

# David Sisco - Curriculum Vitae

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## EDUCATION

### **Boston University School for the Arts, MM in Vocal Performance** **May, 1999**

- Graduated Summa Cum Laude
- Director's Award
- Assistantship teaching voice for non-majors

### **Syracuse University, BA in Vocal Performance and Composition Honors** **May, 1997**

- Graduated Magna Cum Laude
- Syracuse University Scholar and Visual & Performing Arts Scholar
- Faculty Award for Outstanding Contribution to the School of Music
- Dennis Gilbert Award for Vocal Achievement

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Adjunct Voice Faculty** **2020 - Present**

NYU Steinhardt, New York, NY

- Work with graduate and undergraduate voice majors and non-majors
- Specialize in musical theatre and CCM styles

### **Adjunct Professor** **2019 - Present**

Wagner College, New York, NY

- Designed and teach a Contemporary Musical Theatre Performance for seniors
- Co-teach Rock the Audition for juniors
- Music direct main stage and new works productions

### **Music Director & Voice Instructor** **2011 - Present**

Sumer Musical Theatre Institute (Wagner College), Staten Island, NY

- Select and arrange all song repertoire for a showcase at the end of the two-week program
- Teach vocal technique and acting a song in private and classroom settings
- Help students prepare for college auditions

### **Voice Instructor** **2019 - Present**

NYU Summer Study in MT/Contemporary Vocal Workshop, New York, NY

- Assess young artists technical skills and, where appropriate, recommend repertoire for showcase
- Prepare students for masterclasses and in-class assignments

**Part Time Voice Faculty****2007 - 2017**

Marymount Manhattan College, New York, NY

- Prepared musical theatre students to sing both standard and contemporary repertoire
- Acted as a repertoire coach and prepared the students for auditions (in-school and professional)
- Adjudicated auditions for incoming freshmen and transfer students regionally and at the college
- Provided musical direction for main stage and black box productions

**Adjunct Professor of Musical Theatre****1999 - 2000**

Suffolk University, Boston MA

- Developed the first musical theater performance class offered by the university
- Produced a 60 minute revue of standard and contemporary musical theatre songs
- Music directed and conducted the main stage musical

**Private Voice Instructor****1997 - Present**

Boston MA/New York NY

- Vocal development of beginning to advanced students in classical and musical theater
- Provide career counseling, repertoire coaching, and audition book updates

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE****Founder & President, ContemporaryMusicalTheatre.com****2012 - Present**

- The largest online directory of contemporary musical theatre writers and songs
- Currently represents over 180 writers and 600 songs, vetted by theatre professionals
- On-going blog with over 900K hits in more than 20 countries

**Professional Choir Member, Marble Collegiate Church****2001 - 2014**

- Regular soloist for services and masterworks concerts
- Frequent composer and arranger for the ensemble
- Soloist and featured composer on recordings

**Co-Founder & Musical Director, Caprice Opera Theatre****2001 - 2004**

- Opera sketch comedy troupe, mixing classical music with contemporary themes
- Responsible for board development, fundraising, and general business transactions
- Music director and composer/arranger for all productions
- Caprice Opera was the first opera company invited to the NYC International Fringe Festival

**WORKSHOPS & RESIDENCIES**

- “The Room Where it Happens” - West Genesee High School, Fall 2019
- “College Audition Workshop” - Broadway Workshop, NY, Summer 2019
- “College Audition Workshop” - Broadway Workshop, NY, Summer 2018
- Artist in Residence - Minnesota State University Moorhead, February/March, 2016

## RECENT MASTERCLASSES

- SUNY New Paltz - October, 2019
- ANATS Melbourne - July, 2019
- ANATS Canberra - July, 2019
- Ingraham High School - November, 2018
- Taipei Performing Arts Center - October, 2018
- ANATS National Conference - October, 2018
- SUNY New Paltz - September, 2018
- Taipei Performing Arts Center - August, 2017
- ANATS New South Wales - July, 2016
- Riverdale Children's Theatre - October, 2017
- Dean College - February, 2017
- Dean College - April, 2016

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- "Teaching Contemporary Musical Theatre" - National Assoc. of Teachers of Singing (NATS), 2020
- "The Room Where it Happens" - New York State Theatre Education Association (NYSTEA), 2020
- "The Art and Craft of Story Telling" - Australia NATS Victoria, 2019
- "Legit, mix, belt... Teaching the Other Triple Threat - ANATS Canberra, 2019
- "Auditioning for College" - NYSTEA, 2019
- "Teaching Contemporary Musical Theatre" - Musical Theatre Educators' Alliance (MTEA), 2019
- Keynote Speaker - ANATS, 2018
- "Teaching Contemporary Musical Theatre" - ANATS Webinar, 2017
- "Cinderella Meets Cendrillon: Musical Theatre: Opera Living Under the Same Roof" - International Congress of Voice Teachers Conference (Sweden), 2017
- "Vocal Health on Broadway and Beyond" - MTEA, 2017
- Keynote Speaker - ANATS New South Wales, 2016
- "Vocal Health on Broadway and Beyond" - NATS, 2016
- "Investigating the Text: Teaching Young Singers How to Learn a New Song" - ICVT (Australia), 2013
- "Building a Bridge: Connecting Voice Teachers with Contemporary MT Writers" - ICVT, 2013
- "The Working Artist: Collaboration Across Multiple Disciplines" - Music Teacher National Association, 2010

## PUBLICATIONS

- Sisco, David. (2020). Bringing a Different Kind of Research into the Studio. *Journal of Singing, Volume 75/No. 1 (September/October 2020)*.
- Josepher, Laura, Sisco, David. (2019). *Mastering College Musical Theatre Auditions: Sound Advice for Teachers, Students, and Parents* (2nd ed.). Self-Published (Amazon.com)
- Josepher, Laura . Sisco, David (June 20, 2019). [Everything You Need to Know About College Unified Auditions](http://broadwayworld.com). [broadwayworld.com](http://broadwayworld.com).
- Henderson, Allen, McQuade Jennifer, McQuade Mark, Sisco, David (2018). Cinderella Meets Cendrillon: Musical Theatre: Opera Living Under the Same Roof. *Journal of Singing, Volume 75/No. 2 (November/December)*.

## SELECTED ESSAYS PUBLISHED ON CONTEMPORARYMUSICALTHEATRE.COM

- [Liberating Our Young Female Singers](#)
- [Considering the Craft of Contemporary Musical Theatre](#)
- [Contemporary Accompaniments, Or Why Do You Dislike Accompanists?](#)
- [Writing for Today's Musical Theatre Performer](#)
- [Teaching in Polarizing Times](#)

- [Interview: Carmel Dean & Dick Scanlon](#)
- [Screlting, or Please Don't Stand so Close to Me, Volume 1](#)
- [Screlting, or Please Don't Stand so Close to Me, Volume 2](#)

## INTERVIEWS

- Mondragon, E. (November, 2020). IN Series: Art Talk. [www.inseries.org](http://www.inseries.org)
- Robinson, D. (June, 2019). Dr. Dan's Voice Essentials: Let's Talk Musical Theatre Singing. YouTube.
- Poppel, D. (2019). Musical Theatre Collaboration: What Makes it Last? Part I. *Musical Theatre Today* - Vol. 3, p. 295.
- Considine, A. (January 2019). Songs for a Song. *American Theatre*, p. 74.
- Walker, R. (August 2018, Issue 45). Behind the Scenes: The Audition Experts. *W42ST*, p. 33.
- Rothenburg, A (December, 2017). Call Answered: Conference Call: Tom Gualtieri & David Sisco. [www.callmeadam.com](http://www.callmeadam.com).
- Syed, L, Van Buren, B. (2017). Where Do I Find That Music? Building the Digital Storefront for (New) Writers. *Musical Theatre Today* - Vol. 1, p. 316.
- Desroches, S (2015). From Forever to Right Now: A Lovefest Cabaret at Tin Pan Alley. *Provincetown Magazine*, Vol. 38, #23 (September 24-30), p. 36.

## REVIEWS

**Journal of Singing** (Review of “Mastering College Musical Theatre...”) **January/February 2018**  
 “The college application process has grown highly competitive, and students look for any edge to make themselves stand out in the audition pool. Mastering College Musical Theatre Auditions contains useful tools for prospective music theater majors, particularly when consulted in conjunction with the advice of parents and teachers. Students who are contemplating a college degree in music theater should investigate this volume.”

**stageandcinema.com** (Review for BAIT n’ SWISH) **October 2011**  
 “It needs to be said... Charlie, Justin, the Gay Bait hosts, and the other 28 men looking for a date are all miraculously played by two versatile actors: Tom Gualtieri and David Sisco. Without costume changes, but with instant, carefully chosen shifts in voice, posture, manner, and level of nelliness, they transform into all of BAIT’s 32 characters.”

**NYTheatre in Review** (Review for BAIT n’ SWISH) **October 2011**  
 “The whole evening is a testament to the strength of Sisco's writing and the brilliant performances of Gualtieri and Sisco. Gualtieri, particularly, shines in the second act, in which he plays every character that's not Charlie—probably around two dozen or so, including a succession of outré drag queens; the delightful trio of Adam, Ryan, and Bill; and, especially, the formidable and fabulous Delores. Sisco has written enough meaty parts to satisfy an entire company of expert actors, and he's lucky that, in Gualtieri, he's got the one-man equivalent.”

**Journal of Singing** (Review of “Dear God” song cycle) **September/October 2008**

“Although the texts are childlike, and the music does not overwhelm them, neither are the vocal lines and the piano parts in any way simplistic. Sisco both reflects the moods of the texts and penetrates to the core meaning, which can be simply a child’s surface feelings or something more profound, provoking wonder at their powers of observation and understanding.”

**EDGE Boston** (Review for *Here I Am: A Musical Personal Ad*) **November 2004**

“HERE I AM is not only a coming of age tale - it is a one-man show about self-acceptance, growing up, the search for love, love and the sentient ability to find humor in it all. David Sisco has written himself a surprisingly witty and touching musical memoir.”

**Boston Herald** (Review of AIDS Quilt Songbook) **February, 2001**

“Of the 17 songs that were heard Saturday, the best remain Ricky Ian Gordon’s “I Never Knew,” sung with heart-breaking sincerity by David Sisco.”

### HONORS & AWARDS

- NATS Composition Award (2010)
- Anna Sosenko Assist Trust Grant (2009)
- Finalist, NATS Composition Award (2008)
- Astral Award Grant (2003)

### AFFILIATIONS

Musical Theatre Educators Alliance (MTEA)	2017 - Present
New Dramatists Composer-Librettist Studio	2015
City Center Encores!: Off-Center Artists’ Board	2013 - 2015
National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS)	2010 - Present
Dramatists Guild of America	2009 - Present
BMI Musical Theatre Workshop (Advanced)	2003 - Present

### MUSIC DIRECTION

<i>My One &amp; Only</i>	Wagner College	March, 2019
<i>Hair</i>	Wagner College	April, 2018
<i>Small Town Stories</i> (Workshop Reading),	Wagner College	December, 2017
<i>La Cage aux Folles</i>	Wagner College	April, 2017
<i>Our Country’s Good</i> (Original Score)	Marymount Manhattan College	November, 2016
<i>Spring Awakening</i> (Original Score)	Marymount	October, 2015
<i>O Pioneers!</i>	Marymount	November, 2014
<i>Searching for Romeo</i>	NYMF	July, 2014
<i>VOW</i> (Commissioned Works)	Marymount	January, 2014

### CONCERTS OF NOTE

Phantasmagoria	Wagner College	February 9, 2019
Comes Love	The Triad	October 5, 2015
An Evening of American Art Song by David Sisco	Carnegie Hall)	November 14, 2014

World AIDS Day: Stories of Courage & Faith  
 True Colors: Celebrating LGBT Composers  
**Selected List of Compositions**

Marble Collegiate Church  
 Marble Collegiate Church

December 1, 2010  
 April 29, 2010

***Stage Works & Incidental Music***

<u>Opera</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Premiere</u>
Sopranos Opera Tonight	composer/arranger composer/arranger	November 2001 May, 2000
<u>Theatre</u>		
The Wings of the Dove: A New Musical	musical adaptation of James	In Development
Our Country's Good	Original score	October, 2016
Spring Awakening (play)	Original score	October, 2015
BAIT n' SWISH	Two comedic one acts	October, 2011
Falling to Earth	chamber musical based on Pygmalion myth	Reading - September, 2009
The Heiress: A New Musical	musical adaptation of Goetz's play	In development
Here I Am	One-man show	Jan., 1999, August 2002
Variations on a Theme of You	A six-character revue about love	March, 2002

***Art Song & Song Cycles***

<u>Title</u>	<u>Voice Type</u>	<u>Premiere</u>
Of All the Words in the World	Soprano	Fall, 2014
Reflections on a Lover Past	Tenor	Fall, 2014
Songs from a Mill Town (Jeff Walt)	Tenor	Fall, 2014
Passages (Christina Rossetti)	Mezzo-Soprano	Fall, 2014
Bedtime Stories (Anonymous)	Mezzo-Soprano	October, 2011
Missed Connections (Anonymous)	Mezzo Soprano	July 3, 2010
Six Dennis Rhodes Poems	Baritone	April, 2010
Love Is... (Emily Dickinson)	Soprano	April, 2010
Missed Connections (Craigslist)	Mezzo-Soprano	April, 2010
Mending (Ingrid de Kok)	Mezzo-Soprano	November, 2009
Quilt (Kwame Dawes)	Baritone	November, 2008
Florentine Ladies (Linda Jenkins)	Baritone	July, 2005
Prayer of St. Francis	Soprano	April, 2005
Dear God (Anonymous)	Soprano/Mezzo duet	November 2004
Nature's Song (Linda Jenkins)	Soprano	November, 2003
Our Story (William Stafford)	Tenor	January, 2003
i carry your heart (e.e. cummings)	Mezzo-Soprano	May 2002
The Lamb (William Blake)	Mezzo-Soprano	July, 2001
An Irish Blessing (Traditional)	Baritone	August, 2000
Introduction: Music & Poetry (David Sisco)	Baritone	December, 2000
Evening Hours (James Purdy)	Mezzo-Soprano	January, 2000
Patterns (Amy Lowell)	Mezzo-Soprano	January, 2000
Six Comic Anonymous Poems	Baritone	January, 2000
Songs from Ancient Rome (Sculpia)	Soprano	January, 2000
Stories on Stone (Anonymous)	Baritone	January, 2000
Two Shakespeare Poems	Tenor	January, 2000
Conversations (sans words)	Coloratura Soprano	November, 1997
Five Stephen Crane Poems	Baritone	November, 1997
Love Me Not (Anonymous)	Baritone	November, 1997
O Holy Night (Version I)	Baritone	December, 1996

***Choral Pieces***

<u>Title</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Premiere</u>
The Darkling Thrush	Trans Voices, Parts I-III	December, 2019
I Am in Need of Music	SATB	May, 2017
I AM	SSAA	May, 2013
Awake, My Heart (Sacred)	SSATBB	March, 2012
To Music (Robert Herrick)	SSATTBB	April 1, 2011
Be My Vision (Sacred)	SATB	June, 2010
A Time (Sacred)	SSSAATTBBB	October, 2008
Tune Me, O Lord (Christina Rossetti)	SSAATTBB	September, 2005
Anything is Possible (David Sisco)	SATB (Gospel)	May, 2005
An Irish Blessing (Traditional)	SSATBB	May, 2001
God Calls A Mighty Band (James Crawford)	SATB, Solo Trio, Perc.	October, 1999

***Chamber & Solo Instrumental Works***

<u>Title</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Premiere</u>
Visions	Piano	February, 2019

Visage  
For Timothy  
Horizons

Brass Quintet  
Piano  
Piano

March, 2017  
January, 2001  
May, 1998