

Timothy Kramer

1022 W. Lafayette Ave.
Jacksonville, IL 62650
217-245-4230 or 217-245-3410

timothy.kramer@mail.ic.edu
www.timothykramer.com

Biographical Information

Timothy Kramer's works have been performed widely throughout the United States and Canada – from Carnegie Hall to college campuses - and in Europe, South America, and Asia with performances by major symphony orchestras (Indianapolis, Detroit, Tacoma, San Antonio) chamber groups (North/South Consonance, SOLI Ensemble, ONIX Ensemble, Luna Nova, Detroit Chamber Winds) and university ensembles (Michigan State, Arizona State, Indiana University, Florida State). He has also been a featured composer at the San Antonio International Piano Competition, the Mostly Women Composers Festival in New York City, the Midwest International Clinic in Chicago, the Utah Arts Festival, and at national conferences of the American Guild of Organists, the Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States, the American Choral Directors Association, the Society of Composers, Inc. and the College Music Society.

Critics have called his music “constantly inventive, clear, full of energy and admirably precise” (Greenberg - San Antonio Express News), “splendidly energetic and excellently crafted” (Reynish – WASBE Conference Review), “intriguing” (Hill – Tacoma News Tribune), “lively, intelligent, and blustery” (Burwasser – Fanfare), and “haunting and intensely moving” (Windeler – San Antonio Express News). His works consider and balance the needs of the performers with his own artistic desires, and he has written for a wide variety of forces: from professional orchestras and soloists to high school bands and college choirs.

Originally from Washington State, Kramer began playing the piano at a young age, and, although trained as an organist and harpsichordist, he spent many years as a youth playing bass guitar in jazz and rock ensembles. As a student of both William Bolcom and William Albright, Kramer sometimes incorporates rhythmic elements of popular music, and he embraces the idea that the composer should not lose touch with the performer or the audience. Clarity of line, a taut rhythmic surface, and interplay between background and foreground material make his music immediately approachable, but with a rich structural layer.

He has received grants from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the MacDowell Colony, Meet the Composer, Broadcast Music, Inc., ASCAP, the American Guild of Organists, and the American Music Center among many others. His degrees are from Pacific Lutheran University (B.M.) and the University of Michigan (D.M.A.), and he was a Fulbright Scholar to Germany. After teaching at Trinity University in San Antonio for 19 years, he accepted a post starting July 2010 as Professor of Music and Chair of the Music Department at Illinois College in Jacksonville, Illinois. In 2013 he was named the Edward Capps Professor of Humanities. He also continues to participate in CASA (the Composers Alliance of San Antonio), a group he founded in the late 1990s. His works are published by Southern Music, Earnestly Music, Hinshaw, and Selah and are recorded on Calcante, North/South, and Capstone. Current projects include a consortium commission for a new work for the Detroit Chamber Winds, the University of Michigan, and Oberlin College. More information can be found at timothykramer.com.