



**Amy Brandon**  
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## **EDUCATION :**

<b>Dalhousie University</b> Interdisciplinary PhD Program – Guitar Skill Acquisition & Cognition	<b>Halifax, NS</b> September, 2016 -
<b>University of Ottawa</b> MA in Composition (Supervisor: <b>Dr. John Armstrong</b> )	<b>Ottawa, Ontario</b> September, 2014 - May, 2016
<b>Carleton University</b> BMus in Jazz Guitar Performance	<b>Ottawa, Ontario</b> September, 2002 - October, 2006

## **INTERNSHIPS and LEADERSHIP:**

<b>Copernicus Labs / Electric Puppets</b> Augmented Reality Researcher	<b>Halifax, NS</b> October, 2017-
<b>University of Ottawa</b> Director - The 21st century guitar: interdisciplinary perspectives in pedagogy and performance Supported by a SSHRC Connection grant	<b>Ottawa, ON</b> August 22-25, 2019
<b>Ethnomusicology Review, University of California</b> Online Editor – Jazz (Space is the Place)	<b>San Diego, CA</b> 2018-2019

## **AWARDS, GRANTS and SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Central European String Quartet Competition – 'Most Innovative'	2018
RMN Classical 1st International Competition for Composers – Special Mention	2018
GroundSwell Emerging Composer Competition – Honourable Mention	2018
A.D. Kastalsky Choral Writing Competition	2018
Dundas Valley Orchestra Composition Competition	2018
Hildegard Competition – National Sawdust (USA) – Honourable Mention	2018
Ottawa Guitar Society Composition Competition	2017
Roberta Stephen Composition Award	2017
Dalhousie University Graduate Scholarship	2017, 2016
Canada Council for the Arts Professional Development Grant	2017
Canada Council for the Arts Travel Grant	2017, 2016
Arts NS Grants to Individuals	2017, 2012
Banff Centre Andrés Segovia Scholarship	2017
Banff Centre TD Scholarship	2015
The Jack Barwick and Douglas Duncan Memorial Scholarship	2003
The C.V. Hotson Award and The F. Luella Barriger Scholarship	2002

## WORKSHOPS & TRAINING :

### **Winnipeg New Music Festival Composer's Institute**

Professional development program for emerging composers  
Mentors: Kelly-Marie Murphy and Jocelyn Morlock

**Winnipeg, MB**  
January 25-February 1, 2019

### **PIVOT Mentorship Program**

Supported by the CLC and Continuum Contemporary Ensemble  
Mentor: Zosha Di Castri

**Toronto, ON**  
September, 2018-March, 2019

### **Acadia University**

Visiting Composer – Acadia Electroacoustic Studio

**Wolfville, NS**  
Fall, 2018

### **Matralab - Concordia University**

Technical Research for *Hypervigilance* Sound Installation

**Montreal, QC**  
December 12-14, 2018

### **Groundswell Pressure Waves Emerging Composers Program** directed by Harry Stafylakis

Funded by Groundswell and Canada Council for the Arts

**Winnipeg, MB**  
August 20-26, 2017

### **Soundstreams Emerging Composer Program** with Unsuik Chin and Chris Paul Harman

Funded by Soundstreams

**Toronto, ON**  
May 19-28, 2017

### **Concert in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** directed by Pedja Muzijevic

Funded by the Andrés Segovia Scholarship, Canada Council for the Arts and Arts NS

**Banff, AB**  
February 15-March 3, 2017

### **Atlantic Centre for the Arts Residency** with Myra Melford

Funded by a Canada Council Grant

**New Smyrna, Florida**  
May 17-June 4, 2016

### **Banff Centre International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music** directed by Vijay Iyer

Funded by a TD Bank Scholarship

**Banff, AB**  
August, 2015

## RECENT and UPCOMING LECTURES, CONFERENCE PAPERS & POSTERS :

### **Music in New Technologies Conference**

Performance of augmented reality work *Hidden Motive*

**Halifax, NS**  
November 17, 2018

### **Guitar Foundation of America Conference 2018**

Exploring neuroplasticity, bimanual control and interhemispheric inhibition in classical guitarists

**Louisville, KY**  
June 18-23, 2018

### **Material Cultures of Music Notation – Utrecht University**

Motor learning, perceptual patterns and guitar notation in augmented reality

**Utrecht, the Netherlands**  
April 20-22, 2018

### **Berklee College of Music - Presentation**

Graphic notation in virtual and augmented reality

**Boston, MA**  
December 7, 2017

### **Improvising Brain III - Georgia State University**

Exploring the role of auditory, visual and sensorimotor feedback in the execution of fine motor sequences in jazz guitar improvisation

**Atlanta, Georgia**  
February 26-28, 2017

## ARTICLES and PAPERS :

'The uniquely complex bimanual task of classical guitar performance: examining instrument-specific interhemispheric inhibition in guitarists.' Conference proceedings of IX Guitar Academic Symposium of EMBAP/UNESPAR ' Curitiba, Brazil, November 1-4, 2017. Published online in January, 2018.

'Perceptual and visuomotor feedforward patterns as an element of jazz guitar improvisation practice and pedagogy.' Conference proceedings. 'When the Guitar Electrifies!' IreMus, Philharmonie de Paris, June 23-24, 2016. To be published online in 2018.

'The scientific method book: the potential for interdisciplinary study in jazz guitar pedagogy.'  
*Just Jazz Guitar Magazine*. (87) May, 2016.

## RECENT & UPCOMING PERFORMANCES :

2018-19

New Music Edmonton (CAN)  
Splice Festival (USA)  
Sound Symposium (CAN)  
Something Else! Festival (CAN)  
BeAST FeAST Electroacoustic Music Festival (UK)  
Open Waters Experimental Music Festival (CAN)  
Nova Scotia Music Week (CAN)  
9th Academic Guitar Symposium of EMBAP (Brazil)  
North Country Electronic Music Festival (USA)  
NYC Electroacoustic Music Festival

2016-17

BeAST FeAST Electroacoustic Music Festival (UK)  
Women Composers' Festival of Hartford (USA)  
International Society for Improvised Music Conference (CAN)  
Halifax Jazz Festival Spring Series (CAN)  
The Burgess Foundation (UK)  
The Bluecoat (UK)  
Lebowski's, (Australia)  
MIC (Australia)  
UCSD (USA)  
The Center for New Music (USA)

## 2018-19 SELECTED COMPOSITION COMMISSIONS: and PERFORMANCES :

**PIVOT – Continuum Contemporary Ensemble**  
Premiere of new work (piano, bass clarinet, percussion)

**The Music Gallery, Toronto ON**  
March 31, 2019

**Choral Art Program: Pro Coro**  
Workshop and premiere of *Erratics* (chamber choir)

**Banff Centre, AB**  
February, 2019

**Winnipeg New Music Festival Composers' Institute**  
Premiere of *3 Portraits* (orchestra)

**Winnipeg, MB**  
January 28, 2019

**Open Waters: Current Visions – Symphony Nova Scotia**  
Premiere of *Entry Point* (orchestra)

**Halifax, NS**  
January 8, 2019

**Hidden Dome**  
Performance of *Scavenger* cycle by guitarist Libby Myers

**Brisbane, Australia**  
December 9, 2018

**IAWM Annual Concert – KIRKOS Ensemble**  
*gestures of recoil* (chamber trio)

**Dublin, Ireland**  
October 27, 2018

**SNIM (Spontaneous Network for Improvised Music)**  
*retribution/redistribution* (electric guitar duo)

**Vienna, Austria**  
October 19, 2018

**Ball State University - Concert**  
*lake strata* (chamber trio)

**Indiana, USA**  
October 17, 2018

**Electronic Music Midwest**  
*Intermountainous* (10-string guitar)

**Lewis University, Illinois**  
October 12, 2018

**MISE-EN Festival**  
*lake strata* (chamber trio)

**Brooklyn, USA**  
June 27-30, 2018

**Lidiya Yankovskya and the Refugee Orchestra**  
*gestures of recoil* (chamber trio)

**National Sawdust, Brooklyn, USA**  
June 12, 2018

**Videodanse Bourgogne**  
*Le Ballet de la Nuit: Entry of Shadows* (electroacoustic)

**Cerisy Castle, Normandy, France**  
May 17, 2018

**Caution Tape Sound Collective**  
*gestures of recoil* (piano, flute and cello)

**Array Space, Toronto, ON**  
March 24, 2018

**Interactive Traces - Open Circuit Festival**  
*Hidden Motive* (VR graphic score)

**University of Liverpool, UK**  
March 13, 2018

## **RECORDINGS :**

*Scavenger* (2016)

Nominated for Music Nova Scotia 'Classical Recording of the Year 2016' and East Coast Music Awards 'Classical Composition of the Year 2017' and 'Instrumental Recording of the Year' 2018.

## **SELECTED MEDIA & REVIEWS :**

**Stuart Broomer**, The WholeNote – *Scavenger* CD Review

April, 2017

"... a model of classical guitar clarity ... lyricism and triadic harmony that can suggest idiomatic composers like Villa-Lobos and Rodrigo ..."

**Alan Fark**, minorseventh.com – *Scavenger* CD Review

March, 2017

"Otherworldly and meditative ... one wonders whether geography of the coastal North Atlantic may have influenced Brandon in her creative orchestration of this clashing of bleakness with beauty ... [her] compositions succeed, as all excellent music does, in conjuring a palpable and astonishing mood."

**Miles Okazaki**, Jazz guitarist and composer

Fall, 2016

"... a wondrous and mysterious landscape. The constantly shifting interplay of delicate guitar work and electronic washes is an intricate dance of ancient and futuristic sounds. [Her] technique is an understated kind of virtuosity, with an emotional weight to it that serves to draw the listener in to her world ..."

**Nick Storrington**, Musicworks Magazine #125 - Concert Review

Spring, 2016

" .. mesmerizing nylon-string guitar work. Anchored by a droning backdrop of stretched and scrambled guitar sounds, she traced rapid, tangling trajectories in a performance that was one of the festival's highlights."

**TEACHING & WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE :**

**Dalhousie University**

Certificate in University Teaching and Learning

**Halifax, NS**

September, 2017 -

**Sound Symposium**

Workshop – VR in Music Performance and Improvisation

**St. John's, NFLD**

July, 2018

**Halifax Jazz Festival**

Public Lecture: Exploring Improvisation and Composition

**Sackville Public Library, Halifax, NS**

April 3, 2016

**Carleton University**

Co-Director, Carleton University Contemporary Guitar Ensemble

**Ottawa, ON**

September, 2014-April, 2015

**Acadia University**

Jazz guitar workshop with Mike Rud

**Wolfville, NS**

2011

**Private Teaching Studio**

Private guitar and bass instructor

**Ottawa, ON, Halifax & Truro, NS**

2005 -

- 30+ students per term
- Royal Conservatory of Music - Gold Medal award winners – classical guitar (2017, 2015)