

## **Jeffrey Parola :: Biography**

A California native, Jeffrey Parola began piano studies in his youth, and started to improvise and compose shortly thereafter. He later received a B.A. in composition at UCLA in 2002, and an M.M. in composition at the S.F. Conservatory of Music in 2005. His works have earned for him several honors, including first place prize at the 2005 SFCM Art Song Composition Competition, winner of the 2009 Highsmith Orchestral Composition Competition, and an honorable mention for the 2009 EAMA Prize. Parola is composer-in-residence for the New York City-based ensemble, Choral Chameleon, for the 2009-2010 season, and is currently pursuing doctoral studies as a Graduate Teaching Fellow in theory and composition at the University of Oregon.

Parola's works have been performed by the SFCM Orchestra, SFCM New Music Ensemble, Fireworks Ensemble, SFCM Chorus, Ateneo Chamber Singers (Philippines), San Francisco State Chamber Singers, Camerata singers, Los Angeles Chamber Singers, and by conductors, such as Andrew Mogrelia, Nicole Paiment, David Conte, Jonathan Velsasco, Vance George, and John Koza.

Also a dedicated music educator, Parola first began teaching private piano lessons while in his teens. As an undergraduate, he worked with the UCLA Music Partnership Program, teaching in Los Angeles inner-city schools. Since completing graduate studies at the S.F. Conservatory, he worked at a high school for four years, where he taught an assortment of music classes, including general music, music appreciation, music theory, and beginning instrumental music, in addition to leading several vocal ensembles. As a current Graduate Teaching Fellow at the University of Oregon, Parola teaches Aural Skills and Finale notation classes, and serves as co-director of the University's two resident new music ensembles: Sospiro (vocal) and the Eugene Contemporary Chamber Ensemble (instrumental).

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