

## David J. Simons

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### Education

California Institute of the Arts, Valencia CA. BFA 1974 *Music Composition*

The New School, New York City. MA 2013 *Media Studies*

### Installations & recent performances

- 2015 - NewMedia Art & Sound Summit, interactive webcam with Ballet Austin dancers, Austin TX
  - *InnaGadda Detective*, Dark Circuits Festival, Hans Tammen curator, Spectrum, NYC
- 2014 - Chen Zhen big drum sculpture, sound and video projections triggered by live performance with vocalist Lisa Karrer, Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, Peekskill, NY
  - *Mixed Messages*, interactive sound and video with motion sensing camera, collaboration with John Morton, Hudson River Museum Yonkers NY
- 2013 - SIMONS @60 composer's retrospective, Roulette, NYC
- 2012 - *Occupational Therapy*, for interactive Theremin, Reno Museum of Art, Nevada
- 2010 - *My Musical DNA*, interactive web art <http://simons-karrer.com/DNA/dna10.html>
- 2003 - surround sound installation, Bad Company, Zagreb
- 2000 - Music for Homemade Instruments, Sternberg Museum, Hays Kansas
- 1993 - CHAIN OF INCIDENT, surround sound environment, TransHudson Gallery, Jersey City, NJ
- 1992 - *Eight Emperor Penguins Sang a Dirge*, multimedia, Art Metropole, Toronto Canada

### World Tours, composer/performer:

- Seoul Korea: JinHi Kim *Digital Buddha* 2008; SinCha Hong, Jason Hwang and *Samul Nori* drumming collective 1992; SinCha Hong *Laughing Stone* dance company 1986
- Bali : Sacred Rhythm Millennial Percussion Festival Jan 1, 2000 , Ubud "*Music for Theremin and Gamelan*" and "*Virtual Percussion Trio*";
- Java: Tuk Theater Jakarta 2000; International Gamelan Festivals with *Gamelan Son of Lion*: Yogyakarta, Borubodur, Bandung, 1996 ; Vancouver Canada - Expo '86
- Munich, Vienna, Berlin: "*The Passions*" Shelley Hirsch and Barbara Bloom collaboration 1994-95 with Anthony Coleman, David Shea, Denman Maroney, Hannah Hurtzig, director
- Mainz, Germany: Experimenta Festival, duets with Lisa Karrer 1995
- Tallinn, Estonia: *Puhamu (Sanctuary)* collaboration with Lisa Karrer, Setu Women's choir, "*Perception Unit*" jazz ensemble and artist Peter Laurits 1997
- Zagreb, Croatia: new music on personal microtransmitters for Bad Company theater/dance 2003
- New York: *Birth of George* chamber opera at LaMama with Lisa Karrer and 20 performers 1997

### Recordings

- 2010 "CIPHER" for string quartet The NYFA Collection 5 CD set INNOVA
- 2009 FUNG SHA NOON for Harry Partch instruments, string quartet, "Music for Theremin and Gamelan", and "Chain of Incidents" for sampled bottles and cans, CD on TZADIK
- 2008 SONOGRAM "Naked We Stand", "9-11 Suite" Gamelan Son of Lion double CD on INNOVA
- 2004 PRISMATIC HEARING works for Theremin, sampler, Gamelan and Homemade Instruments ensembles CD on TZADIK
- 2003 THE BIRTH OF GEORGE an opera for 20 players, with Lisa Karrer, Harvestworks CD
- 2002 Gamelan Son Of Lion CD BENDING THE GENDING
- 2000 Music For Homemade Instruments CD PICK OF THE LITTER
- 1995 Gamelan Son Of Lion - NEW GAMELAN / NEW YORK, CD GSOL
- 1994 God is My Co-Pilot HOW TO BE, The Making of Americans
- 1989 Music For Homemade Instruments A DECADE OF DEBRIS, MFHI cassette
- 1980 "Floating Worlds" for Zheng (Chinese zither), flute and harp. Self produced cassette

## Awards and Grants

- 2017 NYSCA/Harvestworks commission for "Movement Activated Sound in Liminal Space"
- 2013 NYSCA Electronic Media grant with Lisa Karrer for "Meeting ChenZhen: Drum as a Doorway Between Worlds" HVCCA, Peekskill NY
- 2011-12 NYSCA/ACOR Arts in Education residency in Rockland County schools, student workshops in Indonesian Gamelan music and shadow puppet performances
- 2009 NYC Dept of Cultural Affairs to curate and produce the INTERACTIVE MUSIC FESTIVAL on the Coney Island Boardwalk
- 2009 Arts Council of Rockland to compose and premiere the GONG-HUMPING CEREMONY
- 2005 Meet the Composer to premiere UNCLE VENUS for gamelan and string quartet
- 2005 The Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation for instrument building workshops and concert Avampato Museum Charleston, West Virginia
- 2003 Rockefeller Foundation residency at Bellagio, Italy to write ODENTITY for the Harry Partch instruments
- 2000 Arts International and Asian Cultural Council funds for performance in Bali
- 2000 NY Foundation for the Arts Composition Fellowship
- 1998 American Composers Forum commission for MUSIC FOR THEREMIN and GAMELAN
- 1998 Aaron Copland Recording grant for THE BIRTH OF GEORGE
- 1997 Jerome Foundation and Greenwall Foundation production funds for THE BIRTH OF GEORGE
- 1996 Mary Flagler Cary Commissioning Grant for THE BIRTH OF GEORGE opera
- 1995-2003 Arts International travel awards for collaborative projects in Estonia
- 1992 Gaudeamus Foundation tour of Holland with Denman Maroney, duets for digital samplers
- 1992 Canada Council Visiting Foreign Artist for sound installation at Art Metropole in Toronto
- 1991 Composer-in-Residence at American Dance Festival
- 1990 NY Foundation for the Arts Composition Fellowship

## Publications

- 2010 - "The Tappan Zee Bridge" by Roger Panetta, **Historical Society of Rockland County**, oral history sound assemblage CD by David Simons
  - 2009 - "Sitting at the Feet of Gurus" by Deena Burton, **Xlibris Press**, David Simons, editor. Claire Holt, Asian Dance ethnographer
  - 1994 - "Radio Galaxy" radio waves in outer space, Radiotexte, **Semiotext(e)**, Neil Strauss, ed.
  - 1986-91 - Articles, reviews, critical essays, contributing editor, **EAR Magazine**, NY
  - 1973 - "Whether or not to die in love" for mixed ensemble, **Soundings**, Peter Garland, ed.
- Online essays:* <http://fdu.academia.edu/DavidJSimons>

## Teaching

- 2010-17 Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck NJ. Adjunct Professor, *Cross Cultural Perspectives*
- 2015 Marquis Studios, World Percussion workshops for Special Needs students, NYC schools
- 2012 Ramapo College, NJ. Guest lecturer music fundamentals; improvisation workshops
- 2011-2012 The New School, NY. Graduate Teaching Assistant, Media Studies
- 2010 SUNY Binghamton, lecture/concert, for music composition and Evolutionary Studies
- 2009-2011 Kripalu Yoga Center, Stockbridge MA, childrens music workshop
- 2007-2008 Brooklyn Philharmonic, percussion workshops in city schools
- 2006-2010 Young Audiences NYC, instrument building and basic musical skills
- 1983-93 music for dance classes: NYU, Marymount Manhattan, Fieldston, CUNY, Jose Limon Studio

**Instruments** - theremin, sampler, percussion, zheng, khaen, jaw harp, gamelan, laptop, homemades, motion activated interactive sound and image, recording engineer, producer