

TYLER WAYNE TAYLOR

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LONG BIO

Tyler W. Taylor was born in Louisville, Kentucky in 1992. He is currently pursuing his Doctor of Music in composition at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music with a minor in music theory and a secondary minor in horn performance. He studies composition with Aaron Travers, as well as horn with Jeff Nelsen and Dale Clevenger. He earned his MM from the Eastman School of Music where he studied composition with David Liptak and Bob Morris, and horn with W. Peter Kurau. He earned his BM from the University of Louisville where he studied composition with Steve Rouse and Krzysztof Wołek, and horn with Bruce Heim.

As a composer and aspiring contemporary chamber musician, Tyler finds the composer-performer experience to be the most inspiring. Most recently, he performed his horn concerto *Lake Music* with Orchestra Enigmatic in Louisville, Kentucky. He was also invited to perform in the premiere of his horn quartet “*some notes*” – a commission by the Allumer Horn Quartet of Louisiana. He has enjoyed similar experiences at summer festivals including the Bang on a Can Summer Festival, the Oregon Bach Composers Symposium, the Sewanee Summer Music Festival, and the Imani Winds Chamber Music Festival. Tyler has also honed his skill as a contemporary performer in groups such as the IU New Music Ensemble, Eastman’s Musica Nova, Ossia New Music, the University of Louisville New Music Ensemble, and more.

His latest performances include the premiere of his duo for horn and marimba *Dispositions*, commissioned by Jake Nelson; a duo for trombone and piano *Canned*, commissioned by Cole Bartels; and his master’s thesis *Liberation Compromise* for 17 players – winner of a 67th Annual BMI Student Composer Award and the 2016 Howard Hanson Ensemble Prize. Other notable performances include his sinfonietta *Encompass* – winner of the 2015 Howard Hanson Ensemble Prize – during the 2017 University of Louisville New Music Festival and his mixed sextet *Burlesque Suite* performed by members of the Talea Ensemble.

Tyler’s recent pieces are explorations of the different ways identity can be expressed in musical scenarios. Common among these pieces is a sense of contradiction – sometimes whimsical, sometimes alarming – that comes from the interaction of diverse musical layers. This expression of contradiction likely comes from his being a person of mixed race and feeling neither white nor black; being raised on hip hop and R&B while inheriting a European tradition of “classical art music” as his primary form of musical expression in spite of having little or no other cultural ties to Europe, and pursuing a career in a field that generally lacks representation of his demographic.