

Larry Thomas Bell

Recognized by The Chicago Tribune as “a major talent,” composer Larry Bell has been awarded the Rome Prize, fellowships from the Guggenheim and Rockefeller Foundations, and the Charles Ives Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and grants from the American Music Center, the American Symphony Orchestra League, and Meet the Composer. He has been a resident composer at Bennington College, the Woodstock/Fringe Festival, the American Academy in Rome, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, the Bellagio Study and Conference Center, The Rivers School Conservatory, the Hartt School, and the MacDowell Colony.



Bell’s music has been widely performed in the United States and abroad by such orchestras and ensembles as the Atlanta Symphony, Seattle Symphony, RAI Orchestra of Rome, Juilliard Philharmonia, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, Ruse Philharmonia (Bulgaria), Civic Symphony Orchestra of Boston, Hopkins Symphony Orchestra, University of Miami Symphony, Boston Landmarks Orchestra, ÖENM (Salzburg Mozarteum), Boston Chamber Music Society, Speculum Musicae, St. Luke’s Chamber Ensemble, New York New Music Ensemble, Borromeo String Quartet, North/South Consonance, and Music Today (NYC), as well as at festivals in Ravinia, Aspen, Valencia (Spain), Pontino (Italy), San Salvador, Portugal (Animusic), Russia (Moscow Autumn), Ljubljana (Slovenia), Australia, New Zealand, Edinburg Fringe Festival (Scotland), Zagreb (Croatia), and the Boston Early Music Festival fringe concerts.

The Juilliard String Quartet premiered Bell’s first String Quartet, written when the composer was only twenty-one. Bell’s music has been commissioned and performed by a distinguished array of performers including Eric Bartlett, Joel Krosnick, Andres Diaz, Ayano Ninomiya, Sara Davis Buechner, D’Anna Fortunato, John Muratore, and conductors Jorge Mester, Gerard Schwarz, Gil Rose, and Benjamin Zander. He and his music have also been the subject of documentaries on National Public Radio’s “New Directions in Europe,” and Concertzender, Radio Amsterdam. Recordings of Bell’s works appear on North/South Recordings, Barking Dog Records, Vienna Modern Masters, New England Conservatory Recordings, Pont Neuf, and Albany Records.

As a pianist Bell performs his music regularly and has championed works by American composers. He has given recitals throughout the United States, as well as in Italy, Austria, and Japan. Bell is frequently heard on Boston’s WGBH-FM radio, has given their first live broadcast on the World Wide Web of his trio Mahler in Blue Light, and performed as soloist on CDs of his Piano Concerto and Piano Sonata and as an assisting artist on the recordings River of Ponds (the complete cello music), The Book of Moonlight (the complete violin music) and Larry Bell Vocal Music. Bell’s music is published by Casa Rustica Publication and Ione Press, a division of ECS Publishing. His work is licensed for performance through Broadcast Music, Inc (BMI).

Bell received his DMA from The Juilliard School, working in composition with Vincent Persichetti and Roger Sessions, in solfège with Renée Longy, piano with Joseph Bloch and with Joseph Rollino privately in Rome.

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