David Calvin Robbins, Music Director & Pianist pianodcr@gmail.com / 617-869-1360

MUSIC THEATER

The Little Mermaid

Role: Keyboard 2 (contracted by Roy Muth) Produced by Virginia Musical Theater

Location: Sandler Center for the Performing Arts, VA Beach, VA

6 performances, Oct 5-8, 2023

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical

Role: Piano-conductor for 8-piece orchestra (contracted by John Winn)

Produced by Virginia Repertory Theater

Location: Virginia Repertory Theater, Richmond, VA

44 performances, June 22-August 6, 2023

Directed by Rick Hammerly; Music direction by Jason Marks.

The Wizard of Oz

Role: Co-MD and Pianist (playing the orchestral reduction with creative adaptations)

Produced by Compass Rose Theater Location: Maryland Hall, Anapolis, MD 23 performances, April 20-May 22, 2023

Directed by Lucinda Merry-Browne; Co-music direction (vocals): Anita O'Connor

School of Rock

Role: Keyboard 1 (contracted by Roy Muth)
Produced by Virginia Musical Theater

Venue: Sandler Center for the Performing Arts

3 performances, February 24-26, 2023

Mamma Mia

Role: Keyboard 3 (contracted by Sandy Dacus)

Produced by Virginia Repertory Theater

Location: Virginia Repertory Theater, Richmond, VA

35 performances, June 20-Aug 5, 2022

Directed by Rick Hammerly; Music direction by Sandy Dacus

Making Merry with Grey Garrett (A Christmas Cabaret)

Role: Music Director, Arranger, Pianist (3 piece band) Produced by Richmond Performing Arts Alliance (RPAA) Location: Dominion Energy Center, Richmond, VA 1 performance (sold-out), December 3, 2022

Mamma Mia

Role: Keyboard 3 (contracted by Roy Muth)

Produced by Virginia Music Theater

Location: Sandler Center for the Performing Arts

5 performances, September 2021

Whistle Down the Wind (national tour)

Role: Keyboard 3 or 4

Produced by Broadway Across America (contracted by Rob W. Cross)

1

Location: Chrystler Hall, Norfolk VA

8 performances, 2008

Conductor/MD: Jim Vukovich

Hair: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical

Role: Music director & piano-conductor (5-6 piece band)

Produced by Turtle Lane Playhouse, Waltham, MA

Location: Turtle Lane Playhouse, Waltham

18 performances, 2008

The Music Man

Role: Accompanist/pit ringer

Produced by Bigelow Middle School, Newton, MA

3 performances, 2009

Guys and Dolls

Role: Rehearsal pianist/pit ringer

Produced by Bigelow Middle School, Newton, MA

3 performances, 2008

Seussical the Musical

Role: Music director and pianist (no band)

Produced by Emerson College's Kidding Around, Boston, MA

Location: Emerson College, Boston, MA

2 performances, 2008

Brigadoon, 1776, Some Like It Hot, & South Pacific

Role: rehearsal pianist and pit keyboard

Produced by Shenandoah Summer Musical Theater, Winchester, VA Location: Shenandoah Conservatory of Music (my alma mater) 2 weeks of performances per show, in succession, Summer, 2003

ORCHESTRAL, CHORAL, ROCK, IMPROV COMEDY, & BALLET

Improv Comedy

Role: Accompanist on synths/keys for live improvised shows

Locations: Improv Asylum, Boston MA (2010-2012); Coalition Theater, Richmond VA (since 2013) Description: I studied improv comedy for the pure love of the artform, but then instead of acting in shows, I took on the role of accompanying shows for the theaters. In Boston, I played for 2-3 shows every weekend for about a year, learning from MD Jim Zarulich, then I moved to Richmond where our theater was in its early stages of development, and I offered my services to the theater, which had not had live accompaniment before. After we built our own theater and started having shows every weekend, I accompanied shows every Friday night those first couple of years. Among the types of shows I have accompanied include rom-com, sitcom, radio drama, film orchestral music, dance, and improvised musical theater.

Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 with Classical Revolution RVA Symphony

Role: Soloist, event organizer, livestream director Produced by myself and Classical Revolution RVA

Location: First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond

1 performance, November 20, 2022

Conductor: Will Pattie

Note: The orchestra and I only rehearsed once for 90 minutes prior to the concert.

View performance here:

Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back LIVE!

Role: Principal keyboards (piano and celeste) Produced by Richmond Symphony Orchestra Location: Altria Theater, Richmond, VA

1 performance, May 23, 2022 Conducted by Chia-Hsuan Lin

Richmond Ballet

Role: Class accompanist for ballet, including company classes and all school levels

Since 2012

Role: Full-time accompanist for ballet and Minds in Motion programs. Changed to part-time

after 2014

Boston Ballet

Role: Class accompanist for modern and ballet

2010-2012

Description: about 25 hours of classes per week at Boston's three studio locations, including

Boston downtown, Marblehead, and Newton

Full Moon Fever: A Tom Petty Tribute Band

Role: Keyboards (synths, organs, pianos), backup vocals

Locations: Throughout Virginia and occasionally neighboring states

20 performances per year, joined in 2016.

Website:

Zep Replica: A Led Zeppelin Tribute Band

Role: Keyboards

Locations: Hardywood Craft Brewery, Gallery 5, Richmond, VA

1-2 performances per year, joined in 2019.

Virginia Symphony Orchestra

Role: per-service pianist

Locations: Ferguson Center, Sandler Center, Chrystler Hall

Details: I was the lead pianist for the masterworks series and other events under Joanne Falletta. In the masterworks series, I had the opportunity to perform with Pulitzer-prize winning composer Caroline Shaw, and to play the keyboard in the US premiere of Danny Elfman's violin concerto "Eleven Eleven" with Sandy Cameron on violin and Elfman overseeing our rehearsals. Other repertoire includes Carmina Burana, Carnival of the Animals, Petrushka, Live Film series like Harry Potter 1, 2, and 3, Home Alone, and Star Wars. I was the celeste player for the Virginia Symphony Nutcracker for 7 consecutive seasons until the tour was cancelled during the pandemic.

The Handel & Haydn Society's Educational Outreach Vocal Quartet

Role: Pianist and group leader, M.C., script-writer/editor/arranger; actor

Produced by The Handel & Haydn Society (the nation's oldest performing arts organization, the

first place to ever perform "The Messiah" in the US in 1815).

Location: Greater Boston K12 schools 2 seasons, 100 performances (2010-2012)

New England Conservatory of Music Women's Chorus

Role: Pianist and rehearsal accompanist

Produced by The New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, MA

Location of performances: Jordan Hall, Boston MA

2 seasons, 2004-2006

Conductor: Rebecca Kinneally

OTHER EXPERIENCES

Worship Music Director & Accompaniment

First UU Church of Richmond (2021-2023). Music & Worship Director Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists (2013-2021). Assistant music director Unitarian Congregation of Mendon & Uxbridge, MA (2008-2011). Music Director St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Portsmouth VA (2006-2008): Music Director

Assistant Director at Classical Revolution RVA

Now a robust and thriving non-profit organization, I helped to found this organization from 2013-2016. As assistant director, I led ensembles and organized events such as Unsilent Night, Silent Film Accompaniment, and our Classical Incarnations series.

EDUCATION

Ph.D (ABD) in Education, Art Concentration; Virginia Commonwealth U., Richmond, VA Master of Music, Piano Performance; New England Conservatory, Boston, MA Bachelor of Music, Piano Performance, Shenandoah Conservatory, Winchester, VA High School, piano & viola; Governor's School for the Arts, Norfolk, VA

PIANO TEACHERS

Steven Spooner, Peabody Conservatory professor (2022)
Steven Drury, New England Conservatory professor (2004-2008)
Bruce Brubaker, Juilliard and New England Conservatory professor (2004-5)
Gabriel Chodos, Aspen and New England Conservatory professor (2005)
Elizabeth Temple, Shenandoah Conservatory professor (2000-2004)
Suzanne W. Guy, private studio teacher (1996-2000)
Joan Edwards, private studio teacher (1989-1996)