University of New Mexico
https://vimeo.com/karolaobermueller	Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001
	USA

EDUCATION

Harvard University	Ph.D. Music, 2010 Dissertation: Pressure and Shadow: composition portfolio of Karola Obermueller
Hochschule für Musik Saar (University of Music Saarland)	Konzertexamen (equivalent to M.M.) in Composition, with distinction, 2003. Aufbaustudium (graduate studies) in composition & electronic music
University Mozarteum Salzburg	Graduate studies in composition, conducting and computer music, 2001-2003.
Hochschule für Musik Nürnberg	Vordiplom (intermediate diploma) Elementare Musikpädagogik (Music Pedagogy), 2003.
Meistersinger-Konservatorium Nürnberg	Staatliche Musikreifeprüfung (diploma) in Music Composition, 2001.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

University of New Mexico	Assistant Professor for composition Department of Music 2010-present
The Young Composers Program at CIM (Cleveland Institute of Music)	Faculty 2007-2010
Wellesley College	Visiting Lecturer Department of Music 2008-2009

Harvard University	Teaching Fellow 2006-2009
Hochschule für Musik Nürnberg-Augsburg	Student Teaching in composition, ear-training, musicianship 2000-2003

COMMISSIONS

- Protestant Church of Westphalia commission: piece for soprano, alto, tenor, bass, choir, and orchestra; world premiere in Gütersloh (Germany) by Bachchor Gütersloh in 2017. 2016-17.
- E-MEX-Ensemble commission: piece for flute, clarinet, violin, viola, cello, piano, percussion, and live electronics; world premieres in Bordeaux, Paris, Berlin, and Cologne. 2016-17.
- Iridium Quartet commission: piece for saxophone quartet, world premiere during 2017 John Donald Robb Composers' Symposium, Albuquerque. 2016.
- Ensemble Phorminx commission: piece for flute, clarinet, percussion, piano, and cello, based on my *Nichts Fettes nichts Süßes (in memoriam Clara & Robert Schumann)*, performance and studio recording with Bavarian Radio. 2015-16.
- International Contemporary Ensemble commission: *Myrmecia* for guitar, dulcimer, and harp, world premiere at OpenICE at Abrons Arts Center, New York City. 2015.
- Frankfurter Bachkonzerte commission: *Prati* for trumpet and organ for Reinhold Friedrich & Martin Lücker, world premiere at Großer Saal der Alten Oper Frankfurt. 2014-15
- Ensemble Modern commission: *coiling and swaying* for large ensemble; world premiere, radio broadcast, and studio recording at Alte Oper Frankfurt, Mozart Hall, and Cankarjev Dom, Linhart Hall, Ljubljana. 2014-15
- footprints (linger)* for oboe and viola, commissioned by Kim Fredenburgh & Kevin Vigneau. World premiere at GIPCA's 2014 Music in the City series at Hiddingh Hall, University of Cape Town. 2013-14
- Fromm Music Foundation commission: *elusive corridors* for bass clarinet, piano, and electronics for Michael Norsworthy & Yoko Hagino; world premiere at the Fromm Foundation Festival at Harvard. 2011-13
- elisenquartett commission: *xs II* for string quartet, for their 10-year anniversary. 2012

- Hochschule für Musik Saar commission: *Glaube. Merke. Rolle. Hommage mit Anagramm an Mauricio Raúl Kagel* for 11 instruments and electronics. Recorded and live-broadcasted by Saarland Radio. 2011
- Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation commission: *Robert S.: Leipzig*. Collaborative Opera in five scenes for 4 singers, 1 actor and 14 instruments; with composers Peter Gilbert, Georg Katzer, Sergej Newski, and Annette Schlünz; world premieres with singers Hanna Dóra Sturludóttir, Roland Schneider, Nicholas Isherwood, Andrew Zimmerman, and Beethoven Orchester Bonn at Theater Bonn. 2010-11
- dreimaldrei gleich unendlich*: Chamber Opera with Peter Gilbert for 4 singers, 2 actors, 3 instruments, live electronics and video; co-produced by ZKM | Institute for Music and Acoustics, Akademie Schloss Solitude & Musik der Jahrhunderte Festival Stuttgart; world premieres with singers Anne-May Krüger, Sarah Wegener, Roland Schneider, Gero Bublitz, actors Sebastian Reich and Robert Atzlinger, and musicians Carl Rosman, Eva Zöllner, Merlin Schirmer, and Barbara Rucha. 2009
- Theater Bielefeld & NRW Fonds Neues Musiktheater commission for the opera *Helges Leben*. World premiere at Theater Bielefeld. 2008-09
- Bayerischer Rundfunk (Bavarian Radio) commission for *Untergegangen der Mond* for countertenor/bass and seven instruments. World premiere, studio recording, and radio broadcast; composed for and performed by Kai Wessel and ars nova ensemble. 2008
- Staatstheater Nürnberg commission for the opera *Dunkelrot*. World premiere, studio recording, and radio broadcast (Bavarian Radio) at Staatstheater Nürnberg. 2007
- IPPNW (International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War) commission for *Kohlenmonoxyd.Nachtstück* for 2 sopranos, narrator, choir and nine instruments. World premiere at St. Sebald Cathedral Nuremberg. 2006
- Le Nouvel Ensemble Moderne commission for *helical* for chamber orchestra. World premiere at Muziekgebouw aan't IJ, Amsterdam. 2006
- Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts, Munich, commission for *shraeng* for two electric guitars. 2004
- Munich India Institute commission for *Kalpa><Pralaya* for bansuri, sitar, mridangam, and orchestra. 2002
- CrossSound Festival commission for *the great secret lies* for pipa, kayagum, and marimba. World premieres in Sitka and Juneau, Alaska. 2001

Siemens Orchester Erlangen commission for the orchestra piece *Five scents of RED*. 2000

Johanniskirche Fürth commission for *incalzando* for cor anglais and organ. 1999

Art Festival Ortung, Schwabach, commission for *Das Gold* for mezzo soprano and percussion. 1998

RECOGNITIONS & RESIDENCIES

Professional Award: College of Fine Arts, University of New Mexico. 2015

Composer-in-residence: Louis W Ballard and Music of the Southwest Conference, Conservatorio Piccinni di Bari. 2014.

Professional Award: College of Fine Arts, University of New Mexico. 2014

Professional Award: College of Fine Arts, University of New Mexico. 2013

Interdisciplinary Grant: Research Allocation Committee Interdisciplinary Grant, University of New Mexico. 2012

Finalist: Lydian String Quartet Commission Prize 2012. 2012

Professional Award: College of Fine Arts, University of New Mexico. 2012

Selection: Deutscher Musikrat for Wergo Music of Our Time series (fully funded production and publication of portrait CD). 2011

1st Prize: National Opera Association for *dreimaldrei gleich unendlich*. 2011

Professional Award: College of Fine Arts, University of New Mexico. 2011

Grant: Ernst von-Siemens Music Foundation. Given for work on the opera *Robert S.* with Theater Bonn. 2010.

Award: Oscar S. Schafer Award (Harvard University) for students who have demonstrated unusual ability and enthusiasm in their teaching of introductory courses, which are designed to lead students to a growing and life-long love of music. 2009-10

Artist-in-Residence: ZKM(Center for Art and Media, Karlsruhe)-Institute for Music and Acoustics. Residency, developmental support and performance support for multi-media opera $3x3=\infty$. 2009.

Fellow: Akademie Schloß Solitude. Residency, developmental support and performance support for multi-media opera *3x3=∞*. 2009.

Selection: *dreimaldrei gleich unendlich* at Imagining Media@ZKM, the 20th Anniversary Exhibition at ZKM (Center for Art and Media, Karlsruhe). 2009

Selection: two seasons of installation presentation of *An Overlapping of Spaces* at The Perceiving Space in Art Gallery – Davis Museum. 2009-10. Installation chosen as “Artwork of the Month” (2009)

Award: The John Green Prize for Excellence in Music Composition, Harvard University. 2009

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching: Harvard University. 2008

Fellow: Akademie Musiktheater heute (Deutsche Bank Stiftung). 2006-08

Fellowship: John Knowles Paine Fellowship (Harvard University). 2008

Scholarship: Centre Acanthes Metz/France (ADAMI scholarship). 2008

Finalist: Berliner Opernpreis 2008. 2007

Fellowship: John Knowles Paine Fellowship (Harvard University). 2007

Fellowship: The Arthur Lehman Fund Harvard University Merit Fellowship. 2006

Composer-in-residence: with Le Nouvel Ensemble Moderne; Université de Montréal (Canada). 2006

Fellowship: Graduate Society Summer Fellowship (Harvard University). 2006

Award: Darmstädter Musikpreis (Darmstadt Music Prize). 2006

Award: The Bohemians New York Musicians Club Prize for *but one adagio smile still lingers*. 2006

Composer-in-residence: Forum 2006 with Le Nouvel Ensemble Moderne at Musiekgebouw aan't IJ d' Amsterdam (Netherlands). 2006

Composition fellow: 43rd Internationale Ferienkurse für Neue Musik Darmstadt. 2006

Fellowship: John Knowles Paine Fellowship (Harvard University). 2006

Residency: Centro Tedesco di studi veneziani (Venice, Italy). 2005

Winner: Rheinsberger Opernwerkstatt (Germany). 2005

Fellowship: Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes (German National Academic Foundation). 2005

Award: The Bohemians New York Musicians Club Prize for *shraeng*. 2005

Fellowship: Graduate Society Summer Fellowship (Harvard University). 2005

Scholarship: Centre Acanthes (Association pour la Création et la Diffusion Artistique, Paris). 2005

Selection: Composition and Computer Music Masterclass at IRCAM (Paris). 2005

Fellowship: John Knowles Paine Fellowship (Harvard University). 2005

Scholarship: Centre Acanthes (Association pour la Création et la Diffusion Artistique, Paris). 2004

Award: ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer's Award. 2004

Composition fellow: 42nd Internationale Ferienkurse für Neue Musik Darmstadt. 2004

Fellowship: Richard F. French Prize Fellowship (Harvard University). 2004

Winner: the Orchestral Composition Contest Saarbrücker Komponisten Werkstatt (world premiere of orchestra piece *Im Vorraum*). 2002

Residency: awarded by Zubin Mehta and the Munich India Institute, for residency in Chennai and New Delhi/India to study Carnatic and Hindustani music. 2002

Residency: New York University for improvisation & composition project *change/exChange – orpheus?*. 2001

Composer-in-residence: CrossSound Festival for Contemporary Music (Alaska). 2001

Award: Bayerischer Jugendpreis im Fach Komposition (Bavarian Youth Award for Composition) from the Munich India Institute, awarded by Zubin Mehta. 2001

Award: Kulturforum Franken Composition Prize (Nuremberg, Germany). 1999

Scholarship: The Erna Köhler-Stiftung (Nuremberg, Germany). 1998

PUBLICATIONS, RECORDINGS

Portrait CD: WERGO (Music of Our Time series) co-funded by Deutscher Musikrat. 2017 *forthcoming*

Opera score publication: *Mein Name ist Urlappi* by Ahn & Simrock Bühnen- und Musikverlag GmbH. 2016 *forthcoming*

Conference Proceedings: The Global Composition: World Soundscape Conference Proceedings. "Listening to Mountains" with Peter Gilbert. 2012

Opera score publication: *Robert S.* by G. Ricordi & CO. Bühnen- und Musikverlag GmbH. 2011

Opera score publication: *Helges Leben* by C. F. Peters Musikverlag. 2009

CD Recording: *helical* for chamber orchestra on "Forum 2006" (CD) performed by Le Nouvel Ensemble Moderne. 2006

Essay in book: "Vom Prozess der Verwandlung – Wege zum Komponieren" (On the process of transformation – Pathways to Composing), essay in *Laut Geste Klang* (Music Pedagogy). Klimperbein Verlag Hersbruck. 2004

FESTIVALS, CONFERENCES & LECTURES

Festival performance: *coiling and swaying* for 18 instruments, performed by Ensemble Modern; Predihano - Festival for Contemporary music at Cankarjev Dom, Linhart Hall, Ljubljana. 2015

Performances and Lecture: Rehearsals and performances of *Pulstastung* for piano solo, *moving in spirals* (four-channel fixed media), and *...silbern. (2)* for alto flute solo with faculty of Italy's largest conservatory at the "Louis W Ballard and Music of the Southwest" Conference. "La mia musica e il Southwest" lecture given at conference. Conservatorio Piccinni di Bari. 2014

Performance and Coaching: Rehearsals and performances of *helical* for chamber orchestra by conservatory students and festival guest performers. Working with student performers and conductors. Tage Aktueller Musik Festival (Hochschule für Musik, Nürnberg). 2014

Panel: "Analyse und Interpretation Neuer Musik" (Analysis and interpretation of new music) with Armin Köhler, Volker Blumenthaler, Manuel Nawri, Jeremias Schwarzer, and Benjamin Schweitzer; Tage Aktueller Musik Festival (Hochschule für Musik, Nürnberg). 2014

- Festival performance:** *footprints (linger) in memoriam Theo B.* for oboe and viola, performed by Kim Fredenburgh & Kevin Vigneau; John Donald Robb Composers' Symposium, UNM. 2014
- Installation:** *listening to mountains*, audio-visual interactive composition created with Peter Gilbert, run as part of the Balance-Unbalance International Conference (Noosa, Queensland, Australia). 2013
- Festival performance:** Rehearsals and world premiere of *elusive corridors* at the "Celebrating 60 Years of the Fromm Foundation / Fromm Players at Harvard" Festival. 2013
- Festival performance:** Rehearsals and performance of *Kohlenmonoxyd.Nachtstück* at the STREAMS International New Music Festival (Brauweiler, Germany). 2013
- Guest Presentation:** Lecture on original compositions, KomponistInnenklasse Sachsen-Anhalt (composition studio Saxony-Anhalt, Germany). 2012
- Lecture:** "Overlapping Art: the intradisciplinary collaboration of two composers" with Peter Gilbert. University of California-Berkeley. 2012
- Presentation:** Conference talk about audio-visual interactive composition *listening to mountains*, with Peter Gilbert. The Global Composition: World Soundscape Conference (Darmstadt, Germany). 2012
- Presentation:** "Overlapping Art: the intradisciplinary collaboration of two composers" with Peter Gilbert. College of Fine Arts all-college meeting (UNM). 2012
- Festival performance:** world premiere of *imPuls(tastung)* for quadrophonic electronics; John Donald Robb Composers' Symposium, UNM. 2012
- Lecture and Discussion:** "Collaboration" for Jennifer Linnell's Introduction to Graduate Study course in Theater & Dance (UNM). 2012
- Festival performance:** world premiere of *Glaube. Merke. Rolle. - Hommage mit Anagramm an Mauricio Raúl Kagel* for 11 instruments and live electronics; premiered by Ensemble Grenzpunkte as the featured and final event of a semester-long festival called "Hommage à Mauricio Kagel - Festival für hinterhältige Musik" (festival for dubious/sneaky music) at the Hochschule für Musik Saar (University of Music, Saarbrücken, Germany). 2011
- Presentation:** "Composing Opera in the 21st Century" with Peter Gilbert. College of Fine Arts Research Colloquium (UNM). 2011

- Festival performance:** *moving in spirals* (four-channel fixed media) and *...silbern*. (2) for alto flute solo, performed by Valerie Potter; John Donald Robb Composers' Symposium, UNM. 2011
- Lecture and Masterclass:** "Music of Karola Obermüller" (University of New Mexico). 2010
- Lecture:** "Orchestrating Texture" given at the University of Glasgow (Scotland). 2010
- Panel:** Musik der Jahrhunderte Festival & SWR2 Radio Panel discussion with Hans-Peter Jahn, Susanne Oglænd, and Xavier Zuber: "Das Theater mit dem Musiktheater". 2009
- Festival performance:** Musik der Jahrhunderte Festival Stuttgart: world premiere of *dreimaldrei gleich unendlich*, Chamber Opera with Peter Gilbert. 2009
- Lecture and Masterclass:** Lecture on original compositions (Wellesley College). 2009
- Festival performance:** *les sables mouvants* at the XXXI Foro Internacional de Música Nueva Manuel Enríquez, Mexico City. 2009
- Festival performance:** world premiere of *Las cosas, unas conducen a otras*. for two flutes, performed by Carin Levine & Elizaveta Birjukova at Weimarer Frühjahrstage für zeitgenössische Musik. 2009
- Guest Lecture:** "Composing Opera Today" (Wellesley College). 2008
- Festival performance:** world premiere of *Untergegangen der Mond* for countertenor/bass and ensemble, performed by Kai Wessel & ars nova ensemble Nürnberg during the "Passagen" Festival at Kulturforum Fürth. 2008
- Festival performance:** European premiere of *gegen.wind.stärken 1* for great bass recorder and electronics, performed by Francesca Thompson during the "Positionen 1970-2008" Festival, Darmstadt/Germany. 2008
- Guest Presentation & Lecture:** Lecture on original compositions (UC San Diego, Department of Music). 2007
- Festival performance:** world premiere of *WindKaskaden* for clarinet and accordion during the KlangAktionen im Gasteig München Festival. 2007
- Festival performance:** *moving in spirals* (quadrophonic electronic music) at the BEAMS Half-Marathon - Boston CyberArts Festival, Brandeis University. 2007

Festival performance: *Fünf Wutfetzen* for piano solo at the 61st Frühjahrstagung des Instituts für Neue Musik und Musikerziehung Darmstadt. 2007

Panel: “Music in Europe since 1901” symposium (Ulm School for Music, Germany). 2006

Festival performance: world premiere of *Kohlenmonoxyd.Nachtstück* for two sopranos, narrator, choir and nine instruments, performed by KlangKonzepteEnsemble at the International IPPNW Congress, St. Sebald, Nuremberg. 2006

Lecture: “Druck und Körper - Aspekte meines Komponierens” (Leipzig University, Institute for Musicology, Germany). 2006

Festival performance: world premiere of *will o' wisp* for recorder, flute, bass-koto, and accordion, performed by Jeremias Schwarzer, Carin Levine, Makiko Goto, and Konstantin Ischenko at the KlangAktionen im Gasteig München Festival. 2006

Festival performance: rehearsals and performances of *helical* for chamber orchestra and *Duo variabile* for flute and recorder at the 43rd Internationale Ferienkurse für Neue Musik Darmstadt. 2006

Festival performance: world premiere of *gegen.wind.stärken 1* for great bass recorder and electronics, performance by Jeremias Schwarzer at the Harvard University Festival for Electroacoustic Music HYDRA. 2006

Festival performance: world premiere of *helical* for chamber orchestra, performed by Le Nouvel Ensemble Moderne during the “Forum 2006” Festival at Muziekgebouw aan't IJ, Amsterdam. 2006

Festival performance: world premiere of *Schalen* for orchestra, performed by Orchestre National de Lorraine cond. by Jacques Mercier at the Centre Acanthes Festival, Metz/France. 2005

Lecture: GRENZGÄNGE - GRENZKLÄNGE literary and music symposium (Residenz Kempten, Germany). 2002

Lecture: on the project *change/exChange - orpheus?*, a cooperation of Nuremberg University of Music's “Studio für Neue Musik” (Studio for Contemporary Music) and NYU (New York University), Department of Music. 2001

PORTRAYALS & CITATIONS IN TV, RADIO, BOOKS, AND NEWSPAPERS

Radio: Production and broadcast of new piece for flute, clarinet, percussion, piano, and cello, based on my *Nichts Fettes nichts Süßes (in memoriam Clara & Robert Schumann)*, performed by Ensemble Phorminx (Bavarian Radio). 2016

Radio: Production and broadcast of *coiling and swaying*, performed by Ensemble Modern, Frankfurt. MS Radio Slovenia and Hessian Radio. 2015

Book: listed in "Music for Solo Voice (one performer) since 1950" in Nicholas Isherwood's book "The Techniques of Singing", Bärenreiter-Verlag Karl Vötterle GmbH & Co. KG, Kassel. 2013

Radio: Production and broadcast of *Glaube. Merke. Rolle. Hommage mit Anagramm an Mauricio Raúl Kagel* (Saarland Radio). 2011

Radio portrait: Deutschlandfunk (Atelier neuer Musik). 2009

Book: interviewed for and featured in Shira Katz's dissertation "Dichotomous forces of inspiration in the creative process" : a study of within-domain versus beyond-domain music composers, Harvard University. 2009

Radio: Production and broadcast of *Untergegangen der Mond* (Bavarian Radio). 2008

TV portrait: Deutsche Welle. 2008

Radio: Production and broadcast of the opera *Dunkelrot* (Bavarian Radio). 2007

TV portrait: ARD, Frankenfernsehen, and Bayerischer Rundfunk. 2007

Radio portrait: Deutschlandfunk, SWR, and Bayerischer Rundfunk. 2007

Newspaper articles: Die Welt, Opernwelt, Das Orchester, Opernnetz, Nürnberger Nachrichten, Die deutsche Bühne, Der neue Merker, Donaukurier, Der neue Tag, Darmstädter Echo, u.a. 2007

Radio portrait: Hessian Radio (Susanne Pütz, HR), broadcast on Aktuelle Informationen. 2006

Radio portrait: Hessian Radio 2 (Michael Rebhahn, HR2), broadcast on Neue Musik - Introducing: Karola Obermüller. 2006

Radio: Production of *will o' wisp* for flute, recorder, bass-koto, and accordion (Bavarian Radio). 2006

Book portrait and interview: Featured in “...denn Kunst meint ja immer ein Sich-Preisgeben: Drei Portraits über Gabriele Wohmann, Annegret Soltau und Karola Obermüller” by Charlotte Martin, Justus von Liebig Verlag Darmstadt. 2006

TV: Featured in TV segment about the Opera Workshop at Rheinsberg Chamber Opera, Germany (Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg). 2005

Radio: Production of *in zwischen* for soprano, recorder, 3 violas, 2 viola da gambas and harpsichord after texts by Ursula Haas (Bavarian Radio). 2004

Radio: Production of *Kalpa><Pralaya* for bansari, sitar, mridangam, and orchestra (Bavarian Radio). 2002

TV: Featured in TV segment about the premiere of *Kalpa><Pralaya* (Bavarian TV). 2002

Radio portrait: Bavarian Radio 4 (Christoph Hahn, Bayern 4). 2002

Radio: Production of *Nichts Fettes nichts Süßes – in memoriam Clara and Robert Schumann* for clarinet, alto saxophone, piano, and percussion (Hessian Radio). 2002

Radio: Production of *Duo variabile* for flute and recorder (Bavarian Radio). 2002

Radio: Production of *Protuberanzen I* for trumpet, organ, violoncello, and dancers (Bavarian Radio). 2001

UNM INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Co-Director of the John Donald Robb Composers’ Symposium. Organizing annual event with 5-8 concerts and 10-15 daytime events (seminars, workshops, masterclasses, lectures, panel discussions, interdisciplinary activities). 2012-present

Artistic Advisor for New Music New Mexico assisting with concert programming, conducting, taking over periodic rehearsals and general consulting. 2011-present

Co-Coordinator of the Composition Area. 2010-present

Coordinator of all composition studio assignments and the composition jury schedule. 2010-present

Member of the UNM Robb Trust Board of Directors and the Performance & Education committee. 2010-present

Member of the Research Allocations Committee (RAC). 2013-15

Member of a Faculty Search Committee (Music Theory). 2010-11

SOFTWARE CAPABILITIES

Max/MSP

Audiosculpt

Peak

ProTools

Open Music

Audacity

Logic

Final Cut Pro

Sibelius