

SOLON SNIDER SWAY

Composer | Music Director | Performer

www.solonsnidersway.com

EDUCATION

Yale University, New Haven, CT (Class of 2018)

- Bachelor of Arts in Music (Intensive) and Theatre Studies
- *Cum laude* with Distinction in both majors; “Outstanding Achievement in the Arts” Award

EXPERIENCE

Selected Music Direction, Conducting, & Accompaniment Credits

- Princeton University, Lecturer in Music Directing and Choral Programs (2022-present)
- Princeton University, Director of the Playhouse Choir and Orchestra (2021-present)
 - Founding Director/Conductor of Princeton’s undergraduate Playhouse ensembles. Housed jointly with the Music and Theater departments and focused on repertoire which begins in a broad range of theatrical traditions and expands into a realm of experimental and innovative music-making; Responsible for selecting repertoire, leading rehearsals, programming concerts, and administering the ensembles
- Trenton Arts at Princeton, Director of the Trenton Youth Singers (2022-present)
- The Yale Whiffenpoofs, Musical Director/Conductor and Tenor II (2016-2017)
 - Led the world’s oldest collegiate a cappella group in 252 concerts during a year-long tour of 26 countries & the US. Selected repertoire, led and coordinated rehearsals, and oversaw production of the studio album “On the Bumpy Road,” which was nominated for a 2018 CARA award for Best Collegiate Album
- Young People’s Chorus of NYC, Collaborative Pianist, Arranger, and Vocalist (2018-present)
 - Collaborative Pianist for in-school and after-school community choruses (2018-present)
 - Vocalist for chorister learning tracks (2020-present)
 - Arranger for Intermezzo and Community Choruses (2021-present)
- Princeton University, Associate Music Director at the Lewis Center for the Arts (2021-2022)
 - Music Director for student productions; Mentor for student music directors within the Program in Music Theater and the Music Department; Music Workshop Leader for “Try on Theater Days”; Guest Lecturer/Accompanist for undergrad courses
- Story Pirates NYC, Musical Director/Pianist (2018-2021)
 - Improv Pianist and Music Director for educational nonprofit that turns student stories into sketch comedy through collaborative workshops and live performances
- Princeton University, *The Winter’s Tale* (dir. Shariffa Ali), Music Director/Keyboards (2023)
- *The Catacombs* (by TONY-nominated Larry Kirwan), Music Director/Pianist (2023)
- Second Stage Theater, *Gala*, Music Director/Pianist (2022)
- Avaloch Music Institute, *The Shape of a Child*, Conductor (2022)
- Theater 2020, *No for An Answer* (workshop), Music Director/Pianist (2022)
- Princeton University, *The Hello Girls* (dir. Kate Semmens), Music Director (2022)
- Theater 2020, *Sondheim on Sondheim* (dir. David Fuller), Musical Director/Pianist (2019-2020)
- Infinity Theatre, *The Fantasticks* (dir. Alan Ostroff), Musical Director/Pianist (2019)

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- Acting Manitou, *Matilda* (dir. Christopher Murrh), Musical Director/Pianist (2019)
- Ragtag Theatre, *Snow White* (Industry Reading, dir. Brad Rouse), Musical Director/Keyboards (2018)
- Infinity Theatre, *Summer Cabarets*, Musical Director/Pianist (2018; 2019)
- Saratoga Performing Arts Center, *Romeo & Juliet* (Musical Adaptation dir. Louis Butelli), Music Director/Pianist (2018)
- Yale School of Drama, *Passion* (dir. Rory Pelsue), Associate Musical Director (2018)
- Duke's Men of Yale, Musical Director/Conductor and Tenor II (2014-2015)
- Freelance Rehearsal Pianist/Accompanist (2013-Present): Saint Ann's School (Brooklyn, NY); The Brearley School (NYC); Vocal Ease (NYC); Yale School of Drama; Chautauqua Institution; Yale Drama Coalition

Selected Composition/Arranging Credits

- *Thebes* (Dir. Danilo Gambini), Co-Composer/Lyricist (Rattlestick Playwrights Theatre and Quinnipiac University, 2021-2022)
- *Sleep 101*, Composer of music for animated educational videos (developed by Brigham and Women's Hospital alongside Healthy Hours, 2020)
- *The Swallow and the Tomcat* (dir. Danilo Gambini), Composer (Yale Summer Cabaret, 2019)
- *The Tempest* (dir. Danilo Gambini), Composer (Yale School of Drama, 2019)
- *Crescent City Baby* (Original Musical), Composer/Lyricist/Librettist (Yale Drama Coalition, 2018)
- *Cupidity* (Original Musical), Composer/Lyricist (Yale Drama Coalition, 2016)
- "Four Riverboat Tableaus for Saxophone Quartet," Commissioned and premiered by PRISM Quartet at Curtis Conservatory (Philadelphia, 2015) and Symphony Space (New York City, 2015)
- "I'm Ready Now," Composed, arranged, and performed for the album "On the Bumpy Road" (Yale Whiffenpoofs); Nominated for CARA award, Best Original Scholastic Song (2018)
- "Come Summer," Commissioned for dedication ceremony of Yale's new residential colleges (October 2017); Official song of Yale's Pauli Murray College, played annually at Yale Commencement
- *Odd Mom Out* (Bravo TV Series), Arranged "Give My Regards to Broadway" for lead actress and a cappella trio and performed arrangement on show (aired June 2015)

Jobs, Internships, Festivals, Residencies, and Boards

- The Walden School, Member of the Board of Directors (2023-present)
- Private Music Teacher (2019-present)
 - Manage private studio and instruct dozens of students in musical subjects including piano, guitar, voice, music theory, and songwriting
- *The Dalton School*, After School Program Music and Theatre Teacher (2018-2021)
 - Directed after-school voice program and led private and group lessons
 - Directed, taught music, adapted works, and led rehearsals for 1-2 after-school productions of musicals each semester
 - Additional classes taught include: Songwriting, Piano Skills, and Acting
- Medomak Conductors Retreat (June-July 2020; 2021)
 - Masterclasses, workshops, discussions, and intensive score study under Maestro Kenneth Kiesler and other guest conductors; leading small ensembles and full orchestra in rehearsals and public concert

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- Eastern Music Festival Conducting Institute (July 2020)
 - One-month intensive study with Maestro Gerard Schwarz
- *Acting Manitou*, Musical Director and Teaching Artist (Summer 2019)
 - Music Director for production of *Matilda*; Accompanist for camp performances; Teaching Artist for elective course in musical theatre performance
- *Art Klub*, Artist Residency for original musical, *Crescent City Baby* (New Orleans, January 2019)
- *Yale University*, First-Year Counselor and Theatre Manager (2017-2018)
 - Counselor for the inaugural class of one of Yale's new residential college communities; Worked with Yale College Dean's Office to oversee health, safety, and well-being of first-year students by leading individual/group advising/counseling sessions, establishing college-wide traditions, and facilitating workshops and discussions
 - Theatre Manager for the Inaugural Season of Yale's Lighten Theatre
- *Infinity Theatre*, Music Director/Performer (Annapolis, MD and New York City, Summer 2016)
 - Musical Director, *Elephant and Piggie's "We Are in a Play"*; Associate Musical Director, Musician, and Actor, *Million Dollar Quartet* and *Almost Heaven: Songs of John Denver*
- *Road Scholars Program*, Teaching Assistant (Davis, WV, Summers 2015 and 2016)
 - Researched and co-taught courses on Rodgers and Hammerstein, Films of Fred Astaire, Music of the 1920s-40s; Special Feature Lecture Performances on the Life and Music of Rodgers and Hart (2015) and New Orleans Music and Politics of the 1930s (2016)

SKILLS AND TRAINING

Skills

- Piano (Classical and Jazz); Cello (Classical); Voice (Classical, Pop, Rock, Musical Theatre)
- Choral and Instrumental Conducting; Arranging and Orchestration
- Music and Audio Software: Sibelius, Finale, Logic, Ableton, QLab
- Languages: Spanish (conversational)

Training

- *Conducting*: Gary S. Fagin, Gerard Schwarz, Kenneth Kiesler, Mark Shapiro, Tony Makarome, Adrian Slywotzky
- *Musical Theatre Composition, Lyric Writing, & Playwriting*: Jeanine Tesori, Scott Frankel, Joshua Rosenblum, Michael Korie, Marsha Norman, Joseph Roach
- *Orchestration/Arranging*: Jude Vaclavik, Daniel Ott, Jeffrey Klitz, Judah Adashi, Ian Gottlieb, Sam Pluta, Jake Landau
- *Acting/Voice*: Deb Margolin, Brian Neff, Andy Berry, Andrés García, Stephen Clark, Mary Anne Barcellona, Andres Feliu
- Medomak Conductors Retreat (2020-2021); Juilliard Evening Division (2018-2020); Eastern Music Festival Conducting Institute (2020); The Walden School (2011-2012); Interlochen Arts Camp (2003-2010)