

Curriculum Vitae (March 2017)

## Alexander K. Rothe, Ph.D.

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Department of Music  
Columbia University  
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New York, NY 10027

### Education

**Columbia University**, New York, NY

Ph.D. in Musicology, 2015 (October 2015)

Dissertation: "Staging the Past: Richard Wagner's *Ring* Cycle in Divided Germany during the 1970s and 1980s"

Advisor: Prof. Walter Frisch

M.Phil. in Musicology, 2010

M.A. in Musicology, 2009

Masters essay: "Toward a New German Historiography: C.F. Weitzmann's *Geschichte der Harmonie und ihrer Lehre*"

Advisor: Prof. David E. Cohen

**Ludwig Maximilian University**, Munich, Germany

Fulbright Research Grant, Musicology, 2006-2007

**Northwestern University**, Evanston, IL (Five-Year Dual Degree Program)

B.M. *cum laude* with honors in Music Cognition, 2006

Senior Honors Thesis: "Handshape and Orientation in the Expressive Gesture of the Musical Conductor's Nondominant Hand"

Advisor: Prof. Richard Ashley

B.A./B.S. *cum laude* with honors in German, 2006

Senior Honors Thesis: "The Thirty Years War in Twentieth-Century Opera and Literature"

Advisor: Prof. Michael Dreyer

**Dreyfoos Palm Beach School of the Arts High School**, West Palm Beach, FL

High School Diploma, Music, 2001

### Academic Positions and Teaching Experience

**Core Lecturer**, Columbia University, July 2016-

Responsibilities: Teach two classes of Music Humanities per semester, prepare a full syllabus, hold regular office hours, attend weekly staff meetings, create and grade exams  
Course description (HUMA W1123): Introduction to the history of Western music from the Middle Ages to the present, including jazz and popular music

**Music Humanities Instructor**, Columbia University, 2009-2011, 2013-2014

Instructor for HUMA W1123: Masterpieces of Western Music

Responsibilities: Prepare a full syllabus, teach class, hold regular office hours, attend weekly staff meetings, create and grade exams

**Adjunct Instructor**, Fordham University, Fall 2010

Instructor for MUSC 1100: Introduction to Music History

Responsibilities: Prepare a full syllabus, teach class, hold regular office hours, create and grade exams

Course description: Introduction to the history of Western music from the Middle Ages to the present, including jazz and popular music

**High Enrollment Course Assistant**, Columbia University, Spring 2009

T.A. for Music V2010: Rock, Professor Jason Lee Oakes

Responsibilities: Grade exams and essay assignments, post assignments

Course description: A historical survey of rock music from the late 1940s to the present day

**Teaching Assistant for Music Humanities**, Columbia University, Fall 2008

T.A. for HUMA W1123: Masterpieces of Western Music, Instructor Murat Eyuboglu

Responsibilities: Teach four class sessions (observed by instructor), regular meetings with instructor, plan and discuss exams, weekly staff meetings

**Fellowships, Awards, Grants**

**Columbia University Teaching Fellowship**, 2013-2014, 2008-2011

**Columbia University Dissertation Fellowship**, 2012-2013

**German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Research Grant**, 2011-2012

Research grant (10 months) for Berlin, Germany

Project title: "Making Connections between East and West Germany: Stagings of Richard Wagner's *Ring Cycle*"

Host institution: Akademie der Künste zu Berlin

Sponsor: Dr. Werner Grünzweig

**Columbia University Faculty Fellowship**, 2007-2008

**Fulbright Research Grant**, 2006-2007

Research grant (10 months) for Munich, Germany

Project title: "Inner Emigration and Propaganda: Opera during the Third Reich"

Host institution: Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich

Sponsors: Prof. Hartmut Schick, Prof. Michael Dreyer

**DAAD Study Scholarship**, 2006 (declined)

**Geza von Molnar German Achievement Award, first prize essay, 2006**

Essay title: "Über die Einheitsmöglichkeit einer Sprache: Kafkas 'Rede über die jiddische Sprache'"

Sponsor: Prof. Thomas G. Schestag

**Geza von Molnar German Achievement Award, third prize essay, 2005**

Essay title: "Schillers Gedankenfreiheit und Kants Aufklärung"

Sponsor: Prof. Helmut Müller-Sievers

**Pathfinder High School Scholarship Award, 2001**

**Publications**

**I. Articles**

"Myth, Matriarchy, and Feminism in Ruth Berghaus's *Ring Cycle* (1985-1987)." *Musical Quarterly*. (Under Review)

"Rethinking Postwar History: Munich's *Musica Viva* during the Karl Amadeus Hartmann Years (1945-63)." *Musical Quarterly* 90, no. 2 (2007): 230-74.

"The Problematic Nature of Hindemith's *Das Unaufhörliche*: A Critical Response." *Tempo* 61, no. 240 (2007): 40-50.

**II. Encyclopedia Entries**

"Minor mode." In *Columbia University Sonic Glossary*. Last modified August 2011. [https://www1.columbia.edu/sec/itc/music/sonic/minor\\_mode.html](https://www1.columbia.edu/sec/itc/music/sonic/minor_mode.html) [requires Columbia login]

"Karl Amadeus Hartmann." In *Orel Foundation Website*. Last modified August 1, 2008. [http://orelfoundation.org/index.php/composers/article/karl\\_amadeus\\_hartmann/](http://orelfoundation.org/index.php/composers/article/karl_amadeus_hartmann/)

**III. Program Notes**

"J.S. Bach's Six Sonatas and Partitas for Solo Violin." Program Notes for *Miller Theatre Lunchtime Concert Series*. New York: Miller Theatre, September 28, 2009.

**Conference Presentations**

"Visions of Wagner and Memories of May 1968 in the Bayreuth Centennial *Ring Cycle*." Presentation at the Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Panel on Pierre Boulez, Philadelphia, PA, January 5, 2017.

“Ruth Berghaus’s Vision of Wagner in the Frankfurt *Ring* Cycle (1985-1987).”

Presentation at the AMS-GNY Winter 2016 Chapter Meeting (“Women and Music”), Columbia University, New York, NY, February 13, 2016.

“Improvisieren, Interaktivität und ‘The Will to Adorn’: Die Musik und Philosophie von George E. Lewis.” Presentation at the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Music Conference, Berlin, Germany, April 2012.

Respondent to Austin Clarkson, “Busoni, Varèse, Wolpe and the Dialectical Mind.” Presentation at the Columbia University Music Department Colloquium, New York, NY, October 2007.

“The Thirty-Years-War in Twentieth-Century Opera and Literature.” Presentation at the Northwestern University Undergraduate Research Symposium, Evanston, IL, May 2006.

### **Invited Talks and Guest Lectures**

“Revisiting Chéreau’s Bayreuth Centennial *Ring* Cycle Forty Years Later.” Invited Lecture at the Wagner Society of New York, New York, NY, Dec. 4, 2016.

“Myth, Revolution, and Nationalism in Richard Wagner’s *Ring* Cycle.” Invited Lecture at Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, MN, March 17, 2016.

### **Additional Employment and Academic Service**

**Editorial Board of *Current Musicology***, 2007-2008, 2012

Responsibilities: Review and proof submissions, attend meetings

**Editorial Assistant for Dr. Werner Grünzweig**, 2011

Responsibilities: Proofreading and editorial assistance for Grünzweig, Werner, ed. *Alexander Goehr: “Fings ain’t wot they used t’be”: Archive zur Musik des 20. und 21. Jahrhunderts, Band 13*. Hofheim: Wolke Verlag, 2012.

**Coordinator for Columbia University Sonic Glossary**, 2010-2011

Supervisor: Prof. Susan Boynton

Responsibilities: Write a grant proposal for funding, perform edits to existing entries, create new entries, collaborate with the Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning in order to implement these changes

**General Assistant at the Music & Arts Library**, Columbia University, 2007-2008

Supervisors: Nick J. Patterson, Aaron Meicht

Responsibilities: Media processing (labeling and cataloging of media items), shelving, customer service

**Student Advisory Board at Weinberg College**, Northwestern University, 2005-2006

Representative for the German department

Supervisor: Prof. Franziska Lys

Responsibilities: Ask fellow classmates about student policies, attend meetings to discuss policy changes, and provide feedback to the Dean of the College

**Music Library Circulation Assistant**, Northwestern University, 2003-2006

Supervisor: James Hobbs

Responsibilities: Customer service, shelving, statistics and record keeping of circulation

**Student Ambassador at the Dreyfoos School of the Arts High School**, 1999-2001

Supervisor: Dr. Orville Lawton

Responsibilities: Regular meetings with the dean of music, attend and perform at public events on behalf of the music department, provide feedback to the dean and principal regarding student policy

**National Honor Society**, 1999-2001

**Membership in Professional Societies**

American Musicological Society

Fulbright Association

College Music Society

German Studies Association

**Foreign Languages**

German (fluent), Italian (reading), French (reading), Spanish (elementary)

**Performance Experience**

**Performance Highlights**

Columbia Organists' Spring Recital, St. Paul's Chapel, Columbia University, April 2009

Liederabend: Schubert and Schumann, Columbia University, December 2008

Chamber Recital at the First Unitarian Church of Palm Beach, January 2003

Solo Piano Recital at the First Unitarian Church of Palm Beach, December 2001

Northwestern High School Music Institute (NHSMI) Honors Recital, July 2000

Dreyfoos School of the Arts Symphony Orchestra, Side-by-side with the Florida Philharmonic, 2000

### **Summer Workshops, Festivals, and Camps**

Boston Conservatory Piano Workshop, Scholarship recipient, 2001

Northwestern High School Music Institute (NHSMI) at Northwestern University, Piano and cello, Scholarship recipient, 2000

Austin Chamber Music Center and Workshop, Piano and cello, 1999

TOPS Piano and Creative Writing Camp, Piano, 1995-1998

### **Lessons**

Dr. Paul-Martin Maki, Pipe organ (2008-2009)

Dr. Karen Kan-Walsh, Piano (2005-2006)

Dr. David Kaiserman, Piano (2001-2002)

Dr. Heather Coltman, Piano (1995-2001)

Stefanie Katz-Shear, Piano (2000-2001)

Pedro Hernandez, Jazz piano (2000-2001)

Dr. Claudio Jaffe, Cello (1996-1998)

Barbara Johnson, Piano and cello (1993-1995)

### **Ensembles**

Dreyfoos School of the Arts Orchestra, Piano and cello (1998-2001)

Dreyfoos School of the Arts Jazz Band, Piano (2000-2001)

Youth Orchestra of Palm Beach County, Cello (1995-2000)

### **Accompaniment Opportunities**

Collegium Musicum of Columbia University (2008)

Ebony Chorale of the Palm Beaches (2000)

### **Music Ministry**

First Unitarian Church of Palm Beach (2000-2005)

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, Boca Raton, FL (1995-2001)

St. Jude Catholic Church, Boca Raton, FL (1997-1999)

### **Areas of Interest**

Opera studies, Opera staging

Wagner studies, Richard Wagner

19th- and 20th-century music  
Cold War, Divided Germany  
Music and Protest, Afterlives of 1968  
Matriarchal theory, Feminism in the GDR

## **References**

Dr. Walter Frisch  
Gumm/Von Tilzer Professor of Music  
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Edwin H. Case Professor of American Music  
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