

# Richard Davis

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## EDUCATION

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MCGILL UNIVERSITY, MONTREAL, QC, CANADA 2019–PRESENT

Master of Music, Composition, 2023–present  
Studying composition with Prof. Jean Lesage  
CGPA 4.0/4.0

Bachelor of Music, Composition, 2019–2023  
Bachelor of Arts, Minor Concentration Computer Science  
Studied composition with Prof. Sean Ferguson, viola performance with Prof. André Roy  
CGPA 3.95/4.0

WESTFORD ACADEMY, WESTFORD, MA 2015–2019

Diploma, High Honors

## EMPLOYMENT

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CONSULTANT, EMIT IMAGING, BOSTON, MA SUMMER 2023

Responsibilities included independently developing software solutions to analyze and repair sets of image data for pharmaceutical research purposes.

PRIVATE VIOLA INSTRUCTOR, WESTFORD, MA SUMMER 2019, 2022

Responsibilities included coordinating lesson times and instructing new viola students, both child and adult, in technical and musical sensibilities.

TEAM TUTOR, MCGILL UNIVERSITY, MONTREAL, QC, CANADA WINTER 2021

Responsibilities included helping students seeking assistance with material in MUTH 251 (Music Theory and Analysis 4, advanced tonal analysis), including aiding them with analyses, clarifying challenging concepts, and offering study and practice tips.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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Application to FRQSC ranked fourth of eight: 2024–2025 competition

Student Composer in Residence with McGill Vocal Studio: 2021–2022

Derek H Davis Entrance Scholarship: 2019–present

Eric Award in Music: 2022

Student Excellence Awards: 2022

Dean's Honour List: 2020, 2022

James McGill Scholarship: 2019

Eagle Scout: 2019

## COMPOSITION

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### SELECTED WORKS

- “Elissa” (2025): monodrama for soprano and string quartet, to be performed March 2025  
“The Widow” (2024): miniature opera for soprano and piano, performed August 2024  
“ōdī et amō” (2024): miniatures for viola, performed March 2024  
“Till This Moment” (2023): musical drama for voice and live electronics, performed and recorded April 2023  
“Variations on an Excerpt” (2022) for viola and live electronics, performed and recorded May 2022  
“fātō profugī” (2021): opera for soprano, tenor, and piano, performed and recorded March 2022  
“Divide” (2021): three movements for flute-clarinet duo, recorded December 2021, April 2022

## PERFORMANCE

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### SELECTED WORKS

- “Shards of Bengaluru Bill” (Alex Bridger) for small ensemble, performed January 2025  
“ōdī et amō” (Richard Davis) for singing violist, performed March 2024  
“Insides” (Florence Tremblay) for string quartet, performed February 2024  
“Arras” (Keiko Devaux) for chamber orchestra, performed February 2023  
“Amerika” (Chris Paul Harman) for chamber orchestra, performed December 2022  
“Vocalise and Fantasia for Viola” (Daniel Claxton) for solo viola, performed November 2022  
“Crooked and Uncanny” (Priam David) for chamber orchestra, performed April 2022  
“Flux” (George Lewis) for chamber orchestra, performed April 2022  
String Quartet No. 11, “Serioso” (Ludwig van Beethoven), performed December 2021  
“Wheel of Emptiness” (Jonathan Harvey) for chamber orchestra, performed November 2021  
“Rain Coming” (Tōru Takemitsu) for chamber orchestra, performed October 2021

### ENSEMBLES

- Off Topic Ensemble (co-founder), 2024–2025  
Quatuour Mémoire (guest), 2024  
Hawkesbury Symphony Orchestra, 2022  
McGill Contemporary Music Ensemble, 2021–2023  
McGill Symphony Orchestra, 2020–2023  
McGill Chamber Music, 2020–2021  
Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras, 2016–2019

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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### MCGILL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COMPOSERS

2019–2023

- President: 2022–2023  
Concert Committee Co-Chair, 2021–2022  
Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee Co-Chair, 2021–2022

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

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### OFF TOPIC ENSEMBLE

2024–PRESENT

Co-founded Off Topic Ensemble, a volunteer group of seven McGill composer-performers, for the purpose of furnishing young student composers with performance and mentorship opportunities. We have ongoing collaborations with four student composers.

## MASTER'S RESEARCH

2023–PRESENT

Carried out primary and secondary research to combine topic theory from the classical period and the doctrine of the affections from the Baroque to develop a musical style similar to the literary technique of stream of consciousness common to works of James Joyce.

## VOCALYPSE OPERA FROM SCRATCH

2024

Wrote the libretto and composed the music for the miniature opera “The Widow” for performance as part of Opera from Scratch. Participation entails a week-long intensive of workshopping the opera, preparing for a semi-staged performance, and lectures on facets of the opera tradition and production.

## SPECIAL PROJECT IN COMPOSITION

2022

Collaborated with violist Marilou Lepage on an independent research project to compose, create software for, perform, and record “Variations on an Excerpt,” a work for viola and surround-sound live electronics under the supervision of Profs. Sean Ferguson and André Roy.

## STUDENT COMPOSER IN RESIDENCE, MCGILL VOCAL STUDIO

2021–2022

Assembled and translated libretto from Classical Latin text for, composed, supervised rehearsals of, and organized recording session of operatic work “fātō profugī” in fulfillment of student composer in residence position with McGill’s vocal studio under the supervision of Profs. Sean Ferguson and Dominique Labelle.