Michael Palumbo

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Education

Doctor of Philosophy in Computational Arts 2025
York University, Toronto, Ontario

Certificate in Full Stack Web Development 2023
University of Toronto, School of Continuing Studies

Master of Arts in Theatre and Performance Studies 2016
York University, Toronto, Ontario

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Electroacoustic Studies 2015
Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec

Certificate in Entertainment Business Management 2006
Toronto Film School, Toronto, Ontario

Grant and Awards

Music Production and Presentation Grant for Exit Points	Ontario Arts Council	2026
Open Door Sector Innovation Grant for Artist-Led Futures	Toronto Arts Council	2026
Music Projects Grant for Exit Points	Toronto Arts Council	2025
Helen Carswell Chair in Community Engaged Research in The Arts (Grant)		2024
Music Projects Grant for Exit Points	Toronto Arts Council	2023
Helen Carswell Chair in Community Engaged Research in The Arts (Grant)		2022
W. Lawrence Heisey Graduate Award in Fine Arts	York University	2021
Animating Historic Sites and Museums	Toronto Arts Council	2016
CUSRA Research-Creation Grant	Concordia University	2014
Alcides Lanza Award in Electroacoustics	Concordia University	2013

Editorial and Professional Service

General Editor, *eContact!* Canadian peer-reviewed journal of electroacoustic music. Canadian Electroacoustic Community. 2026–Present.
Co-lead editorial direction and relaunch of the Canadian journal of electroacoustic music; develop calls for submissions and editorial processes.

Full-Stack Developer and Systems Administrator, *eContact!* Canadian Electroacoustic Community. 2026–Present. Develop and administer the journal's full-stack web

infrastructure and editorial deployment, including Open Journal Systems (OJS), server administration, deployment, and publication workflows.

Jury Member for Creative Enquiry Lab Grant, Toronto Arts Council, 2025

Board of Directors, The Canadian Electroacoustic Community (CEC). 2024-Present

Jury Member for Arraymusic Curator Search Committee, 2023-2025

Board of Directors, Arraymusic. 2022-Present

Founding Member of the Advisory Council, CEC. 2014-2016

Research Projects

"Patch Histories and Forking Paths: Version Control as Creative Practice in Modular Synthesis" PhD Dissertation, York University. July 2025. Supervisor: Dr. Graham Wakefield.

"Forking Paths: A Modular Synthesizer for Versioned Improvisation" Practice-based research component of PhD dissertation, exploring version control systems as a framework for distributed creativity and temporal structuring in modular synthesis. 2025

"Mischmasch." Modular synthesizer programming environment in VR. 2018-2023.

"Sonic Throwable Object". Wireless musical instrument for disabled children. Responsive Ecologies Lab. 2020-2022.

"git show." Distributed composition and instrument design experiment. 2018-2020.

"Dispersion[dot]" Mapping and performance data representation toolkit for the Distributed Performance and Sensorial Immersion Lab at York University. 2015-2016.

"Video Games as Cooperative Performance: Composing for Meaningful Play in Laptop Orchestras." Department of Music, Concordia University. 2014. Supervised by Dr. Eldad Tsabary and supported by a research-creation grant from the Concordia Undergraduate Student Research Award.

"The Stringer: Polyphonic String Switch for MIDI Guitars" Montreal. 2013. A musical instrument device designed, by request, for Grammy award-winning singer/songwriter James Taylor.

Publications and Presentations

"Before, During, and After: Documenting Improvised Music through the Exit Points Catalogue" Lecture. Guelph Jazz Colloquium, Guelph, Ontario. September 11, 2026.

Palumbo, Michael, and Wakefield, Graham. "From 'What If?' to 'What Diff?' and Back Again." In Modular Synthesis: Patching Machines & People, edited by Ezra J Teboul,

Andreas Kitzmann, Einar Engstromm, pages 449-455. New York: Routledge, 2024.

Palumbo, Michael, Doug Van Nort. “git show: Musical Creativity, Ideation, and GitHub”. Proceedings of the 2020 International Symposium of Electronic Arts (ISEA), 2020.

Wakefield, Graham, Michael Palumbo, Alexander Zonta. 2020. Affordances and Constraints of Modular Synthesis in Virtual Reality. *Proceedings of the International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression*, Birmingham City University, pp. 547–550.

Palumbo, Michael, Doug Van Nort, Rory Hoy. “Disperf: A Platform for Telematic Music Concert Production”. Proceedings of the 2020 International Computer Music Conference (ICMC), 2020.

Palumbo, Michael, Alexander Zonta, Graham Wakefield. 2020. “Modular Reality: Analogues of Patching in Immersive Space.” Journal of New Music Research 49 (1): 8–23.

Van Nort, Doug, Ian Jarvis, Michael Palumbo, “Towards a mappable database of emergent gestural meaning,” in Proceedings of the international conference on new interfaces for musical expression, Brisbane, Australia, 2016, pp. 46-50.

Palumbo, Michael. “Stethoscope Hero.” 2015 *Contemporary Performance Almanac,* Contemporary Performance Network, 2015. Print.

Palumbo, Michael “Video Games as Cooperative Performance: Composing for Meaningful Play in Laptop Orchestras.” *2014 Undergraduate Research Showcase*, Concordia University, Montreal, 2015. Digital.

Palumbo, Michael “CrossTalk: A Reflection on the Development of an Interactive Performance.” *eContact! vol. 16.3* [Montreal, Québec]: CEC, 2014. Conference Proceedings.

Palumbo, Michael, Pouya Hamidi, Richard King, Donald Pavlasek "Design and Construction of A Polyphonic Signal Router for 13-pin DIN MIDI Guitars." *Proc. of 135th AES Convention, Audio Engineering Society*, New York. 2013. Digital.

Curation and Production

Program Lead, Facilitator, Mentor. “Artist-Led Futures: The Exit Points Concert Production Fellowship.” Toronto Arts Council Open Door-funded mentorship, apprenticeship, and concert-presentation initiative supporting emerging artists and arts workers. 2026–2028.

Engineer, Producer. Mortal Komedy – Vinyl LP. Live Comedy Album, Nick Flanagan. 2026.

Artistic Director, Producer. “Exit Points 12-Channel Acousmatic Concert & Vinyl LP Release” at The Music Gallery, October 16, 2024.

Curator, Host. “Cool New Instruments Night” Quarterly Instrument Design Salon at the Tranzac, Toronto. 2024-Present.

Artistic Director, Executive Producer, Host. “Exit Points Free-Improvisation Concert Series” 2020-Present.

Producer. “Exit Points Record Label” 2023-Present

Executive Producer. “From The Ether” International distributed performance concert. DisPerSion Lab at York University; Department of Music at Concordia University; Centre for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics at Stanford University, Palo Alto; Buenos Aires; New York University, New York. 139th Audio Engineering Society Convention. October 30, 2015.

Executive Producer, Stage Manager. “Telematic Embrace: You Had Me At Hello World.” International Telematic Concert. Hexagram Black Box at Concordia University in Montreal; Centre for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics at Stanford University, Palo Alto; McMaster University in Hamilton; and a studio in Toronto. October 11, 2014.

Curator. “Objet Sonore Lectures: Season Three.” The Phi Centre. Montreal. 2014.

Curator. “Objet Sonore Lectures: Season Two.” Gallerie VAV Gallery. Montreal. 2013.

Curator. “Objet Sonore Lectures: Season One.” Artists’ Studios. Montreal. 2013.

Technician. “Live Network Beat-based Performance.” Concordia Laptop Orchestra (CLOrk). Montreal and Hamilton. February 7, 2013. A live, improvisatory telematic performance with CLOrk and McMaster University’s Cybernetic Orchestra.

Founder. “Objet Sonore Podcast.” Montreal. 2013-2015. Conversations with composers, performers, educators, listeners, and more. www.objetsonore.com Available through iTunes, Stitcher, and rebroadcasts on NAISA Radio.

Founder. Audiotonic Entertainment. Toronto. 2006 – 2011. Concert promotion. Produced over 200 concerts.

Artist Manager. Maneli Jamal (Solo Acoustic Fingerstyle Guitarist). Toronto. 2007-2009.

Organizer, Promoter. “Fine Grind Concert Series.” Journo Café & Great Canadian News. Toronto. 2007.

Engineer. “Maneli Jamal EP.” Maneli Jamal (Guitarist). Toronto. 2006.

Organizer, Promoter. “Starbucks Concert Series.” 4 King Starbucks. Toronto. 2006-2007.

Tour Manager. “Everyone Jump: Kids Changing Diabetes” Children’s Healthy Eating & Diabetes Awareness Concerts. Southern Ontario. 2006.

Teaching Experience

Instructor

Advanced Sound Design, Department of Visual Arts, Brock University 2026

Creative Web Design, Department of Visual Arts, Brock University 2026

Creative Data Visualization, Department of Computational Arts, York University – 2017

Teaching Assistant

Hybrid Media Lab, OCAD, 2024

Introduction to Computer Science OCAD, 2022-Present

Interactive Digital Media. York University 2022-Present

Media Signal Processing. York University 2018-2021

Video Game History. York University 2016-2019

Collaborative Performance Project II York University 2018

Artistic Works

Creative Technologist. “Evening News.” Elephants Collective. Nuit Blanche Toronto, 2026.

Founder, Producer. Exit Points Record Label – Digital Album Series, 2023–Present. Curated, recorded, and produced 17 digital albums to date documenting live free-improvisation concerts in Toronto. Released via Bandcamp.

Producer, Designer, Musician. Exit Points: “You Are The Right Length” (Vinyl LP), 2024. The debut vinyl release from the Exit Points concert series. The album features 10 improvised performances by Toronto-based artists and marks the label’s first physical release.

Composer. Void*ambience: Time-Lapse Chicago. The Urban Nature Sonic Pavilion. Multichannel composition presented at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion, Millennium Park Chicago. Summer 2024

Composer. “Early Electroacoustic Works vol. 1 2006-2014” Solo album. Self-released on Bandcamp. March 2020.

Composer, Performer. “Guitar Smatterings.” Solo Album featuring pieces for electric guitar and electronics. Self-released on Bandcamp. February 2020.

Composer, “Let’s Update the Firmware on Opening Night.” Electroacoustic Composition for the *Toronto 3-Module Challenge* Album. 2020.

Developer. “Artstar.” Collaboration with Elephants Collective for Nuit Blanche Toronto. 2019.

Composer, Programmer. “Data Issues: Please See Attachment.” Electroacoustic performance piece. Louis P. Ciminelli Recital Hall, SUNY Buffalo. 2018.

Designer, Programmer. “A Kitchen Sink Drama.” Collaboration with [elephants] collective. Rhubarb Festival, Buddies in Bad Times Theatre. February 17-20, 2016.

Creator. “Recursive Writing.” Performance Video Game. Testing Grounds at Trinity Square Video. 2015.

Composer. “Laundromatic Writing.” Where’s The Beat? CKUT FM, Montreal. December 25, 2014. Radio.

Composer. “Territorial Circulations no. 1.” Telematic Embrace. Hexagram Black Box, Montreal. October 11, 2014. A dynamic, animated graphic score using Twitter-mediated audience participation.

Composer. “Stethoscope Hero.” Network Music Festival, Birmingham. September 28, 2014. Sonic Video Game Networked Performance.

Composer. “Stethoscope Hero.” Hear Here! Vol. 9. Forest City Gallery, London. August 9, 2014. Sonic Video Game Networked Performance.

Composer. “Game Composition II for Laptop Orchestra.” Concordia Laptop Orchestra. Concordia University, Montreal. January 30, 2014. Sonic Video Game Networked Performance.

Composer. “Safety Boots… Bruised Ego.” Presented at 60x60 2014, with choreographed dance by Stéphanie Bernard. Concordia University, Montreal. January 15, 2014.

Composer. “Game Composition I for Laptop Orchestra.” Concordia University, Montreal. December 6, 2013. Open-participation Sonic Video Game Networked Performance.

Composer, Instrument Designer. “Beat Bits: A Telemetronomic Piece for Two Laptop Orchestras.” Central Conservatory of Music, Beijing. October 25, 2013. Telematic Performance.

Conductor, Composer. “Music for 22 Email Machines.” Michael Palumbo Laptop Ensemble. The Array Space, Toronto. July 20, 2013

Composer. “Soup Phase.” ToBeContinued 2013. Stazione di Topolò, Topolò. March 24, 2013.

Composer, Programmer. “Music for 22 Email Machines.” Liveware! Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec. March 7, 2013. Performance. A live, improvisatory performance piece using a network-based digital instrument created specifically for the Concordia Laptop Orchestra.

Composer. “Sapphire City.” Concordia University, Montreal. February 12, 2013. Minimalism piece for orchestra.

Composer, Programmer. “CrossTalk.” Festival of Original Theatre. Robert Gill Theatre, Graduate Centre for Drama, Theatre & Performance Studies, University of Toronto, Toronto. February 1, 2013. Performance.
A live electroacoustic performance piece involving two performers and audience interaction.

Composer. “Iron Harvest.” Concordia University, Montreal. November 1, 2012. Multichannel Acousmatic Composition.

Composer, Programmer. “A Galvanic Skin Response-based Biofeedback Synthesizer.” Sound Travels Intensive. New Adventures in Sound Art space, Toronto. August 11, 2012. Performance-Installation. Audience-participation synthesizer controlled by galvanic skin response, effectively generating music based on measured comfort.

Selected Performances

Musician. Opening for Toronto Premiere of “Subotnick” at the Revue Cinema. Toronto. April 24, 2024

Performer. Void * ambience: Latency. Currents New Media Festival. (Virtual). June 2021

Performer. Void * ambience : Latency. International Association for the Study of Popular Music (IASPM) Symposium (panel presentation, demonstration and live performance) June 2021

Performer, Collaborator. *The Placeholder Group – SloMoCo Spring Microresidency*, 2021. Remote research-creation residency exploring telematic improvisation and meta-presence.

Musician. SloMoCo Residency Launch Party. With The Placeholder Group. March 4, 2021.

Musician. FACTT 2021: Improbable Times. With Void * Ambience ensemble. January 28, 2021

Musician. Glen Hall & Michael Palumbo at Track Could Bend #54. September 3, 2019

Musician. “Electroacoustic Orchestra ++ Bourne/Sacks/Van Nort” With the York Electroacoustic Orchestra. The Array Space. December 10, 2015.

Musician. “Electric Messiah.” With the York Electroacoustic Orchestra. The Drake Hotel. December 7 & 8, 2015.

Musician. “Media and Machines Exhibition Opening.” Concordia Laptop Orchestra at the Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montreal. May 21, 2014.

Musician. “ACFAS Opening Ceremony.” Concordia Laptop Orchestra at 82e congrés de Association francophone pour le savoir. Concordia University, Montreal. May 12, 2014.

Musician. “Improv.” With Concordia Laptop Orchestra, Doug Van Nort, Bradyworks, Ricardo Dal Farra, and Concordia Contemporary Ensemble. Concordia University, Montreal. February 13, 2014.

Conductor. “Music for 22 Email Machines.” Michael Palumbo Laptop Orchestra in concert: all members had no prior experience in digital music performance. The Array Space, Toronto. July 20, 2013.

Musician. “Creation.” Concordia Laptop Orchestra (CLOrk) with Orchestre symphonie de l’isle (OSI). Oscar Peterson Concert Hall, Montreal. March 23, 2013.

Live Diffusion. “Iron Harvest.” The Conservatoire de musique du Québec à Montreal. December 19, 2013. Acousmatic Composition.

Musician, Technician, Performance Proposal co-Author. “Small-world Network.” Concordia Laptop Orchestra (CLOrk). Montreal. February 23, 2013. A live telematic performance with groups from Scotland, UC San Diego, UC Irvine, and Concordia University, narrow-casted to Network Music Festival in Birmingham, UK.