

Curriculum Vitae

Education:

- 2012 – 2014 **The Royal Danish Academy of Music**, Copenhagen
Advanced postgraduate diploma in Composition
- 2012 – 2014 **University of Iceland**, Reykjavik
Philosophy and Classical Greek studies – 60 ECTS
- 2010 – 2012 **The Royal Danish Academy of Music**, Copenhagen
M.Mus. in Composition
- 2007 – 2010 **Iceland Academy of the Arts**, Reykjavik
B.A. in Composition

Work Experience:

- 2016 - pres. **Artistic Director of Dark Music Days (IS)**
www.darkmusicdays.is
- 2014 - pres. **Music History and Theory teacher at Tónlistarskólinn í Grafarvogi (IS)**
- 2014 - pres. **Music History and Harmony teacher at Söngskóli Sigurðar Demetz (IS)**
- 2013 - pres. **Curator/Producer at Peripheriberry (IS)** – www.jadarber.is
- 2012 - pres. **Artistic director/co-founder of Sonic music festival (DK)** –
www.sonic-festival.net
- 2011 – 2013 **Assistant to the Icelandic Young Nordic Music Days committee (IS)**
- 2009 - pres. **Composer/Performer at 16 elskendur theater group (IS)** –
www.16lovers.com
- 2008 – 2009 **Music-theory teacher at Tónmenntaskóli Reykjavíkur (IS)**
- 2006 – 2007 **Musicteacher at Brúarskóli (IS)**

Professional Activities:

- 2016 Updated and performed the electronic part of *Flow and Fusion* by Puríður Jónsdóttir for performance with the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra
Selected for performance at the Nordic Music Days, *accelerated and made significant* for piano and electronics. Performed by Tinna Þorsteinsdóttir and myself
Performed at the Nordic Performance Days with 16 elskendur theater group
Mentored Berglind María Tómasdóttir Composer/Flautist, on her Music theater project as part of the Yrkja program in collaboration with Peripheberry
Selected for a collaboration project with Sync productions and Ditte Rønn in Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2015 Commissioned by Anrijs Ivanovskis to write a chamber concerto for bassoon and ensemble, supported by the Danish Arts council
Commissioned by Ny Musik in Aalborg, Denmark to write a new piece for ensemble, supported by the Danish Arts council
Featured in a Radio program about silence by the Icelandic National Radio
Writer in residence at Tjarnarbio, Independent theater centre of Reykjavik

Selected to write a new piece for the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra, through the Yrkja program.

- 2014 Commissioned by Figura Ensemble to write a piece which was premiered on the 28th of November in Copenhagen, Denmark
Debuted from the Soloist class of the Royal Danish Academy of Music, with the hour long electro-acoustic piece for live-electronics and ensemble, *objet petit a*. Premiered at the Sonic Festival in Copenhagen on the 13th of September
Composed 1/3 of the music for the Musical theater piece, *Improvised History of the World*, premiered on the 2nd of August at the *tete-á-tete* opera festival in London, UK
Commissioned to write a solo violin piece for the second round of the Danish string contest
- 2013 Selected to participate in a workshop with Grup Instrumental in Valencia, Spain.
Stilla Nr. 1 Commissioned by the Icelandic Chamber Festival, premiered on the 13th of August
Commissioned by the low-brass festival *Brassbylta*, to write a piece for 5 trombones, 3 Euphonium and 2 tubas
One of 7 young composers selected as participants for the Young Nordic music days in Norway
- 2012 Workshop with the Kronos Quartet in Copenhagen, Denmark
Selected to participate in a workshop with Ensemble Insomnio at the New Music Festival in Shanghai China
Workshop with ensemble TM+ in Copenhagen, Denmark
Workshop with the Esbjerg Ensemble in Esbjerg, Denmark
One of 3 young composers selected for a workshop with the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Ilan Volkov and mentored by Hans Abrahamsen
One of 7 young composers selected as representatives for Iceland at the Young Nordic music days 2012 in Iceland
- 2011 One of 7 young composers selected as representatives for Iceland at the Young Nordic music days 2011 in Denmark
- 2010 Workshop with the Arditti Quartet in Malmö, Sweden
One of 7 young composers selected as representatives for Iceland at the Young Nordic music days 2010 in Finland
- 2009 Composer in residence at the Sommerliche Musiktage in Hitzacker, Germany
Selected for a workshop with Ísafold chamber orchestra conducted by Daníel Bjarnason. Mentored by Bent Sørensen
One of 7 young composers selected as representatives for Iceland at the Young Nordic music days 2009 in Sweden
- 2007 Composer in residence in Djúpvík, Iceland as a part of the Dionysia festival

Prizes:

- 2015 Received a grant from RÚV Composer's fund for a piece for Nimrod Ron and the Caput ensemble
Received a grant from the Icelandic arts council
Received a grant from the Danish arts council
Received a grant from the Danish Composer's society
- 2014 Received a travel grant from the Icelandic Music Export fund
Received a grant from the Danish Composer's society

- 2013 16 elskendur awarded the Icelandic theater award for innovation in theater for the production of *Sýning Ársins*
Received a grant from the Danish Composer's society
- 2011 Received a grant from the Nordic council of ministers.
Received a grant from the Royal Danish conservatory.
- 2010 Received a grant from the Icelandic arts council.

Recent works:

- 2016 **Followings V** f. *Open Instrumentation* (4 players) - Duration 5' - 15' - Premiered on the 5th May 2016 by Fengjastrútur | Flute: Práinn Hjálmarsson | Trombone: Ingi Garðar Erlendsson | Synthesizer: Jesper Pedersen | Voice+electronics: Gunnar Grímsson
Brim f. Orchestra - Duration 13' - Premiered on 13th of April 2016 by the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra. | Conducted by Daníel Bjarnason
As we walk we sleep f. *Tuba and sinfonietta* - Duration ca. 18' - Premiered on the 29th of January 2016 by Nimrod Ron on tuba and the Caput Ensemble. | Conducted by Guðni Franzson
- 2015 **Colours of the Wind** f. *2 soprano-saxophones* - Duration 6' - Premiered on 31st of October 2015 in Medellin, Colombia by Michaela Stapleton & Esneider Valencia Hernandez
Flæði VIII f. *Piano, 2 trombones, tuba and percussion* - Duration 7' - Premiered on 7th of October 2015 in Aalborg, Denmark | Piano: Matilde Kanstrup Christensen | Trombone: Samuel Loft Sandegaard & Matthias Kikkenborg | Tuba: Anne Gatten Christensen | Percussion: Juanjo Guillem
Fragments of a Forgotten Land f. *Bassoon and small ensemble* - Duration 15' - Premiered on 8th of December 2015 in Copenhagen, Denmark. | Bassoon: Anrijs Ivanovskis | Flute: Christine Elizabeth Clancy | Oboe: Eva Stenaaa | Percussion: Lorenzo Colombo | Violin: Sophie Bird & Alexandra Hjortswang | Viola: Mika Svensson | Violoncello: Andrew Power | Bass: Nikola Meyer
- 2014 **Kvinden og dissonancen** f. *Mezzo-Soprano, Eb clarinet, Contra-Bass and percussion* - Duration 5' - Premiered on the 28th of November 2015 in Copenhagen, Denmark by the Figura ensemble
objet petit a f. *trumpet, 2 electric guitars, electric bass, vibraphone, percussion, recorder, violin, viola, 2 violoncelli and live electronics* - Duration 60' - Premiered on the 13th of September 2014 by Serenus Zeitblom Oktett and XelmYa trio at Sonic 3.0 - Ritualistic Soundscapes
Makhana f. *Live electronics, Violoncello and video* (in collaboration with visual artist María Dalberg) - Duration 28' - Premiered on the 21st of May 2014 in Reykjavik, Iceland by Zoe Martlew and Gunnar Karel Másson
gauging the performance f. *violin* - Duration 6' - Commissioned by the Danish String Contest and premiered as a obligatory piece in the second round held on the 12th and 13th of May 2014 in Aarhus, Denmark
- 2013 **Followings IV** f. *Open instrumentation* - Duration 5' - 10' - Premiered on the 19th of October 2013 by Fengjastrútur at the Sláturtíð music festival in Reykjavik, Iceland
Plink plink f. *toy piano* - Duration 2' - Premiered on the 18th of October 2013 by Tinna Þorsteinsdóttir at the Sláturtíð music festival in Reykjavik, Iceland

Stilla Nr. 1 f. Flute, Violin and Violoncello - Duration 6' - Premiered 13th of August 2013 at the Icelandic Chamber Music Festival in Kópavogur, Iceland. | Flute: Nína Hjördís Porkelsdóttir | Violin: Helga Póra Björgvinsdóttir | Violoncello: Júlía Mogensen

Stilla Nr. 2 f. Flute, Clarinet and Percussion - Duration 5' - 8' Premiered on 18th of September at the Nordic house in Reykjavik, Iceland by | Flute: Yumi Murakami | Clarinet: Kristine Tjøgersen | Percussion: Ane Marthe Sørlien Holen

Stilla Nr. 3 f. Bassoon, Violoncello, Piano and live-electronics - Duration 12' Premiered on 13th of September 2013 at the Sonic 2.0 - Cold sounds/Warm hearts music festival in Copenhagen, Denmark | Live-electronics: Gunnar Karel Másson | Bassoon: Anrijs Ivanovskis | Piano: Oscar Micaelsson | Violoncello: Aino Juutilainen

Complete list of works by instrumentation can be found on my website: www.gkarel.net

Performed at following festivals:

Nordic Music Days IS (2016) Raflost IS (2015) Dark Music Days IS (2016,2014,2010)
Pulsar DK (2011-2014) Sonic Festival DK (2012 - 2016) Quiet violence DE (2014)
Upp rís úr rafinu IS (2014) tete á tete UK (2014) Århus Jazz Festival DK (2014)
Sláturtíð IS (2012 - 2014) Young Nordic Music NO,IS,DK,FI,SE (2009-2013)
Ensems ES (2013) Tónlistarhátíð Unga Fólksins IS (2013)
Shanghai New Music Week CN (2012) Integra-live DK (2011)
Þjóðlagahátíðin á Siglufirði IS (2011) Klangwerkstatt berlin DE (2010)
64. Sommerliche Musiktage Hitzacker DE (2009) Við Djúpið IS (2009) Dionysia IS (2007)

Music composed for Theater Productions:

Stripp by Olga Sonja Thorarensen and Dance for me | Director: Pétur Ármannson (2016)
Ikea travels by 16 elskendur | Director: 16 elskendur (2016)
Monument by 16 elskendur | Director: 16 elskendur (2015)
Improvised History of the world by Pawel Klica and Jazz Flaherty | Director: Hannie McBride (2014)
Sýning Ársins by 16 elskendur | Director: 16 elskendur (2012)
Nígeríusvindlið by 16 elskendur | Director: 16 elskendur (2010)
Fjöltengi by Hlynur Páll Pálsson og Homo Ludens | Director: Hlynur Páll Pálsson (2010)
2 polish speaking Rumanians by Dorotu Maslowsku | Director: Heiðar Sumarliðason (2010)
Orphans by Dennis Kelly | Director: Vignir Rafn Valþórsson (2010)
Nígeríusvindlið – (work in progress) by 16 elskendur | Director: 16 elskendur (2009)
Homo Absconditus by Hlynur Páll Pálsson | Director: Hlynur Páll (2009)
Twelfth night; or, what you will by William Shakespeare | Director: Rafael Bianciotto (2009)
Gangverkið by Kristín Eysteinsdóttir | Director: Kristín Eysteinsdóttir (2008)

Other musical activities:

Studied Classical recorder in Iceland and Denmark from 1990 - 2000
Studied Classical Tuba in Iceland and Denmark from 1998 - 2003
Studied Classical and Jazz trumpet in Iceland from 2004 - 2005

Membership:

The Danish Composer's Society

The Danish Copyright association (KODA)

The Icelandic Copyright Association (STEF)

S.L.Á.T.U.R. (Society for artistically obtrusive composer's around Reykjavik)

16 elskendur theater group (16lovers.com)

Other Skills:

Technical skills: Active user of software programs such as AC toolbox,
NI Maschine, Logic Pro, Cubase, REAPER, MAX/MSP and
Integra Live
Own and operate a modular synth (eurorack) in addition to
few other hardware synthesizers

Languages: Native Icelandic and Danish. Fluent English. Basic German