

# Dr. Sarah Louise Bassingthwaighte

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## Education

- 2002      DMA: Flute Performance, University of Washington  
Dissertation: "Electro-acoustic Music for Flute"
- 2000      MM: Composition, University of Washington  
Thesis Composition: "Namaste" for soprano and orchestra
- 1995      MM: Flute Performance / Pedagogy, Central Washington University  
Thesis: "Ellen Taaffe Zwilich's Concerto for Flute and Orchestra"
- 1989      BM Honors: Flute Performance, Indiana University-Bloomington
- 1985      Performer's Certificate, Johannesen International School of the Arts, Victoria, BC

## Current and Recent Positions

- 2015 – present    Principal Flute/Founding Member The Sound Ensemble Chamber Orchestra
- Programming/Performing 13 years of commissioned chamber works (full seasons)
  - Personnel contacting, scheduling, managing
  - Contact with performance venues
  - Publicity, including radio and newspaper interviews
  - Grant-writing
- 1997 – 2015      Artistic Director/Performer/Composer Affinity Chamber Players, Seattle, WA
- Programming/Performing 13 years of commissioned chamber works (full seasons)
  - Personnel contacting, scheduling, managing
  - Contact with performance venues
  - Publicity, including radio and newspaper interviews
  - Grant-writing
- 1995 –present    Free-lance performer, composer, and teacher
- Performing with top-notch Pacific Northwest orchestras, chamber groups, recording sessions
  - Private teacher of award-winning flutists of all ages
  - Private teacher of award-winning high-school and young adult composers
  - Grant-writing
  - Composing/Arranging
- 2011              Grant-Reviewer Meet the Composer - Creative Connections, New York New York
- Reviewing 75 grant applications and making written recommendations
- 2006 - 2008      Lecturer, Flute University of Washington, Seattle, WA.
- Studio instruction, Doctoral, Masters, and Undergraduate music majors
  - Woodwind Techniques Class
  - Chamber Music Coach
  - Admissions and Scholarships Committees
  - Concerto Competition Adjudicator

- Perform in faculty recitals
- 2001 – 2008     **Adjunct Prof. of Flute** Seattle University, Seattle, WA
- Studio instruction, Undergraduate majors and non-majors
  - Flute Choir Director
  - Chamber Music Coach
  - Perform in Faculty Recitals
- 2007 - 2008     **Instrumental Music Director** Seattle University, Seattle, WA
- Oversee Studio Instruction of Instrumental Faculty
  - Organize and host all instrumental concerts
  - Perform in Faculty Recitals

### Solo Recordings

- 2008     “Songs from the Caucasus” with Tina Kuratashvili, pianist, Pandora
- Music of Taktakishvili, Gordeli, Amirov, and Denisov
- 2006     “Stalks in the Breeze: 20th Century Music for Flute Alone” Pandora
- Music of Varèse, Debussy, Fukushima, Hoover, Hindemith, Muczynski, and others
- 2006     “Flute Meets Machine: Music for Flute and Electronics” Pandora
- Music of Davidovsky, Karpen, Thome, Battey, and Bassingthwaighte
- 2001     “Bret Battey’s Pater Noster’s Tricyclic Companion for flute and computer-generated sounds” Centaur, CRC 2512
- 2001     “Diane Thome’s Bright Air / Brilliant Fire for flute and computer-generated sounds” Centaur, CRC 2527

### Reviews

- 2006     **Carla Rees, British Flute Society: Stalks in the Breeze**  
 “The playing is highly convincing and all the pieces are performed with polish and virtuosity. While these pieces are likely to be quite different from “ordinary” flute music, it is well worth exploring, if nothing else just to get a glimpse of what the flute is capable of in the twenty-first century.”
- 2006     **Carla Rees, British Flute Society: Flute Meets Machine**  
 “This exciting recording contains five new pieces for flute and electronics by Seattle-based composers. The material is fresh and interesting. I particularly enjoyed Bret Battey’s Pater Noster’s Tricycle Companion, which was exciting in its refreshing departure from most that is associated with the flute.” “ This disc also contains a work composed by Sarah Bassingthwaighte herself, Rat Thoughts, which is beautifully constructed and shows that perhaps the era of the player-composer is returning. “
- 2001     **Computer Music Journal: Bright Air/Brilliant Fire**  
 “A must-have for every electro-acoustic music collector.”
- 2006     **Hal Ott, Central Washington University: Stalks in the Breeze**  
 “The playing is so delightfully rich and inventive. The tone is deep, and she employs such a fantastic variety of colors in the playing. Outstanding work!”

- 2007 Pan Magazine (Journal of the British Flute Society): Stalks in the Breeze  
 “Bassingthwaighte’s performance is good, with a hypnotic and rich sound. The tone quality is full of depth and power. Bassingthwaighte seems to have a particular talent for communicating the message of contemporary pieces, and she is very convincing on this recording. The choice of repertoire alone makes this recording a valuable addition to any CD collection.”
- 2009 Bonnie Blanchard, Author of the Music for Life Series (Indiana University): Songs from the Caucasus  
 “Sarah Bassingthwaighte and Tina Kuratashvili take us on a whirlwind musical tour of the Soviet Union. Both players create a balance of sound, and of excitement, throughout the CD as they reveal the power and the tenderness of this emotional music. My favorites are the charming Six Pieces by Fikret Amirov and the rhythmically exciting Taktakishvili. I’m pleased to recommend this CD.”
- 2006 Melinda Bargreen, Seattle Times, Dec 18 Stalks in the Breeze  
 “A solo flute album by this Northwest flutist/composer, showcasing her rich, warm tone in 10 very different works. Among them: Debussy’s sensuous "Syrinx" and two well-crafted pieces by Seattle composers (Roger Nelson and Bern Herbolsheimer).”

### Additional Teaching

- 2001 Guest Recitalist / Master Teacher Rachmaninov Academy of Music, Tambov, Russia
- Daily flute masterclasses over 2 weeks to American and Russia flutist
  - Open rehearsals of Russian and American flute literature
  - Flute Choir Director
- 1999 - 2001 Composer-in-Residence Max Aronoff Institute
- Composition / theory instruction
  - Chamber music coaching of winds and strings
  - Faculty recital performances live / radio
- 2001 Flute Masterclass Idaho Chamber Music Fortnight, Boise, ID
- 1997-present Flute / chamber music coach Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra
- 1998 - 2002 Coach Music Center of the Northwest, Woodwind Camp
- Flute
  - Theory / composition class instruction
  - Chamber music coaching
  - Rhythmic training classes
- 1995 –present Private Studio of about 25 continuous flute and composition students, multiple winners of the Horsfall Competition, MTNA State, and the Seattle Young Artists Concerto Competition; students have soloed at NFA Conventions, gone to US Nationals, performed on Russian State Radio, at the Rachmaninov Museum in Tambov, Russia. Students also have performed in masterclasses of Jeanne Baxtresser, Carol Wincenc, Jill Felber, Alexa Still, Walfrid Kujala, Ian Clarke, George Pope, and DeMarre McGill
- 1993 - 1995 Graduate Asst in Flute / Theory, Central Washington University
- Studio Instruction to undergraduate majors and non-majors
  - Assistant conductor of flute choir
  - Taught 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year theory for majors
  - Taught 1<sup>st</sup> year music history for majors

- Taught music appreciation for non-majors

1995-2003 Substitute Theory and Private Flute Instruction Cornish College of the Arts

### Grants, Awards, Honors

2011 Meet the Composer Creative Connections Composer Commission  
 2010 The Stan Chu Essay Award for “Clichés and Transformations”  
 2007 Washington Composer’s Forum Composer Spotlight: Featured Composer  
 2006 International Who’s Who of Women  
 2004 4Culture (Seattle Arts Commission) Grant for the composition of Nilchi’i  
 2004 First Prize Seattle Composers Salon Composition Competition  
 2002 International Who’s Who of Music and Musicians  
 2001 Brannen Fund Award \$6000 for the co-commission of 10 works for solo flute  
 2001 Seattle Arts Commission grant for the co-commission of 10 works for solo flute  
 2000 Composer-in-Residence Max Aronoff Viola Institute  
 2000 Brechemin Scholar Composition, University of Washington  
 2000 Brechemin Scholar Flute Performance, University of Washington  
 1989 BM Awarded with Honors Indiana University, Bloomington  
 1988 – 1989 Individual Grant Award Honors Division, Indiana University, for the study of  
 “The Tribal Music of East Africa,” on location in Kenya and Uganda  
 1985 – 2002 Dean’s List  
 1985 Seattle Young Artist’s Festival Concerto Winner Seattle performed Ibert  
 Concerto for Flute and Orchestra with Seattle Symphony

### Professional Websites

[www.sarahbassingthwaighte.com](http://www.sarahbassingthwaighte.com)

- solo concerts
- recordings
- bio
- compositions
- listen to excerpts
- teaching tips and philosophy

[www.subliminal.org/flute](http://www.subliminal.org/flute) - “Electro-acoustic Music for Flute”

- interactive database of more than 600 compositions for solo flute and electronics
- a brief history of the subject
- detailed referencing
- performance suggestions

### Teachers: Flute

Felix Skowronek (University of Washington), Hal Ott (Central Washington University), Carol Wincenc, Peter Lloyd, James Pellerite, Richard Graef (Indiana University, Bloomington), Julius Baker, Jeanne Baxtresser, Carol Wincenc, Kathryn Cernauskas (Johannesen), Bonnie Blanchard; Masterclasses with: Robert Dick, Samuel Baron, Donald Peck, Julius Baker, Louis Moyse

### Teachers: Composition

Richard Karpen, Diane Thome (University of Washington), John Mickel (Central Washington University) Margaret Brouwer, Harvey Sollberger (Indiana University).

## Solo Performances

- 2007 Albuquerque, NM Solo presentation/recital “Flute Meets Machine,” National Flute Association Convention, August
- 2007 Leicester, England DeMontfort University, Solo Recital, May
- 2007 Boise, ID College Music Society Regional Conference, Solo performance
- 2005 Seattle, WA Concerto Soloist, Foss Renaissance Concerto, Sorelle, Seattle Art Museum
- 2005 Seattle, WA FLUTEWISE Presentation: Extended Techniques for Flute
- 2006 Newcastle, WA Private concert for the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia
- 2002 Solo Lecture/Recital, Electro-acoustic Music for Flute, University of Washington
- 2001 Boise, ID Solo Recital, Idaho Chamber Music Fortnight, 2001
- 2000 Tambov, Russia Solo Recital: Russian and American Flute Solo Works, with pianist Vadim Galushka. Rachmaninov Academy of Music
- 2000 Tambov, Russia Solo Recital: Russian / American Flute Solo Works, Rachmaninov Museum
- 2000 Tambov, Russia Solo and Interview on Soviet State Television
- 2000 Tambov, Russia Solo and Interview on Soviet Radio
- 1999 Seattle, WA Solo Recital, “Contemporary Music for Solo Flute,” University of Washington
- 1997 Seattle, WA Solo Recital, “Flute Music of Czech Composers,” University of Washington
- 1998 Seattle, WA Duet with Jeanne Baxtresser, principal flute of the New York Philharmonic : Doppler Andante and Rondo, Festival with a Master
- 1995 Ellensburg, WA Solo Recital, Central Washington University
- 1994 Ellensburg, WA Solo Recital, Central Washington University

## Chamber Groups

- 2015 – present The Sound Ensemble Chamber Orchestra principal flute/founding member
- 1997 – 2013 Affinity Chamber Players artistic director, co-founder, principal flute
- 1999 – 2005 Sorelle Quartet soprano, flute, cello, piano; co-founder/member
- 1996 – 2000 Sirocco Duo flute, guitar with guitarist Mark Wilson
- 1995 – present Windsong Trio flute, violin, cello; Awarded “Best Classical Group, Customer’s Choice,” Seattle Bride Magazine 2006-2011, 1st flute

## Conducting

- 1995-present Sarahbande Flute Choir Director/conductor
- 2002 - 2008 Seattle University Flute Choir Conductor
- 1996 - 1997 Olympia Flute Choir Conductor
- 1993 - 1995 Central Washington University Flute Choir Co-conductor

## Articles / Publications

- 2006 “Thought Practice - Utilizing the Power of Your Magnificent Mind” Flutewise Magazine, London, England. Spring
- 2006 “Practice Techniques” Learning Spirit Music Publications, Seattle, WA October, 6pp

- 2006 “Complete Graded Exams for Flutists in Twelve Levels” Learning Spirit, June, 96pp
- 2005 “Complete Graded Literature List for Flutists in Twelve Levels” Learning Spirit, 32pp.
- 2001 “Extended Techniques for Flute” Flutewise presentation, Seattle WA
- 2001 “Building an Effective Studio: Lesson content and structure” Learning Spirit, 6pp
- 2001 “Building an Effective Studio: Studio Policy,” Learning Spirit, Seattle, WA. June, 5pp
- 2000 “Electro-Acoustic Music for Flute” Dissertation, University of Washington, June, 377pp
- 1999 “History of the Seattle Flute Society” Seattle Flute Society, Seattle, 76pp
- 1996 “Zwilich’s Concerto for Flute and Orchestra” Flute Talk, Northfield, IL, 6pp.
- 1995 “Ellen Taaffe Zwilich’s Concerto for Flute and Orchestra” Master’s Thesis, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 74pp

### Professional Affiliations and Arts Service

- 2015 – present The Sound Ensemble Chamber Orchestra Board of Directors
- 2011 WSMTA Board of Directors Composer of the Year Chair
- 1997 – 2010 Affinity Chamber Players Founder, composer/flutist
- 2006 – 2010 Gallery Concert Series: Period Music in Intimate Settings, Secretary
- 2001 Programming Committee National Flute Association
- 1997 Festival Director “Jeanne Baxtresser: Festival with a Master,” Seattle
- 1997 – 1999 President Seattle Flute Society
- 1995 – 1997 Vice President, Director of Programming Seattle Flute Society
- 2002 – 2006 Founding member Sorelle Quartet Seattle, WA
- 1993 – 1995 Founder, President, Contemporary Ensemble Central Washington University
- 1993 – 1995 Founder, President, Collegium Early Music Ensemble Central Washington University
- 1993 – present Adjudicator, Washington State Solo and Ensemble Contests throughout Washington

### Guests Artists Brought to Seattle under my leadership

- 2013 Gary Schocker flutist/composer/recording artist
- 2010 Merrie Siegel recording artist
- 2009 Hal Ott Central Washington University
- 2008 Janet See international baroque flutist
- 2007 Kimberly Clark University of Houston Moore’s School of Music
- 1998 Elena Duran Birmingham Conservatory, UK
- 1998 Hubert Laws Jazz flutist
- 1998 Patricia Spencer Ad Capo Chamber Players, New York
- 1998 Chris Norman Irish flute
- 1997 Jeanne Baxtresser Juilliard, New York Philharmonic
- 1997 Susan Milan Royal Conservatory of Music, London
- 1997 Fenwick Smith Boston Symphony
- 1997 Ken Andrews Former principal flute, Montreal Symphony

1996 Jill Felber ZAWA! UCSB  
 1996 Steve Kujala Jazz flutist  
 1996 Ervin Monroe Principal Detroit Symphony  
 1995 Jacques Zoon New England Conservatory, Boston Symphony

### Pieces commissioned or co-commissioned by Dr. Bassingthwaighte

2005 Christopher Wicks “Six Songs of Sappho” flute, sop, cello, piano  
 2004 Ben Houge “Mobile I” for flute, soprano, cello, piano  
 2003 Ralph Forsland “Qua” for flute, soprano, cello, piano  
 2003 John Beeman “Four Retablos” for flute, soprano, cello, piano  
 2002 Bern Herbolsheimer “Albina” for flute, soprano, cello, piano  
 2001 Tom Baker “Six Songs from the Red Planet” for flute, soprano, cello, piano  
 2000 Mark Wilson “Wind and Water” for flute and guitar  
 2000 David Mesler “A Toast!” for flute choir  
 2000 Keith Eisenbrey “The Farthest Shore” for flute trio  
 1998 Bret Battey “Pater Noster’s Tricyclic Companion” for flute and computer-generated sounds  
 1997 – 2010 40+ compositions for Affinity Ensemble by composers including Christopher Shainin, Ryan Hare, Brad Sherman, Linda Antas, Ben McAllister, Chris Stover, and others.  
 2001 James Knapp “Oo-ee” \*  
 2001 Roger Briggs “Trailblazers” \*  
 2001 Bun-Ching Lam “Bittersweet Music III” \*  
 2001 Julian Priester “Equanimity” \*  
 2001 Roger Nelson “Stalks in the Breeze” \*  
 2001 David Mahler “One Banned Man: A Musical Stunt Composed, Choreographed, and Staged” \*  
 2001 Bern Herbolsheimer “Ashik Dances Before His Love” \*  
 2001 Robin Holcomb “Shiloh” \*  
 2001 Stuart Dempster “Alternate Realities” \*  
 2001 Jarrad Powell “The Moon and the Sun are Eternal Travelers” \*  
 2001 Vincent Plush “The Little People of Mount Rainier” \*  
 2001 Janice Giteck “Agrarian Chants” \*  
 \*Co-commissioned with flutist Paul Taub

### Commissions

2015 Northwest Symphony Orchestra “House of Doors Concerto,” Merrie Siegel flutist  
 2012 Seattle Collaborative Orchestra “A Mountain Symphony,” Anna Edwards, conductor  
 2011 International Bass Workshop “Missing” (in progress)  
 2011 Quatrain “Quartet” (in progress)  
 2011 Seattle Percussion Collective “Letters from the Earth”  
 2006-2010 Affinity Chamber Players various commissions  
 2005 Ives/Burns Duo “Positions”  
 2005 Affinity Chamber Players “The Sun Lives for Only One Day”  
 2004 Seattle Composers Salon “Stochastikos,” Awarded first prize, Composition Competition. Prem. by violinist Eric Rynes and pianist Ann Cummings  
 2004 Julie Ives “Nilchi’i”  
 2003 Sorelle “Hushabye : a child’s perspective on war”  
 2003 Claire Sherman “Claire’s Duet”  
 2001 Idaho Chamber Music Fortnight “Boise Septet”

- 2000 Seattle Asian Art Museum “Saha Viryam Karvavahai”
- 2000 Painter Jeff Hengst “Eleven Portraits,” for flute, viola, cello, and percussion, and dancers. Paintings by Jeff Hengst. Dance choreographed by Dappin’ Butoh.
- 1999 Scott Ligoeki “Ai Nasdrave”
- 1997 Contemporary Chamber Composers and Players “somewhere i have never travelled”
- 1992 Central Washington University Flute Choir “Can’t Not Think in Words”
- 1989 Lyceum 23 Arts Cooperative “Kill for Love” Columbus, OH
- 1987 Carol Wincenc “Melodies”

### Radio and Television Interviews

- 1995–present KUOW 94.9 Seattle, WA more than a dozen interviews and performances
- 1985–present KING-FM 98.1 Seattle, WA multiple interviews and performances
- 2001 Tambov State Radio interview and solo performance, Tambov, Russia
- 2001 Tambov State Television interview, Tambov, Russia



## Compositions

House of Doors	Concerto for flute and orchestra	2015
Missing	solo contrabass	2014++
A Mountain Symphony	symphonic orchestra	2013++
Voices on the Wind	flute quartet	2012++
Pagliacci	oboe, viola, cello, bass	2011+
Letters from the Earth	percussion trio	2011++
Hacia el Sueno	chamber orchestra	2009++
The Corruption of Tellus	sop, chamber orch	2008++
Echoes of the Ancients	flute quartet	2007++
Affinity V	chamber orch	2006++
The Sun Lives for Only One Day	baritone, soprano, and chamber orch	2005++
Positions	2 pianos	2005++
Nilchi'i	piano solo	2005++
Stochastikos	violin and piano	2004++
Duet for Claire	2 flutes	2004+
Hushabye	sop, fl, vcl, pno	2003++
Boise Septet	fl, 2 vln, vla, 2 vcl, harp	2001+
Saha Viryam Karvavahai	fl, bass fl, vla, vcl, perc	2001++
Namaste	sop, chamber orch	2000++
Eleven Portraits	fl, vla, vcl, perc	1999+
Eleven Portraits Suite	fl, vla, vcl, perc	1999++
Ai Nasdrave	solo viola	1999++
somewhere i have never travelled	sop, chamber orch	1998++
Pagliacci	woodwind quintet	1997+
Farewell, Absinthe& Return	3 alto flutes	1996++
Atavism II	computer-generated	1996++
Atavism I	computer-generated	1995++
Rat Thoughts	fl, electronic tape	1994++
Can't Not Think in Words	flute choir	1994++
Piano Trio I	vln, vcl, pno	1993+
Entre Nous	fl, vln, vla, vcl	1990++
Kill for Love	sop, fl	1989+
Melodies	flute alone	1987+
For My Sister	sop, piano	1986+
Little Piece	piano	1985+

(+= performed, ++= performed and recorded)

References:

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Dr. Diane Thome  
Former Professor and Chair, Composition, School of Music  
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Bonnie Blanchard  
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Conductor, Port Angeles Symphony Orchestra  
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Dr. Ryan Hare  
Professor of Theory/Composition/Bassoon  
Washington State University  
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Additional References Provided Upon Request