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ERIC GOULD

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Biography



Eric Gould has enjoyed a multifaceted career as a pianist, composer, arranger, and educator. He has performed and recorded in collaboration with world-renowned instrumentalists such as Jimmy Heath, Ron Carter, James Newton, Bobby Watson, Antonio Hart, Winard Harper, Cindy Blackman, Terri Lynne Carrington, Cecil Bridgewater, Robin Eubanks, and Leon Lee Dorsey in addition to leading his own trio in performances from the Midwest to the East Coast. His debut CD, "On the Real", rose to number 11 on the national jazz radio charts in the first quarter of 1999. His second CD, "Miles Away... Wayne in Heavy" rose to number 10 on the national charts and to number 45 (out of over 2500 releases) for the year 2000 His third CD, "Who Sez?" sold well from coast to coast, and appeared on radio playlists nationally.

Gould has composed music for various other ensembles as well. "The Fire Within", a piano quintet, was commissioned by Chamber Music Wilmington in 2014. "Bohemia After Dark," his concert of arrangements of the music of Oscar Pettiford featuring legendary Ron Carter along with an all-star octet premiered at Tribeca Performing Arts Center in Manhattan in 2006, and was reprised in an expanded form to include the Berklee World Strings for a concert at the Berklee Performance Center in October 2010. "Diaspora of the Drum," his 30-minute work for chamber orchestra, jazz ensemble, and tap dancer was premiered in April, 2008 by Savion Glover with the Grammy-Award winning Cleveland Chamber Symphony at Playhouse Square. The Canton Symphony Commissioned his work for orchestra entitled "An American City" through the National Endowment for the Arts on the occasion of the bicentennial of Canton, Ohio in 2005. "Dameron's Dance: A Tribute to Tadd Dameron," a concert of octet arrangements of the music of Tadd Dameron featuring the legendary NEA Jazz Master Jimmy Heath premiered at Tri-C JazzFest in 2004. The Cleveland Chamber Symphony premiered his piece "Midnight Excursion" in 2003. In 1996 his piece for string quartet entitled "He Speaks in Shadows" was performed by the critically acclaimed Cavani String Quartet at Merkin Concert Hall in New York, at the Chamber Music America Festival in New York, and at the Britt Music Festival. His arrangement of the same piece for jazz quintet and orchestra was commissioned by the Canton Symphony Orchestra for a performance that took place in March, 2001. He received a Music Composition Fellowship award from the Ohio Arts Council in 2004. He was awarded a Meet the Composer Grant from Arts Midwest in 1994, and was first selected as a member of their touring roster in 1985. He has also been a recipient of an Ohio Arts Council Individual Artists Fellowship for Composition.

As an educator, Gould is currently a Professor in the Piano Department at Berklee, where he formerly served as Chair of the Jazz Composition Department. Prior to that, he served as Director of the Department of Music for the Cleveland Music School Settlement, one of the oldest and largest community music schools in the country. He has also been on the faculty at Cleveland State University, and has taught at Oberlin Conservatory of Music, the College of Wooster, in addition to conducting numerous workshops, residencies, and classes, in addition to private instruction, festival organization, and arts management consultation. In his roles as Executive Director and Managing Consultant of the Excellence in Music Initiative in Cleveland, Ohio Gould played a substantial role in the development of the preparatory music program at Cuyahoga Community College.

His television credits include the 1984 PBS series entitled "North Coast Jazz," which featured his duo "Umoja," and a 2000 BET series entitled JazzEd TV that featured his Tri-C JazzFest concert with Cecil Bridgewater. He is the co-producer and host of an educational television show for the Smithsonian Institution entitled "Duke Ellington: Beyond Category" that aired in November, 1999 to over 4 million viewers at schools across the country.

In 2000, Gould served as a consultant for the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz National Curriculum Project. Gould has served as an advisory panelist for the National Jazz Service Organization, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Cleveland Music School Settlement, the Society for Public Access Computing (in the early days of the internet), and the Cleveland Arts Initiative Task Force. He served as Co-Chair of the Jazz/Special Projects grants panel for the National Endowment of the Arts in 1994 and as an individual artist grants panelist for the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo in 1986 and 1987. He holds a Master of Music degree in Composition from Cleveland State University, where he studied with Edwin London, Rudolph Bubalo, P.Q. Phan, and Andrew Rindfleisch.

Eric Gould currently resides in Boston, Massachusetts, where he is active in composing, performing, teaching, recording, production, and arts management consultation. Beginning in 2007, he is listed in several editions of "Who's Who in