
GREGORY SIMON

COMPOSER

JAZZ TRUMPETER

Long Bio

GREG SIMON (b. 1985) is a composer, jazz trumpeter, and educator based in Lincoln, NE. Greg's music has been praised for its "high energy, lovely solo turns, and upbeat personality" (Fanfare Magazine) and called "thoughtful composition, full of beauty that satisfies audiences of all experience levels" (Saxophonist Magazine). Drawing its inspiration from jazz, funk, Balinese gamelan, Chilean Nueva Canción, and street art (among many other sources), his music explores heritage and intersection, aiming to create a common space between the myriad communities it reflects.



Greg is currently Associate Professor of Composition and Jazz Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he also directs the Flyover New Music Series and the UNL Jazz Orchestra. He is also part of the composition artist-faculty at the Brevard Music Center. He also coordinates the Society of Composers, Inc. annual Jazz Composition Award.

Greg's works have been performed by ensembles and performers around the world, including the Ju Percussion Group, Alarm Will Sound, the Moanin' Frogs, and the Nu Deco Ensemble. He has presented work at conferences for the Percussive Arts Society, the College Band Directors' National Association, the World Saxophone Congress, and the North American Saxophone Alliance, and been commissioned for new works by organizations including the Nebraska Music Teachers' Association; and faculty at Hope College, the University of Arizona, Midwestern State University, and Florida State University.

Radio and digital broadcasts of Greg's music or interviews have included features on NET Radio's "The Verge," the "Relevant Tones" program from WFMT, and podcasts "Adagio for Things" and "We Are Not Beethoven." His collaborations with violinist Hyeyung Yoon and dancer Hye-won Hwang became the subject of the documentary *Madang – A Creative Journey*, recorded with 360-degree cameras and produced by Nebraska Educational Television. Greg's compositions have been recorded on labels including 4Tay, MSR Classics, Blue Griffin, Equilibrium, Open G, SMS Classical, and Terpsichore.

Greg is the recipient of awards for achievement in composition from the Zodiac International Music Festival, the Moscow Conservatory, National Association of Composers/USA, the Esoterics, and others. He has also received recognition for his work from Phantom Brass, the Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra, and CBDNA, among others. In 2023, Greg was honored with an Individual Artist Fellowship by the Nebraska Arts Council.

A passionate educator, Greg regularly writes on pedagogy and his practice of teaching compositional concepts through literary narrative designs. His pedagogical writings are published by the College Music Symposium and the Oxford Online Handbook on Music Assessment, and he

has presented it at national conferences for the College Music Society and the Society of Composers, Inc. In 2020 he was announced the winner of the Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts Award for Curriculum Development.

As a jazz musician, Greg has studied with Bill Lucas, Ellen Rowe, and Brad Goode. He's performed with the Marcus Lewis Big Band, the Shawn Bell Quartet, the Rhythm Society Orchestra, the Jodi-Renee Band, and many others, at venues ranging from Dazzle Jazz Club to the Jewell of Omaha; and played in the bands of The Temptations, Hannah Huston, and Andrew Dost of fun. As part of his ongoing efforts to bridge the classical and jazz worlds, he's premiered and presented works for improvising musicians by a variety of composers, including Stephen Rush, Hunter Ewen, Michael Theodore, and himself. Currently, Greg plays trumpet/flugelhorn alongside his colleagues in the UNL Faculty Jazz Ensemble and serves as the director of the UNL Jazz Orchestra. Greg has taught jazz with the Detroit Symphony Civic Jazz Orchestra and Omaha Performing Arts Academy, and served as guest clinician at the Westside Jazz Festival and the Nebraska State Band Association's Jazz Festival.

Greg is a fluent performer in the Balinese gamelan tradition, having spent five years with Denver's Gamelan Tunas Mekar. A dedicated educator, Greg has written on pedagogy for the Oxford University Press Handbook, and he designed and wrote the content for eMedia's Music Theory Tutor. In 2023, he made his music directing debut with Nebraska Repertory Theatre's production of *Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play*.

Greg studied composition with Evan Chambers, Michael Daugherty, Kristin Kuster, Carter Pann, Daniel Kellogg, and Robert Hutchinson. He received a D.M.A. from the University of Michigan, an M.M. from the University of Colorado, and a B.A. from the University of Puget Sound. Prior to his appointment at UNL, he taught at Concordia University Ann Arbor, the Metropolitan State University of Denver, and the University of Colorado. He is a member of ASCAP. When he's not composing or playing, Greg enjoys hockey, bourbon, video games, disc golf, and short stories.



Short Bio

Greg Simon (b. 1985) is a composer and jazz trumpeter hailing from California, by way of Oregon and Colorado. Drawing its inspiration from jazz, funk, Balinese gamelan, Chilean folk song, and street art (among many other sources), his music explores heritage and intersection, aiming to create a common space between the myriad communities it reflects.

Greg's works have been performed by ensembles and performers around the country, including the Nu Deco Ensemble, Alarm Will Sound, the Moanin' Frogs, and the Fifth House Ensemble. He has won the Zodiac International Music Competition, the NACUSA Young Composers' Competition, and the POLYPHONOS competition from the Esoterics, and has won awards for excellence in teaching from the Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts. Greg's choral music is published by Mark Foster Music as part of the Eugene

Rogers Choral Series, and his works have been recorded on the Terpsichore, SMS Classical, and Fifth House labels.

Greg studied jazz improvisation and composition with Bill Lucas, Ellen Rowe, and Brad Goode. He currently plays with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Faculty Jazz Ensemble, and is an active freelancer in the Omaha-Lincoln area.

Greg received a D.M.A. in composition from the University of Michigan, where he studied with Evan Chambers, Michael Daugherty, Ellen Rowe, and Kristin Kuster. Greg is Associate Professor of Composition and Jazz Studies at the Glenn Korff School of Music at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and Artist-Faculty in composition at the Brevard Music Center. When he's not composing or playing, Greg enjoys hockey, bourbon, disc golf and short stories.

100-word Bio

Greg Simon (b. 1985) is a composer and jazz trumpeter based in Lincoln, NE. His works have been performed by ensembles and performers around the world, including the Ju Percussion Group, the Cavell Trio, Alarm Will Sound, the Nu Deco Ensemble, and the Moscow Studio for New Music. He's received recognition from the Nebraska Arts Council and the Zodiac International Music Competition, among others. Greg is Associate Professor of Composition and Jazz Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he directs the UNL Jazz Orchestra and the Flyover New Music Series. In summer, he teaches at the Brevard Music Center.

150-word Bio

Greg Simon (b. 1985) is a composer and jazz trumpeter from California, by way of Oregon and Colorado. His works have been performed by ensembles and performers around the world, including the Nu Deco Ensemble, the Cavell Trio, Alarm Will Sound, the Fifth House Ensemble, and the Playground Ensemble. He has won awards for composition from the Zodiac International Music Festival, NACUSA, the Esoterics, and others; and was a second-prize winner in the Moscow Conservatory's New Classics Competition. Greg studied jazz improvisation and composition with Bill Lucas, Ellen Rowe, and Brad Goode, and is an active freelancer in the Omaha-Lincoln area.

Greg is Associate Professor of Composition and Jazz Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he directs the UNL Jazz Orchestra and the Flyover New Music Series. In summer, he teaches composition at the Brevard Music Center.

Jazz Bio

Greg Simon, composer and jazz trumpeter, has performed around the country with jazz ensembles of all makes and sizes. He's performed with the Marcus Lewis Big Band, the Shawn Bell Quartet, the Nebraska Latin All-Stars, the Jodi-Renee Band, and many others, at venues ranging from Dazzle Jazz Club to the Jewell of Omaha; and played in the bands of The Temptations, Hannah Huston, and Andrew Dost of fun. Greg was a featured performer in Tom Larson's groundbreaking 2020 work *Living In Americah*, and his own group, the Greg Simon

Septet, debuted in 2021. Greg's first single for jazz septet — a long-form composition entitled *Fanfare, Nocturne, Fanfare* — is available now on Bandcamp and all major streaming services. Currently, Greg plays trumpet/flugelhorn alongside his colleagues in the UNL Faculty Jazz Ensemble and serves as the director of the [UNL Jazz Orchestra](#). Greg has taught jazz with the Detroit Symphony Civic Jazz Orchestra and Omaha Performing Arts Academy, and served as guest clinician at the Westside Jazz Festival and the Nebraska State Band Association's Jazz Festival.