

JAN-PIET KNIJFF

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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

2000–present **The Graduate Center, The City University of New York**

Ph.D. candidate, musicology (ABD by summer 2007; degree expected: fall 2008)

D.M.A., organ performance (2005)

Dissertation: "An Early Violin Sonata by Peter Cornelius: A Critical Edition and Study"

Dissertation advisor: Allan W. Atlas

Organ teacher: Christoph Wolff (Harvard University)

1994–96 **Conservatory of Amsterdam**

M.M./Artist Diploma, organ performance

Organ teachers: Piet Kee, Ewald Kooiman

1991–94 **University of Utrecht**

M.A. studies, musicology

1987–91 **Utrecht School of the Arts**

B.M., harpsichord; B.M. studies, piano

1984–89 **Sweelinck Conservatory Amsterdam**

B.M., organ; B.S.M., organ and choral conducting

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

2001–present **The Alexander Voice Center, New York, NY**

Vocal performance and pedagogy. Teacher: Claire Alexander

1991–present **The Institute for Music and Health, South Salem, NY**

Main teacher: John Diamond, MD. Exploring the possibilities of music as a healing art in performance, teaching and outreach activities

1988–present **Alexander Technique**

Teachers: Ronald Murdock (Amsterdam), Judith Youett, Karla Diamond (New York)

1995–99 **Private Conducting Studies**

Main teachers: Charles de Wolff, Hans van den Hombergh (The Netherlands), Andrea Jaworska, Lucian Jaworski (Marie Curie University, Lublin, Poland)

EMPLOYMENT: ACADEMIA2006–present **Hofstra University***Adjunct Professor*

Teaching music history and music appreciation; courses taught:

- MUS 3: “Music Appreciation”
- MUS 48: “Musical Styles and Structures”

2001–present **Aaron Copland School of Music, Queens College/CUNY***Organist-in-Residence* (2003–present)

Play recitals, teach organ students, advise graduate students, accompany choirs, play orchestral parts, give demonstrations at the Maynard-Walker Memorial Organ (Bedient, 1991, III/35). Advised on major refurbishment of the organ by Flentrop Orgelbouw (2006). Organized major fundraising concert for NPR program *Pipedreams* (2004).

Adjunct Professor (2001–present)

Teaching organ, harpsichord, chamber music, continuo; courses taught:

- MUS 001: “Masterpieces of Western Music”
- MUS 790: “Continuo Playing and Keyboard Improvisation”
- MUS 790.2: “Historical Keyboard Instruments and Their Repertoire”
- MUS 790.2: “Organ Repertory” (fall 2007)

2001–04 **Fairfield University***Adjunct Professor*

Teaching organ, voice, music history, theory; coached vocal ensemble; courses taught:

- MU 11: “Early Survey of Musical Styles”
- MU 12: “Late Survey of Musical Styles”
- MU 123: “Survey of Piano Music”
- MU 124: “Bach & Beethoven”
- MU 243: “Nineteenth-Century Romanticism in Music”
- MU 250: “Music Theory and Composition 2”

2000 **Institute of Sacred Music Kroměříž, Czech Republic***Visiting Professor*

Master class organ/harpsichord “The Keyboard Works of Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck”

1994–97 **Institute for Early Music, University of Music Trossingen, Germany***Adjunct Professor*

Harpsichord accompanist, chamber music coach, taught continuo playing

EMPLOYMENT: CONDUCTING AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS2004–present **Music Director, Union Temple of Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY**

Founded and direct Union Temple Rossi Singers, a professional chamber choir, in special programs with music by Rossi, Schubert, Mendelssohn, and Milhaud. Play piano at regular services.

2004–present **Director of Music, Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pleasantville, NY**

Conduct choir. Established children’s choir; inter-age, all-level Emanuel Philharmonic; and brass ensemble. Provide music for all regular Sunday services. Expanded music

program to reach out to the community. Special programs include Victoria, St. John Passion; Schubert, Mass in G Major; Handel, *Messiah*; musical collaborations with other local churches; guest performance at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New York City.

- Fall 2006 **Music Director, Bedford Community Theatre, Bedford, NY**
Direct production of *The Music Man*: rehearse chorus, coach soloists, adjust orchestration, and conduct nine fully staged performances with eight-piece community pit orchestra.
- Spring 2006 **Music Director, Ridgewood Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Co., Ridgewood, NJ**
Directed production of *The Gondoliers*. Rehearsed chorus, coached soloist, and conducted three fully staged performances with full orchestra as well as four semi-staged performances with piano.
- 2000–04 **Director of Music, St. Michael's Lutheran Church, New Canaan, CT**
Conducted senior and junior choirs. Provided music for all services. Founded inter-age, all-level St. Michael's Symphony. Special programs include: Bach, Cantata 36; Haydn, Mass "Joannes de Deo"; Schütz, *Christmas History* and St. John Passion; concert series. Commissioned setting of Psalm 100 from Jan Valkestijn (The Netherlands).
- 2000 **Guest Conductor, Cappella Festiva Chamber Choir, Poughkeepsie, NY**
Prepared and conducted a performance of the Duruflé Requiem.
- 1999 **Interim Choir Director, Emanuel Lutheran Church, Pleasantville, NY**
Conducted adult choir; established children's choir. Special program: Bach, Cantata 61.
- 1994–99 **Music Director, St. Boniface's Church, De Rijp, The Netherlands**
Masses and other works by Haydn, Mozart, Schubert; polyphony; Gregorian chant.
- 1998 **Guest Conductor, Haarlem Chamber Choir, Haarlem, The Netherlands**
Prepared and conducted a series of performances of Bach, Cantata 106.
- 1990–95 **Music Director, Chamber Choir "Koor Lokaal," Haarlem**
Conducted a large repertoire: medieval through contemporary, a cappella and accompanied. Works with orchestra included Bach, Cantata 140; Fauré, Requiem.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2007 **Presenter, American Guild of Organists, Lynchburg, VA chapter**
Master class "The Organ Works of Dieterich Buxtehude," May 2007.
- Presenter, American Guild of Organists, Queens and Brooklyn chapters**
Master class and recital "The Organ Works of Dieterich Buxtehude," January 2007.
- 2005 **Presenter, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New York, NY**
Master class "Continuo Playing in Bach Cantatas," Bach Symposium, July 2005.
- 2002–present **Organist-in-Residence, St. Paul's Church Historic Site, Mount Vernon, NY**
- 2002 **Juror, International Organ Competition, Opava, Czech Republic**
- 1993–98 **Consultant, Arts Committee, City of Haarlem Town Council, The Netherlands**
Advised on musical matters in the city. Initiated decision to restore the 1875 Cavaillé-Coll organ at the Concertgebouw (restoration completed spring 2006).

1988–99 **Music Correspondent, *Haarlems Dagblad***
 Wrote over 600 articles (concert reviews, book reviews, interviews, background articles) for the world's oldest extant newspaper.

COMPETITIONS/AWARDS

2005 **Associate of the American Guild of Organists**
S. Lewis Elmer Award for highest overall score on any advanced AGO exam
AAGO Prize for highest overall score on AAGO exam

1998 **Finalist, *Paul Hofhaimer Competition*, Innsbruck**

1997 **First Prize & Audience Prize, *International Bach Competition*, Lausanne**

1996 **Second Prize, *Hindemith-Micheelsen Competition*, Rotterdam**

1992 **Third Prize, *International Hendrik Andriessen Competition*, Utrecht**

1992 **Finalist, *Tournemire-Langlais Competition*, Haarlem**

LANGUAGES

- native speaker in Dutch
- fluency in German and French
- basic proficiency in Italian
- reading knowledge of Spanish, Latin and Ancient Greek

CONCERTS

Organ Recitals

The Netherlands: Haarlem *St. Bavo's*, Rotterdam *St. Laurens*, The Hague *St. Jacobus de Meerdere*, Haarlem *Teylers Museum* (microtonal organ), Haarlem *Frans Hals Museum* (as part of International Organ Festival Haarlem); USA: Washington DC *National Cathedral* and *National Shrine*; Baltimore; Lynchburg VA; New York City; Czech Republic: Prague (Smetana Hall), Cheb, Teplá monastery, Opava, Karviná; Russia: St. Petersburg, Kaliningrad; Germany: Föhr, Kirchanschöring; Italy: Bolzano

Harpsichord Recitals in The Netherlands and Germany (Bach, *Goldberg Variations*)

Solo Performances with Orchestra (organ, piano, harpsichord)

- Schnittke, Concerto grosso No. 4/Symphony No. 5 (harpsichord solo). Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam, Chailly, cond., Concertgebouw Amsterdam (world première)
- Poulenc, Organ Concerto. Haarlem Youth Orchestra, St. Bavo's, Haarlem
- Hindemith, Organ Concerto No. 1 (*Kammermusik* No. 7). Haarlem, The Hague, New York
- Monnikendam, Concerto for Organ and Brass, Queens College Brass Ensemble
- de Klerk, *In Honorem Sancti Bavonis* for Organ, Winds, and Boys' Choir. St. Bavo's, Haarlem
- de Klerk, Concerto for Organ and Brass. Queens College Brass Ensemble
- Bach, "Brandenburg" Concerto No. 5. Trinity Church Wall Street, New York City; The Concert Society of Putnam, Newtown, CT; numerous performances in The Netherlands

- Bach, Harpsichord Concerto in F Major. Numerous performances in The Netherlands
- Handel, Organ Concerto No. 9 in B-flat Major. Baroque Consort of New York
- Mozart, Piano Concerto in F Major, K. 413. Haarlem Clarinet Choir
- Lancen, *Parade Concerto* for piano and band. Haarlem Wind Orchestra

Orchestras

Keyboard player (organ, harpsichord, piano, reed organ, celesta) with many orchestras, including:

- Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam
- Combattimento Consort Amsterdam
- Nederlands Ballet Orkest
- Noordhollands Philharmonisch Orkest
- Bach Players, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New York
- Queens College Orchestra

Chamber music

Numerous concerts with a wide variety of groups, including:

- *Ensemble Les Nations Amsterdam* (Baroque chamber music, period instruments)
- *Tournemire Piano Trio* (unknown French chamber music of the early twentieth century)
- *Trio Tremonti* (piano trio on period instruments)
- *Singspiel* (soprano, clarinet, cello, piano; period instruments)

Accompanist (selective list)

- Susan Diamond (lieder and opera)
- New Canaan High School Madrigal Ensemble (Iceland Tour, 2002), CT
- The Bach Choir at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New York
- Choir of St. Bavo's Cathedral, Haarlem (Japan Tour, 1996)

Musical theater (selective list)

Baritone soloist with the Ridgewood Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company, Ridgewood, NJ

- Strephon, *Iolanthe* (2004)
- Major Murgatroyd, *Patience* (2004)
- Bill Bobstay, *H.M.S. Pinafore* (2003)

Premières

- Leo Kraft, *Passacaglia Serena* for organ (2003)
- Jan Valkestijn, Psalm 100 for choir and organ (2003)
- Edward Smaldone, *A Certain Slant of Light* for organ (2002)
- Henry Weinberg, "Pastorale," from *Per organo* (2002)
- Bernard Bartelink, *Pezzo festoso* for organ (USA première, 2001)
- Daniel Foley, *Ricercare porta caeli* for organ (1999)
- Schnittke, Concerto grosso No. 4/Symphony No. 5 (harpsichord solo)
- Lucas Vis, *Intrada* for organ and winds (1989)
- Felix van den Hombergh, *Preludio, fuga ed inno* for organ (1983)
- Anton de Beer, *Kleine Suite* for 31-tone organ (1982)

CDs/RECORDINGS

- *Tribute to Jan Valkestijn*. Includes the Choir of St. Michael's Lutheran Church, New Canaan, CT performing Valkestijn's Psalm 100; Jan-Piet Knijff, Director of Music & organist (2003)
- *Circle That!* Vocoza Chamber Choir Amsterdam, Ira Spaulding, cond. Jan-Piet Knijff, piano (2000)
- *Schnittke: Concerto Grosso No. 4/Symphony No. 5; Concerto Grosso No. 3*. Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Riccardo Chailly, cond. Jan-Piet Knijff, harpsichord solo (Decca, 1992)
- *Johann Sebastian Bach: Goldberg-Variationen, 14 Kanons, Aria Variata*. Glen Wilson, harpsichord solo, Jan-Piet Knijff, harpsichord (Teldec, 1990)
- Numerous recordings for radio broadcast corporations in The Netherlands, including:
 - de Klerk, *In Honorem Sancti Bavonis* & Andriessen, *Pezzo Festoso* (1998)
 - organ music of Bach & Brahms (1997)
 - Górecki, *Kantata* for organ solo (1996)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

"New Lutheran Hymnals," review, *CrossAccent* 39 (fall 2007) [in print].

"Great, let's do it: Orgelcultuur in New York," *Timbres* 2 (fall 2007) [in print].

Louis Nicolas Clérambault, *Six motets religieux*, ed. Jan-Piet Knijff (Stuttgart: Carus Verlag, 2007).

"Belgische und niederländische Chormusik des 20. Jahrhunderts," program notes, Schleswig-Holstein Festival, 11–12 August 2006.

"Johann Ludwig Krebs, Prelude in F Major: A Guide towards Performance," *The Diapason* 97 (2006), no.8, 28–29.

"Hindemith Sonata No. 2, second movement: A Guide towards Performance," *The Diapason* 97 (2006), no.4, 19–21.

The Organ Encyclopedia, ed. Douglas Bush (New York: Routledge, 2006): "Baders," "Bätz," "Covelens, Jan van," "Friederichs, Johann Caspar," "Hess, Hendrik Hermanus," "Hinsz, Albert Antoni," "Knipscheer," "Moreau, Jacob François," "Periodicals" (with Hans Fidom), "Schnitger, Franz Caspar," "Smits," "Ypma."

"Bruhns's 'Little' E-minor: A Guide towards Performance," *The Diapason* 97 (2006), no.1, 22–24.

Ewald Kooiman, "Sense and Nonsense about Silent Finger Substitution and Pedal Technique in the Nineteenth Century," translated by Jan-Piet Knijff, *The Diapason* 96 (2005), no.10, 26–29.

"Peter Williams: *The Life of Bach*," review, *Bach Notes* 3 (spring 2005): 7–9.

"Het Tannenbergorgel in Winston-Salem (Amerika)," *Het Orgel* 101 (2005), no.3: 10–15.

"*Freiburger Orgelbuch*," two reviews: (a) *Het Orgel* 101 (2005), no.3: 38–39; (b) *The Diapason* 96 (2005), no.7: 14–15.

"Janny van Wering (1909–2005)," *The Diapason* 96 (2005), no.5: 10.

- “A Simple Unity: Interview with D.A. Flentrop (1910-2003),” *The Diapason* 95 (2004), no.3: 20-23 [first published as “Een eenvoudige eenheid,” *Het Orgel* 95 (1999), no.4: 25-29].
- “Ignace Bossuyt, *Het Weihnachts-Oratorium (BWV 248) van Johann Sebastian Bach*,” review, *The American Bach Society Newsletter*, fall 2003: 3.
- “Organ Building in Germany 1880-1918,” review, *The Tracker* 47 (2003), no.4: 27-29.
- “Heinrich Fleischer Festschrift,” review, *The Tracker* 47 (2003), no.3: 31-33, 39.
- “‘Muziek zonder humor is niets’: maestro Sixten Ehrling (84),” *Pianowereld* 19 (2003), no.4: 10-13.
- “Leonhardt op zestien toeren: Bert Matter na 33 jaar Zutphen,” *Het Orgel* 99 (2003), no.1: 8-9.
- “Sweelinck Keyboard Music: A Book and Nine CDs,” review, *The Tracker* 47 (2003), no.1: 17-19.
- “Bach Organs on Disk: Naumburg, Leipzig, Arnstadt—and More,” review, *The Tracker* 46 (2002), no.4: 20-22.
- “Historical Baroque Organs of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg,” review, *The Tracker* 46 (2002), no.2: 23-25.
- “Albert Clement, *Der dritte Teil der Clavierübung von Johann Sebastian Bach*,” review, *The American Bach Society Newsletter*, fall 2001: 8-9.
- “Moderne Amerikaanse orgelcultuur: een impressie,” *Het Orgel* 97 (2001), no.4: 40-47 (with Ronald Stolk).
- “Bachbiograaf Christoph Wolff: ‘Bach heeft alles waar ik van hou in muziek en muziekwetenschap’,” *Pianowereld* 17 (2001), no.6: 26-28.
- “‘Een orgel, daar kan je helemaal gek op zijn’: een gesprek met Gustav Leonhardt,” *Het Orgel* 96 (2000), no.5: 27-30.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

The American Bach Society
 American Guild of Organists
 College Music Society
 Guild of Temple Musicians
 Internationale Dieterich-Buxtehude-Gesellschaft
 Koninklijke Nederlandse Organistenvereniging
 Organ Historical Society