

# Luis Ramirez

Composer | Pianist | Conductor

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www.cutza.xyz

## 1. PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

### a. Academic Qualifications

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- 2018-Present Doctor in Philosophy (Composition). York University - Toronto, ON  
Advisor: Randolph Peters
- 2017 Master of Music (Composition). Brandon University - Brandon, MB  
Instructor: Patrick Carrabré
- 2016 Master of Music (Piano Performance). Brandon University - Brandon, MB  
Instructor: Alexander Tselyakov
- 2014 Bachelor of Music (Piano Performance). Brandon University - Brandon, MB  
Instructor: Alexander Tselyakov

### b. Professional Development

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- 2023 Board Member of GroundSwell, a new music organization in Winnipeg, MB
- 2023 JUNO Awards Judge for the *Classical Composition of the Year* Category
- 2022 Member of the Jury for the Associate Composer Application of the Ontario Region at the *Canadian Music Centre*
- 2021, 2022 Commissioned by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Toronto, ON
- 2021 Member of the Jury for the Manitoba Arts Council *Create (Music)* Program
- 2020 Selected as winner of the HPO Composer Fellowship Program. Hamilton, ON
- 2019 Duo526 Summer Intensive Sonata Seminar. Brandon, MB
- 2018 CMC Class Axe Guitar Workshop. Toronto, ON  
Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra Composers Institute. Winnipeg, MB
- 2017 Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra Composers Institute. Winnipeg, MB
- 2016 Tuckamore Chamber Music Festival. St. John's, NL  
International Keyboard Institute and Festival. New York, US  
Centric Music Festival. Lethbridge, AB
- 2015 Centric Music Festival. Lethbridge, AB
- 2014 Casalmaggiore International Chamber Music Festival. Casalmaggiore, Italy  
World Piano Conference for Teachers Association. Novi Sad, Serbia  
Centric Music Festival. Lethbridge, AB

## 2. WORK EXPERIENCE

### Positions

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- 2022-Present **Graduate Teaching Assistant**  
Keyboard Skills tutor for second-year *Theory II* course at York University
- 2021-2022 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**  
Course Director of first-year course *Composition Studio I*
- 2020-2021 **Graduate Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant**  
Technical support for online *Orchestra*, *Wind Symphony*, and *Digital Music I*
- 2019-2020 **Graduate Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant**  
Assistant conductor for York University's Wind Ensemble and Wind Symphony

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- 2018-2019 **Graduate Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant**  
Grading and teaching tutorials for *Workshop in Musicianship I* | Technical support for *Intro to Scoring for Films, Games, and Motion Media; Composing for Film*
- 2018-Present **Freelance Pianist**  
Performing around different venues as a soloist or chamber musician with tango quintet. Toronto, ON
- 2018-2019 **Graduate Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant**  
Grading and teaching tutorials for *Workshop in Musicianship I* | Technical support for *Intro to Scoring for Films, Games, and Motion Media; Composing for Film*.
- 2017-Present **Freelance Composer and Copyist**  
Working on several commissioned pieces and as a copyist for private clients
- 2017-2018 **Orchestra Conductor**  
Director and board member of the Brandon Community Orchestra. Brandon, MB
- 2014-2018 **Music Director**  
Choir conductor and pianist for Redeemer Lutheran Church. Brandon, MB
- 2012-2018 **Collaborative Pianist**  
Eckhardt-Gramatté Conservatory Chorale (2014-18), Suzuki Talent Education Program (2014-17), Brandon University music students (2012-18), Western Manitoba Youth Choir (2015-17), Steppin' Time Dance School (2015-18)
- 2017 **Art Gallery Administrator**  
Administrator at Wasagaming Community Arts. Documenting items for inventory, control of sales in the exhibition areas and gallery boutique, daily cash and point-of-sale reconciliation, managing the preparation of promotional materials, marketing materials, social media and website management. Onanole, MB
- 2016-2018 **Research Assistant**  
Web maintenance, development of research profiles, and general assistance to the director of the Institute for Research in Music and Community. Brandon, MB
- 2015-2017 **Sound Engineer Assistant**  
Technical assistance for the Brandon University New Music Festival. Brandon, MB
- 2012-2017 **Backstage Assistant and Equipment Manager**  
Recording manager, lighting operator, facilities inspector, and technical support for Brandon University. Brandon, MB
- 2014-2018 **Conservatory Teacher**  
Eckhardt-Gramatté Conservatory – Brandon, MB. Private Piano Instructor
- 2014-2016 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**  
Brandon University – Brandon, MB. Director of the New Music Ensemble

## 3. RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

### a. Publications

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Ramirez, Luis. "The Online Composer-Audience Collaboration." In *Innovation in Music: Future Opportunities*, edited by Russ Hepworth-Sawyer, Justin Paterson, and Rob Toulson. London, UK: Routledge & CRC Press, January 2021. <https://www.routledge.com/Innovation-in-Music-Future-Opportunities/Hepworth-Sawyer-Paterson-Toulson/p/book/9780367363352>.

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Ramirez, Luis. "Internet Culture and Music | Research Connection." Brandon University, 2018. <https://www.brandonu.ca/research-connection/rc-article/internet-culture-and-music/>.

Ramirez, Luis. "Thank You, Internet." Institute for Research in Music and Community (blog), 2018. <https://irmc.ca/2018/01/25/thank-you-internet/>.

## b. Conference Papers

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"The Humans and the Machine: Perceptual Differences Between Collective and Solo Performances." Unpublished, 2019. Invited to present at:

*July 2022*      2022 IASPM XXI conference in Daegu, South Korea.

"The Online Composer-Audience Collaboration." Published, 2021. Invited to present at:

*June 2021*      Congress 2021, during the Canadian University Music Society (MusCan) annual conference at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB. This paper received the George Proctor Prize for original research in musical scholarship.

*June 2021*      IASPM-Canada 2021: "Big Sounds from Small Places", organized by the International Association for the Study of Popular Music Canada at Cape Breton University, Sydney, NS.

*October 2020*      "Like, Share and Subscribe: YouTube, Music and Cyberculture Before and After the New Decade" organized by the Research Cluster in Music and Cyberculture (CysMus) of the Centre for the Study of Sociology and Aesthetics of Music (CESEM) in Lisbon, Portugal. October, 2020.

*Dec 2019*      Innovation in Music 2019 Conference, University of West London in London, UK.

*March 2019*      Carleton Music and Culture Symposium at Carleton University in Ottawa, ON.

*April 2019*      Research Gala: New Directions in Ethnomusicology and Musicology presented by the York University Music Program, Toronto, ON.

"The Evolution of Style in Manuel M. Ponce's Intermezzi." Unpublished, 2019. Presented at:

*April 2019*      American Musicological Society - New York State/St. Lawrence Chapter (NYSSL) conference. Kingston, ON.

"The Five Styles of Sergei Prokofiev's Piano Music." Unpublished, 2014. Invited to present during the 6<sup>th</sup> World Piano Conference in Novi Sad, Serbia.

Mexican Contemporary Music Piano Recital. Piano solo recital collaborating with the Center for Research and Musical Studies (CIEM) in Mexico City, premiering six works in 2013. Brandon, MB.

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"La Humanidad en la Música – un Acercamiento a la Música de Prokofiev" [Humanity in Music – an Approach to Prokofiev's Music]. Unpublished, 2012. Lecture Recitals in Aguascalientes, Mexico, funded by the FONCA Bursary for Studies Abroad in 2012.

## c. Recordings

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Luis Ramirez, "Singularity," January 2022, in Daniel Ramjattan's "Inspirations: New Music for Solo Guitar" album. <https://danielramjattan.bandcamp.com/album/inspirations-new-music-for-solo-guitar>

Luis Ramirez, "¿Viva?," January 2017, in Cuarteto Jose White's "Nuestra América 2013-2014" album. <https://open.spotify.com/track/4gcb1LiDoqjRSIxUYT9DFT?si=adc67a7aa41e401a>

## d. Published Scores

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Feb 2023	<i>Prompt</i> , for two saxophones and audio. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
Feb 2023	<i>Azure</i> , for viola and piano. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
Dec 2022	<i>Koatl</i> , for symphony orchestra. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
July 2022	<i>Singularity</i> , for guitar and electronics. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
June 2022	<i>Mi Piñata</i> , for symphony orchestra. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
May 2022	<i>Sola</i> , for tango quintet. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
May 2022	<i>Infierno</i> , for tango quintet. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
May 2022	<i>Espera</i> , for tango quintet. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
May 2022	<i>Choque</i> , for tango quintet. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
May 2022	<i>Asilo</i> , for tango quintet. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
May 2022	<i>Malicia</i> , for tango quintet. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
May 2022	<i>Insidia</i> , for tango quintet. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
May 2022	<i>Éxodo</i> , for tango quintet. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
May 2022	<i>Astenia</i> , for tango quintet. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
May 2022	<i>Zozobra</i> , for tango quintet. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
April 2022	<i>Infoxication</i> , for piano solo. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>
Feb 2022	<i>Chido</i> , for symphony orchestra. <a href="#">Published by the Canadian Music Centre.</a>

## e. Workshops

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2019-2021	Selected as winner of the HPO Composer Fellowship Program. In addition to writing a piece for the orchestra, this program included participation in workshops for managing the musical direction during a livestreamed performance, working with children within their educational outreach programs, performing and engaging with seniors as part of their teatime concerts, as well as multiple other workshops for learning the administrative behind-the-scenes management of an orchestra. Hamilton, ON.
June 2019	Duo526 Summer Intensive Sonata Seminar. Worked for two weeks on a chamber music workshop for Violin/Piano Classical sonatas. Brandon, MB.

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- 2018-2019 CMC Class Axe Guitar Workshop. In addition to writing a piece for guitar and electronics, this workshop included several sessions exploring how to write for guitar. This piece was premiered multiple times across Canada.
- Feb 2018 Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra Composers Institute. In addition to writing a piece for the orchestra, this program included several workshops about grant writing, rehearsal practices, score and parts preparation, and other industry-related lectures. Winnipeg, MB.

## 4. AWARDS

### a. Grants and Scholarships

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- 2020 **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)**  
Winner of the Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarship
- Ontario Arts Council**  
Recipient of the Music Creation Projects Grant with Amarras Tango Quintet
- 2019 **SOCAN Foundation**  
Travel Assistant Grant
- 2018 **York University Graduate Studies**  
Jacques Israelievitch Scholarship in Interdisciplinary Arts  
The Susan Crocker and John Hunkin Graduate Scholarship in the Fine Arts  
York University Graduate Scholarship  
York University Graduate Development Fund
- 2016 **Brandon University Graduate Studies**  
Dorothy Kitchen Scholarships  
Mary Smart Development Fund and School of Music Departmental Endowment  
Brandon University Students Union Travel Fund
- 2015 President's International Music Scholarship
- 2014 J.R.C. and Adelene Evans Graduate Music Scholarship In Piano  
Dorothy Kitchen Scholarships  
Brandon University Students Union Travel Fund  
Inducted into the Brandon University Honour Society  
Graduated with Greatest Distinction
- Brandon Festival of the Arts**  
Elizabeth Grant piano scholarship  
Kaye and G.R. Rowe memorial scholarship  
Western Manitoba Tudor bowl trophy
- 2013 **Brandon University Undergraduate Studies**  
Brandon University International Undergraduate Student Scholarships
- 2012 President's International Music Scholarship  
**National Endowment for the Arts and Culture (FONCA), Mexico**  
Bursary for Studies in A Foreign Country

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## b. Honours

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- 2022 **Morelia Orchestral Composition Competition**  
First Prize winner of the first iteration of this competition in Mexico
- 2022 **Toronto Symphony Orchestra**  
Selected as a NextGen Composer with a new commission by the TSO. Toronto, ON
- 2021 **Canadian University Music Society (MUSCAN) Annual Conference**  
Winner of the George Proctor Prize for original research
- 2019 **SOCAN Foundation**  
1<sup>st</sup> prize of the Sir Ernest MacMillan Award for *Chido*, for symphony orchestra  
\$2000
- 2018 **Canadian Music Centre Prairie Region Emerging Composers Competition**  
Winner and premiere of *Chido* with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
- 2017 **Brandon University Graduate Studies**  
Brandon University Gold Medal in the Master of Music for Highest GPA
- 2016 Dorothy Kitchen Scholarships  
Mary Smart Development Fund and School of Music Departmental Endowment  
Brandon University Students Union Travel Fund
- 2013 **Third International Composition Competition Nuestra América**  
First Mention award; premiere and recording of string quartet *¿Viva?* by the José White String Quartet  
Inducted into President's Honour Society

## 5. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### a. Composer

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- April 2023 **Performance** of *Koatl* with the Brandon University Symphony Orchestra conducted by Leanne Zacharias. Brandon, MB
- March 2023 **Performance** of *Immigration Suite*, arranged for the Brandon Chamber Players. Brandon, MB
- Dec 2022 **US Premiere** of *Mi Piñata* by the San Francisco Symphony conducted by Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser. San Francisco, US.
- Dec 2022 **Performance** of *Singularity* with Daniel Ramjattan. Ottawa, ON.
- Nov 2022 **Premiere** of *PROMPT* with Duo d'Entre Deux, commissioned by GroundSwell. Winnipeg, MB.
- Nov 2022 **Performance** of *Nanotrek no. 1*, with Strong Harbour String Quartet. St. Johns, NL.
- Sep 2022 **Performance** of *Mi Piñata* with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra conducted by Gustavo Gimeno. Toronto, ON.
- July 2022 **Premiere** of *Doomsurfer* with Luis Ramirez, commissioned by GroundSwell. Toronto, ON.
- June 2022 **Premiere** of *Koatl* with the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Gary Kulesha. Hamilton, ON.
- May 2022 **Premiere** of *Immigration Suite* with Luis Ramirez Quintet. Toronto, ON.
- April 2022 **Premiere** of *Mi Piñata* with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra conducted by Gustavo Gimeno. Toronto, ON.
- October 2020 **Premiere** of *Nanotrek no. 1*, with Strong Harbour String Quartet. St. Johns, NL.

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- August 2019 **Premiere** of *Azure* for viola and piano, commissioned by David Wilson for the AugustFest, Brandon, MB
- April 2019 **Premiere** of *Singularity* for guitar and audio as participant of the CMC Class Axe 2019. Toronto, Ottawa, ON. Montreal, QC. Vancouver, BC.
- Summer 2018 **Music producer and music director** for the Bell MTS five short documentaries, *In the Archives*, directed by Tom Mitchell
- January 2018 **Premiere** of *Chido* as winner of the CMC Prairie Region Emerging Composer Competition, with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra conducted by Alexander Mickelthwate, during the Winnipeg New Music Festival. Winnipeg, MB.
- 2017 **Premieres** of *The Internet*, *Adagio detestabile*, *Infoxication*, *My First Vlog*, *Coquette*, *Amigos*, and *kthxbye* during final graduation recital, Brandon, MB  
**Recording** of *¿Viva?* in the Album *Nuestra América 2013-2014* by string quartet "Cuarteto José White" as winner in the composition competition *Nuestra América*
- 2014-2016 **Guest artist/Composer** for the Centric Festival in Lethbridge, AB. Eight concerts performing as a soloist, in chamber music, and as composer
- 2014 **Premiere** of *Three Paraprosdokians*, for clarinet, violin, cello, and piano, commissioned by David Wilson for the AugustFest, Brandon, MB  
**Premiere** of *First Steps*, in Casalmaggiore, Italy, during the Contemporary International Music Exchange (CIME) at the Casalmaggiore Festival

## b. Performer

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- 2023 **Performer** with the Brandon Chamber Players, presenting the premiere of the clarinet arrangement of his *Immigration Suite*, Brandon, MB
- 2019-22 **Member** of professional Tango Quintet *Amarras*, Toronto, ON
- 2016 **Piano solo recitals** in Brandon, Winnipeg, Gimli, Saskatoon, and Rosetown as winner of MRMTA's Young Artists Tour Competition  
**Performer** during the Virtuosi Concert Series in Winnipeg, as part of their Young Artists Program+
- 2014 **Soloist** with the Brandon University Orchestra as winner of the Brandon University Concerto Competition. Brandon, MB  
**Performer** in several recitals during the International Casalmaggiore Music Festival. Casalmaggiore, Italy  
**Lecturer/Performer** on Prokofiev's music, as member of the World Piano Teacher's Association during the World Piano Conference. Novi Sad, Serbia
- 2013 **Performer** of Mexican contemporary music for piano in recital collaborating with the Center for Research and Musical Studies (CIEM) in Mexico. Brandon, MB
- 2012 **Soloist** with the Autonomous University of Aguascalientes Orchestra as winner of the concerto competition. Aguascalientes, Mexico

## c. Conductor

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- 2019 **Conductor** of the York University Wind Symphony during the final concert of the semester. Toronto, ON
- 2018 **Conductor** of the Brandon Community Orchestra during the final concert of the season, including two world premieres in the program. Brandon, MB
- 2015 **Conductor** of the Brandon University New Music Ensemble during the Brandon New Music Festival. Brandon, MB

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- 2014 **Conductor** of the Brandon University New Music Ensemble during the Winnipeg New Music Festival. Winnipeg, MB
- 2011 **Conductor** of community orchestra "Op. 1" in performance with *Grupo Morsa* during *Beatles Sinfónico* concert. Aguascalientes, Mexico

## 7. COMMUNITY SERVICE

### a. Adjudication

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- 2023 Board Member of GroundSwell, a new music organization in Winnipeg, MB
- 2023 JUNO Awards Judge for the *Classical Composition of the Year* Category
- 2022 Member of the Jury for the Associate Composer Application of the Ontario Region at the *Canadian Music Centre*
- 2021 Member of the Jury for the Manitoba Arts Council *Create (Music)* program

### b. Volunteering

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- 2016 Centric Music Festival. Lethbridge, AB
- 2015 Volunteer for Clear Lake Chamber Music Festival. Brandon, MB  
Centric Music Festival. Lethbridge, AB
- 2014 Volunteer for Clear Lake Chamber Music Festival. Brandon, MB  
Centric Music Festival. Lethbridge, AB
- 2013 Volunteer for Brandon Jazz Festival. Brandon, MB  
Volunteer for Clear Lake Chamber Music Festival. Brandon, MB

### c. Entrepreneurship

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- 2017 Benefit Concert for the victims of natural disasters in Mexico and Puerto Rico. Raised \$1188.77 dollars and donated them to the Mexican Red Cross and to *Iniciativa Comunitaria* in Puerto Rico. Brandon, MB
- 2013 Organized orchestra members of the Aguascalientes Symphony Orchestra to present a tribute concert to Dmitri Shostakovich featuring his chamber music. Aguascalientes, Mexico
- 2011 Gathered student musicians to create the community orchestra "Op. 1" and conducted them in performance with *Grupo Morsa* during *Beatles Sinfónico* concert. Aguascalientes, Mexico

## 7. LANGUAGES

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English: fluent

Spanish: native