

Ruth Amelia Ochs

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EDUCATION

Princeton University, Ph.D. in Musicology, “Karol Szymanowski’s *Harnasie*: Folk Modernism for a New Poland”

Princeton University, M.A. in Musicology

The University of Texas at Austin, M.M. in Orchestral Conducting

Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, Fulbright Fellow

Harvard University, B.A. *magna cum laude* with Highest Honors in Music, “Amy Beach’s Mass in E-flat, Op. 5: A Study of its Sources and Style”

CONDUCTING POSITIONS

Music Director, Princeton University Sinfonia, 2002-

Music Director, Westminster Community Orchestra, 2005-

Associate Conductor, Princeton University Orchestra, Fall 2017-

Guest Conductor, Princeton University Orchestra, Fall 2011, Fall 2016

Conductor, Princeton Charter School/Westminster Conservatory Youth Orchestra 2009-2017

Conducting Associate, The Pierre Monteux School, 2008

Assistant Conductor, Princeton University Orchestra, 2002-2006

Music Director, Austin Philharmonic, Austin, Texas, 2001-2002

Conducting Fellow, The Pierre Monteux School, Hancock, Maine, 1999-2002, 2004-05

Conductor, University of Texas String Project Orchestras, 1999-2002

Music Director, University of Texas University Orchestra, 1999-2001

Music Director, Toscanini Chamber Orchestra, Harvard University, 1994-96

TEACHING

Princeton University, Senior Lecturer

LCA 101, Introduction to Art Making

MUS 208, Music for Large Ensemble Drawn from Lesser-Performed Works

MUS 214, Projects in Vocal Performance

MUS 217, Orchestral Music: Analysis and Performance

MUS 219, Performance Projects in 20th and 21st-Century Music

MUS 225, The Symphony

MUS 226, The Concerto

MUS 236, Music in the Classical Period

MUS 298-299, Independent Instruction in orchestral conducting

MUS 320, Jazz Performance Practice in Historical and Cultural Context

MUS 981, Junior Independent Project

Westminster Conservatory of Music, Instructor

Honors Music Program, conducting seminar faculty; performance class faculty

Westminster Choir College, Adjunct Assistant Professor

MH 433/2 Special Topics in Music History: Historical Performance

The Pierre Monteux School, Conducting Associate, summer 2008

University of Texas at Austin, Teaching Assistant

Orchestras, assisted in all aspects of managing School of Music's orchestral program
MUS 302L, Introduction to Western Music

Harvard University Extension School, Teaching Fellow

Beginning Music Theory and Composition

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Music performance and history, instrumental music of the seventeenth through twenty-first centuries, historical performance practice, Polish music, musical nationalism, women and music, art song, race and music, American music, history of conducting, music outreach, non-professional music making

PUBLICATIONS/RECORDING

Laurie Altman's "Homage à Stravinsky" (*On Course*, Albany Records, Troy 1041, 2008)

"Bacchantes and Bandits," program essay on Szymanowski, Bard SummerScape, Summer 2008

"Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel," essay and introduction to edition of four previously unpublished Lieder, in *Women Composers: Music Through the Ages*, volume 7, edited by Sylvia Glickman and Martha Schleifer (New York: GK Hall, 2003), 12-52.

ACADEMIC PAPERS

"The Beginnings of a Bandit Ballet: Sketches for Szymanowski's *Harnasie*," Works-in-Progress Series, Princeton University, April 14, 2006

"Heine Hensel's Way," New York Chapter Meeting of the American Musicological Society, CUNY Graduate Center, January 28, 2006; The International Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel Conference, Florida State University, November 13-15, 2005; Works-in-Progress Series, Princeton University, October 21, 2005

"Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel and the Earliest Heine Settings," Ninth Annual Student Gender Studies Conference, The University of Texas at Austin, February 2002

"Amy Beach's Mass in E-flat: Prelude to a Career as a Composer," University of New Hampshire, Durham, October 1998

HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

Honorary Member of Princeton University Class of 2023

Princeton University Pace Center for Civic Engagement, Faculty Community Engagement Award, 2019-2020

Kosciuszko Foundation Research Award, 2006 (declined)

Princeton University Dean's Fund for Scholarly Travel, grant recipient, fall 2005
Princeton University Institute for International and Regional Studies, summer grant, 2003, 2004
Naumberg Scholarship, Princeton University, 2002-2006
Germanistic Society of America Fellowship and Fulbright Fellowship, 1997-98
Carol Pforzheimer Student Research Grant, Radcliffe College, 1996
Leonard Bernstein Scholar, Harvard College, 1995-97
John Harvard Scholar, Harvard College, 1994-97

UNIVERSITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Trenton Youth Orchestra, guest masterclass, April, 2022; November, 2023
Princeton Orientation, Community Action, presenter at Johnsonburg Retreat Center, Aug 31, 2023
Princeton Orientation, Community Action, presenter at Princeton Blairstown Center, Aug 29, 2022
Teachers as Scholars, seminar leader, April 22, 2022 (topic: diversity in our curriculum); November 15, 2022 (topic: teaching music and social justice)
Guest Lecturer, NES: 208: Arabian Nights; lecture that introduces students to Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* and its relationship with themes from *1001 Nights*, spring 2021 and 2022
Princeton Arts Fellow and Hodder Fellowship, music committee member, fall 2021
Virtual Arts and Humanities Open House, presenter, November 14, 2020
Princeton University Arts Outreach Committee, 2019-
Faculty Advisor to the Trenton Youth Orchestra, 2018-
Staff Fellow, Rockefeller College, Princeton University. Guide student leadership of the Rockefeller Classical Music Hour series and host musical events in the Common Room, 2012-
Faculty/staff discussion facilitator for Princeton's Pre-read during Community Action's orientation week, 2015-2017
Creative Arts and Humanities Symposium, led music workshops for invited high school seniors, 2015, 2016
Organizer and advisor for musical outreach initiative at Princeton University's Community House After School Academy, 2014-2016
Preconcert lectures for Princeton University Concert recitals, 2013-2019
Faculty Advisor to the Princeton University Pianists Ensemble, 2013-2017
Organized and conducted student performance of Charles Ives's *The Unanswered Question* at the Princeton University campus memorial service for Stanley J. Seeger at the Princeton University Art Museum, April 20, 2012

OTHER SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Guest String Coach, Lawrence (NJ) Intermediate School, May 2022
Organized instrumental collaboration between Princeton University Sinfonia student musicians and the Trenton Children's Choir at TCC's OneVoice fundraising concert, October 2021
Online introduction to conducting, Lawrence (NJ) Middle School, May 2020
Guest cello performance with the Lawrence (NJ) Middle School Orchestra, December 2019
Cello accompaniment, Trenton Children's Choir, May and December 2019
Princeton University Summer Chamber Music Concerts Committee, 2017-
Organized musical outreach presentations with Princeton University students for local Mercer County public schools—Orchard Elementary School (Montgomery), Eldridge Park School (Lawrenceville), Princeton Junior School (Princeton), 2017-2019

GUEST CLINICIAN

Lawrence Intermediate School, Lawrenceville, NJ; Lawrence Middle School Orchestra, Lawrenceville, NJ; Texas Private School Music Educators Association; Woodside Priory School Orchestra, Guest Orchestra Clinician

NON-CONDUCTING MUSIC PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Performance experience on piano, harpsichord, baroque/modern cello