

James Aikman
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Ann Arbor, MI 48105

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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

- Post-Doctoral Fellow, University of Michigan (1996-99)
Informal studies with William Albright and Leslie Bassett
- Schweitzer Institute of Music, Summer 1995 Studies with Donald Erb,
and Gunther Schuller's Master Classes
- Netherlands Royal Conservatory, Fulbright Fellow in Music Composition, 1994
Studies with Louis Andriessen in Amsterdam
- D. Mus. - Indiana University, 1993 Music Composition.
Minors in Music Theory and Electronic Music
Studies with Frederick Fox (1985-92)
and Harvey Sollberger in composition;
Gary Wittlich and Gary Potter in music theory;
and Jeffrey Hass in electronic music
Assistant Director, New Music Ensemble, Claude Baker, Dir., 1989-1990.
- Aspen Center for Composition, Aspen Music School, Fellow, Summer 1989
Studies with William Bolcom, Earl Kim, Jacob Druckman & Earle Brown
- June in Buffalo, Summer 1989
Private lessons and master classes with Donald Erb
- M. Mus. - Indiana University, 1988 Music Composition.
Cognate Fields: Electronic Music and Conducting
Composition studies with Frederick Fox, Earle Brown, Hector Tosar,
Donald Erb; and conducting with Thomas Baldner
John Eaton's electronic music assistant
Leonard Bernstein's Master Class
- B. Mus. - Butler University, 1981 cum laude Composition / Music Theory
Studies with Michael Schelle (1979-81); Aaron Copland's Master Class

AWARDS AND HONORS

2001 - 2010 Who's Who in America

2002 - 2010 Who's Who in the World

1990-2010 American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP)

2000 International Society of Contemporary Music
ISCM/League of Composers, First Prize
National Award: Glossolalia for Chamber Ensemble, New York.

- 1998-99 University of Michigan School of Music Faculty Research Fund, Grant
University of Michigan Office of the Vice-President for Research, Grant
- 1996-99 Michigan Society of Fellows: Fellow in Music Composition
- 1995 G. Schirmer Young American Art Song Competition Winner
- 1995 Schweitzer Institute of Music: Fellow Summer 1995
- 1994 The United States J. William Fulbright Program: Fellow
- 1987-93 Indiana University
Dean's Awards for Orchestral and Chamber Music, Travel Grants
- 1990-92 Indiana University's Cole and Kate Porter Memorial Fellowship
- 1992 American Music Center: Margaret Fairbanks Jory Grant
- 1990-91 Indiana Arts Commission/National Endowment for the Arts
Master Artist Fellowship
- 1989 Aspen Fellowship
- 1989 American Music Center: Margaret Fairbanks Jory Grant
- 1988 Groupe de Musique Experimentale de Bourges, France; 1st Prize
- 1987 Carmichael Competition; 1st Prize, Classical Music Division

COMMISSIONS

- 2010-11 Work for Chorus and Chamber Orchestra, John Nelson
- 2008 Tempus Fugit for Orchestra: Plymouth Symphony Orchestra
- 2008 Postlude for Organ: Gregory Hamilton, Organist, Houston, Texas.
- 2003-2004 Thomas J. Beczkiewicz: Ania's Song for String Quartet, for String Orch.
- 2002 Alexander Kerr: Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano
- 2001 University of Michigan Symphony Band, H. Robert Reynolds: *Tempus Fugit*
- 1996 - 2000 Cathedral Arts/International Violin Competition of Indianapolis
- *Missa Jubilaeus* for Chorus and Organ
 - *Trio for Clarinet, Violin and Piano*
 - *Piano Quintet*
- 1994 Suzuki and Friends: *Sonata No. 2 for Violin and Piano*
- 1993 Pasadena: Young Musicians Orchestra/ Arts Commission: *Intrada*
- 1992 Contemporary Division/Indianapolis Museum of Art: *Concert Music*

TEACHING AFFILIATIONS

2010 San Miguel de Allende Chamber Music Festival Composition Head

The University of Michigan :1996-2003, 2007-08, 2011

- Advanced Orchestration (Winter Terms, 2001 - 2003)
 - Orchestration/Instrumentation (Fall Terms 2000, 2001, 2002)
 - Music Theory for Musical Theater Majors (2000 - 2003)
 - Analysis of 20th-Century Music (2001)
 - Private composition lessons, undergraduate and graduate composers (1997-2003)
 - Composition (class) for Music Majors (1008, 2000. 2003)
- Composition (class) for Non-Music Majors (1997, 1999, 2002)
- Seminar in Composition (1998, 2000:, 2008) undergrad. (1999) graduate
- Advanced Seminar in Electronic Music (1998)

The University of Michigan - Dearborn : 2004-2006

Department of Humanities

Introduction to Musical Masterpieces
Introduction to The History of Jazz
Introduction to World Music

Butler University: 1993, 1995-96 , 2008

Arthur Jordan College of Fine Arts/ School of Music

Department of Music Theory and Composition

Fall Semester, 2008 Composer-in-Residence and Professor of Composition
(Michael Schelle's sabbatical replacement)

- Director of the New Music Ensemble (1995-96)
- The full undergraduate music theory sequence: MT1, MT2, MT3, MT4 (1995-96)
- Private composition lessons for undergraduate and graduate composers (1995, 2008)
- Orchestration/Instrumentation (1995)
- The Elements of Music (1993)
- Introduction to Composition (1993, 2008)

Indiana University: 1987-1990 Associate Instructor of Composition

- Assistant Director of the New Music Ensemble (1989-90)
- Private Composition Lessons (1987-89)
- Orchestration/Instrumentation (1989)
- Seminar in Composition (1988)
- Notation (1988)
- Seminar in Composition (1987)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Distinguished Dissertation Committee,
University of Michigan (1996-99, 2002)
- Alternate; Music Faculty Council on Graduate Studies (1998, 99)

ARTICLES/ INTERVIEWS

- Interviews with Leslie Bassett & Donald Erb on Orchestration Pending Publication
- Interview: American Music Center's New Music Box (On-Line Magazine)
May 2002
 - Fanfare Magazine: Interview and Review, White Sunday Light
(Nov / Dec) 2000
 - The Career Guide for Creative and Unconventional People
A Book by Carol Eikleberry, Ph.D., 1999 Chapter 4, pp. 90-91
 - Book Review: Schwartz and Godfrey, *Music Since 1945*
College Music Symposium, Volume 35 1995

SELECTED PERFORMANCES (See also List of Works: First Public Performances)

VIOLIN CONCERTO Charles Wetherbee, Violin; St. Petersburg Symphony, Vladimir Lande, Conductor. Beleselsky-Belezersky Palace, St. Petersburg Russia June 21, 2009

Some Things I Love Seven Songs on Poems by Jimmy Carter. Lamont Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, Lawrence Golan, Conductor, Catherine Sailer, Choral Director. Newman Center for the Performing Arts, University of Denver May 18, 2009

Tempus Fugit Plymouth (MI) Symphony Nan Washburn, Cond. Nov. 8, 2008

House Music for Uncle Don: In Memoriam, Donald Erb
Lilly Hall, Butler University, Indianapolis Oct. 2, 2008
Various Songs David Newman, Baritone Indianapolis Coliseum 2007

Michigan Chamber Orchestra Kenneth Kiesler, Cond. Ania's Song
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Hill Auditorium 2006

New Music Ensemble David Dzubay, Conductor Tributes and Circles
Auer Hall, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music 2004

Alexander Kerr, Violin (Concertmaster, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Holland) *Lisa Leonard, Piano* *Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano*
• Cincinnati, Ohio • Bloomington, Indiana • Ann Arbor, Michigan 2002

Dawn Upshaw, Soprano and Gilbert Kalish, Piano Spring is Purple Jewelry

- U.S. and Canadian Tour, January, 2002
- OJAI Festival; Music Of the Americas, Los Angeles, California 2001
- Tanglewood 1999
- Carnegie Hall, New York and Wigmore Hall, London 1997

Ronen Ensemble - Rackham Auditorium, University of Michigan,
Ann Arbor 1999 *Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano*

Steven Stolen, Tenor, Composers' Chamber Orchestra, James Aikman, Conducting -
Four Wedding Songs, Trinity Church, Indianapolis 1998

Spokane Symphony, Gunther Schuller Conducting - (reading) Intrada
Sandpoint Festival, Spokane, Washington 1995

Hidetaro Suzuki, Violin Zeyda Ruga Suzuki, Piano -
 Sonata No. 2 for Violin and Piano
 Ruth Lilly Hall, DeHaan Fine Arts Center, Indianapolis 1994

Indiana University Symphony, D. Wiley - Intrada
 Musical Arts Center, Bloomington 1994

Pasadena Young Musicians Orchestra, C. Russell - Intrada (commission)
 Ambassador Auditorium, Pasadena, California 1993

Festivals International de Musique Experimentale -
 Palais Jacques Coeur, Bourges, France 1989, 1992

New World Symphony, J. Whitney - A Bottle of Notes and Some Voyages
 Lincoln Theatre, Miami Beach, ASOL American Repertoire Concerts 1991

Aspen Contemporary Players, James Aikman, Cond. - Aspen Music Festival 1989

Joshua Bell, Violin Deanna Aikman, Piano - Recital Hall, Indiana University 1989

St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, D. Loebel - A Bottle of Notes and Some Voyages
 New Music Project of the American Symphony Orchestra League 1989

Civic Orchestra of Chicago, M. Morgan - A Bottle of Notes and Some Voyages
 Orchestra Hall, Young American Composers' Readings 1989

Gaudeamus International Festival - de Ijsbreker, Amsterdam, Holland 1988

Joshua Bell, Violin Charles Webb, Piano (video "http://www.AikmanMusic.com")
 - WTIU/WFIU Studio 6, Indiana University 1987

<u>Published Compositions</u>	<u>Publisher/Date of Publication</u>
Violin Concerto: Lines in Motion	Non Sequitur Music, Washington (state), 2009
Tempus Fugit (for Orchestra)	Non Sequitur Music 2008
House Music for Uncle Don (in memoriam: Donald Erb)	Non Sequitur Music, 2008
Elegy for Viola	Non Sequitur Music, 2008
Postlude for Organ	Non Sequitur Music, 2008
Some Things I Love for Chorus and String Orchestra	Non Sequitur Music, 2007
Vertue	Non Sequitur Music, 2005.
A Sonnet on the Loss of Eurydice	Non Sequitur Music, 2005.
Tributes and Circles	Non Sequitur Music, 2004.
Ania's Song for String Orchestra	Non Sequitur Music, 2004.
Ania's Song for String Quartet	Non Sequitur Music, 2003.
Call and Response	Non Sequitur Music, 2002.
Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano	Non Sequitur Music, 2002.
Tempus Fugit for Symphony Band	Non Sequitur Music, 2001.
Missa Jubilaea for SATB Chorus and Organ	Non Sequitur Music, 2000.
Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano	Non Sequitur Music, 1999.

Wedding Songs for Voice and Chamber Orchestra Non Sequitur Music, 1998.
Sonatas No.1 and No. 2 for Violin and Piano Non Sequitur Music, 1997.
Piano Quintet Non Sequitur Music, 1997.
Fantasy for Violin and Electronic Tape Non Sequitur Music, 1997.
Etudes for Piano Non Sequitur Music, 1997.
Gig(ue) for Saxophone Quartet Non Sequitur Music, 1997.
Wedding Songs for Voice and Piano Non Sequitur Music, 1997.
Spring is purple jewelry G. Schirmer Inc., New York, 1996.
 G. Schirmer's New American Voices Series: The Art Song Collection
Step (String Orchestra or Quintet) Non Sequitur Music, 1993.
Intrada (Orchestra) Non Sequitur Music, 1993.
Concert Music for Strings Non Sequitur Music, 1993.
Due Movimenti J P Publications, Bloomington, 1992.
 Rights assigned to Non Sequitur Music, 2009
A Bottle of Notes and Some Voyages (Orchestra) Non Sequitur Music, 1991.

DISCOGRAPHY

Tremors From A Far Shore *Sonatas and Fantasy for Violin, Piano and Electronics*
 Joshua Bell, Alexander Kerr, Davis Brooks, et al Centaur Records, 2005

HyperMix (electronic music composed in collaboration with David Dzubay)
 CD Volume 7, Indiana University Trustees, 2004

Burton Tower Prelude and The Seventh Trumpet Toccata *Centaur, 2000.*
 Electronic Music from the University of Michigan Studios.

White Sunday Light Works by James Aikman
Piano Quintet, Trio, Sonata No. 2, Wedding Songs
 Made possible with the support of:
 The University of Michigan School of Music Faculty Research Fund
 The Office of the Vice-President for Research, University of Michigan.
 Cathedral Arts of Indianapolis Amazon.com *Cathedral Arts, 1999.*

Tragoidia/Komoidia
 (electronic music in collaboration with composer, Armando Tranquilino)
 Prize-Winning works of the 1988 International Competition of:
Groupe de Musique Experimentale de Bourges.
. Cultures Electroniques, 1988.

LIST OF WORKS: FIRST PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

SAXOPHONE CONCERTO

Taimur Sullivan, Alto Saxophone; St. Petersburg State Academic Symphony
 Vladimir Lande, Conductor Beleselsky-Belozersky Palace June 30, 2010

VIOLIN CONCERTO "Lines in Motion" (2008-2009)

Charles Wetherbee, Violin; National Gallery Orchestra, Vladimir Lande, Guest
 Conductor. The National Gallery Of Art's 64th American Music Festival.
 National Gallery of Art, Washington DC November 29, 2009

LIST OF WORKS: FIRST PUBLIC PERFORMANCES (continued)

Some Things I Love (2007) A song cycle on seven poems from the collection;
Always A Reckoning: by former President and Nobel Peace Prize recipient, Jimmy Carter,
for Solo Voices, Large Chorus and String Orchestra

Univ. of Denver's *Lamont Symphony Orchestra and Chorale, Men's & Women's Chorus*
Lawrence Golan, Music Director and Conductor Catherine Sailer, Choral Director
Newman Center for the Performing Arts, Denver, Colorado May 28, 2009

Tempus Fugit for Orchestra (2008) Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, Nan Harrison
Washburn, Conductor; Ward Presbyterian Church Northville, Michigan 11/ 8, 2008

House Music for Uncle Don (2008) pre-recorded media *in memoriam*, *Donald Erb*
Lilly Hall Butler University; Indianapolis, Indiana October 2, 2008

Postlude Gregory Hamilton, Organ Houston, Texas March 23, 2008

Ania's Song: A Pavane for Strings November 15, 2006
Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor, Michigan
University Chamber Orchestra, Kenneth Kiesler, Conductor

Tributes and Circles (2003-04) Indiana University New Music Ensemble, David
Dzubay, Conductor Musical Arts Center, Indiana University, Bloomington (2004)

Ania's Song for String Quartet (2003)
Indiana Historical Center, Indianapolis, 2003

Call and Response (2002) Gail Levinsky, Saxophone; Jackie Edwards Henry,
Piano Royal Welsh College, United Kingdom ;
2002 British Saxophone Society Conference.

Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano (2001) *Linton Chamber Series*
Alexander Kerr, Violin Lisa Leonard, Piano Cincinnati, OH Feb. 17, 2002

TEMPUS FUGIT (2000-2001)
University of Michigan Symphony Band, H. Robert Reynolds Conductor
Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor, MI - February 9, 2001

Missa Jubilaea (1999-2000) Chorus and Organ
Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys 20th-Century Festival
Christ Church Cathedral, Monument Circle, Indianapolis, IN - April 29, 2000

Trio (1999) Clarinet, Cello and Piano Ronen Ensemble
Contemporary Directions Concert, Ann Arbor, Michigan - April 17, 1999

Four Wedding Songs for Voice and Orchestra (1998)
Steven Stolen, Tenor Composers Orchestra, James Aikman, Cond Oct. 23, 1998

Burton Tower Prelude and Toccata (1997) Electronic Music
Contemporary Directions Concert, Ann Arbor, Michigan April 10, 1998

LIST OF WORKS: FIRST PUBLIC PERFORMANCES (continued)

Piano Quintet (1997) Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass, Piano
Suzuki and Friends, Ruth Lilly Hall, DeHaan Center, Indianapolis, 3/1/1998

"STEP" (1996) Butler University Symphonic Band, Clowes Hall, Indianapolis -
10/6/96

Migratory Song (1996) for Mezzo Soprano and Piano (premiere pending)

Four Wedding Songs (1995-96) Voice and Piano
Steven Stolen & Catherine Bringerud, Indianapolis Museum of Art, 3/3/1996

Second Sonata (1994) Violin & Piano
Hidetaro and Zeyda Ruga Suzuki, Ruth Lilly Hall, Indianapolis - 4/30/1995

Intrada (1993) Orchestra
Pasadena Young Musicians Orchestra
Ambassador Auditorium, Pasadena, California - May 18, 1993

Concert Music for Strings (1992-93) String Orchestra or String Quintet
Members of the Indiana University New Music Ensemble
Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA) - September 29, 1992
1993 Dean's Prize for Orchestral Music, Indiana University
1992 Margaret Fairbanks Jory Grant from the American Music Center

"STEP" (1992) String Orchestra or String Quintet
Indiana University New Music Ensemble, IMA - September 29, 1992

Glossolalia (1991) Soprano Saxophone, Violin, Piano, Cello, Percussion
Members of the Indiana University New Music Ensemble
Recital Hall, Bloomington - December 7, 1991
1992 Dean's Prize for Chamber Music, Indiana University
2000 International Society for Contemporary Music/League of Composers'
National Award: NEW YORK

HyPER MIX (1991) Electronic Music in collaboration with David Dzubay
Recital Hall, Bloomington. Indiana - July 25, 1991

Spring is purple jewelry (1990) Heidi Klein, Soprano James Aikman, Piano
Recital Hall, Bloomington, Indiana - December 7, 1991
G. Schirmer Young American Art Song Winner, 1995

Etudes for Piano (1989) James Aikman, Recital Hall, Bloomington, Indiana -
December 5, 1989

Prologue/Epilogue (1989) Flute, Clarinet, Violin, Cello, Piano, Percussion
Aspen Contemporary Players, J. Aikman, Conducting - August 2, 1989

LIST OF WORKS: FIRST PUBLIC PERFORMANCES (continued)

Fantasy for Violin and Electronic Tape (1989)

Lawrence Golan, Musical Arts Center, Bloomington - April 13, 1989

4th-Year Level Concentration (1989) *after Corelli's Folia*

in collaboration with Armando Tranquilino

Flute, Alto Saxophone, Bassoon, Conga, Cello, Double Bass, Harpsichord, Tape
Recital Hall, Bloomington, Indiana- April 13, 1989

Gig(ue) (1988) Indiana University Saxophone Quartet, Eugene Rouseau,
Director

Recital Hall, Bloomington, Indiana - October 18, 1988

Elegy (1988) Robert Peck, Cello ,

Midwest Composers' Symposium, Evanston, IL - November 11, 1988

A Bottle of Notes and Some Voyages (1987-1988) Orchestra

Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, David Loebel, Conductor - February 9, 1989

American Symphony Orchestra League New Music Project, Regional Tour

1989 Dean's Prize for Orchestral Music, Indiana University

Margaret Fairbanks Jory Copying Assistance Grant: AMERICAN MUSIC CENTER

Tragoidia/Komoidia (1987) in collaboration with Armando Tranquilino

Gaudeamus Festival, Amsterdam Holland - September 9, 1988

Groupe de Musique Experimentale de Bourges, France: 1st Prize 1988

Precipitando (1986) Electronic Music

The inaugural National SEAMUS Conference, Dartmouth College - 1987

Sonata (1986)

Mihaela Martin, Violin Deanna Aikman, Piano

Recital Hall, Bloomington, Indiana - September 6, 1986

First Prize: Classical Music Division, 1987 Carmichael Competition

Due Movimenti (formerly, "Quinella") *for Flute and Bassoon* (1985)

Sue McGinn, Flute Nancy Warren, Bassoon

Recital Hall, Indiana University; Bloomington, Indiana Fall, 1985

JAMES AIKMAN (born 1959, Indianapolis) [Career Profile](#)
[Narrative](#)

In addition to early piano lessons and a great public school music program, James Aikman credits his early experience in electronic music for helping him develop a strong sense for instrumental color that was a natural outgrowth of the rich palette of sounds discovered in the studio. Ironically, his first significant success was found in purely acoustic music.

Aikman's first *Sonata for Violin and Piano* was composed for the first laureate of the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, Mihaela Martin, who stayed with Aikman's family during the 1982 competition. It was during this time that Aikman met and became friends with the legendary violinist Josef Gingold, who co-founded the competition with Thomas Beczkiewicz. Aikman's sonata later won the 1987 Carmichael Competition and was performed, recorded and broadcast on regional public television and radio by violinist, Joshua Bell, and by pianist, Charles Webb, then Dean of The School of Music at Indiana University. Immediately thereafter, Aikman's electro-acoustic music collaboration with Armando Tranquilino, *Tragoidia/Komoidia* (1987), garnered first prize in the 1988 Groupe de Musique Experimentale de Bourges and was released on CD with support from the French Ministry of Culture. Aikman's first orchestral piece, *A Bottle of Notes and Some Voyages* (1988), took the Dean's Prize at Indiana University, was supported by an American Music Center Grant (1989), and was selected by John Corigliano and Michael Morgan for a reading in Orchestra Hall, Chicago. It was first performed in Miami Beach by the New World Symphony led by John Whitney during the American Symphony Orchestra League's American Repertoire Concert Series (1991). During 1990–1991, while a graduate student at Indiana University, James Aikman was named a Master Artist Fellow with support from the Indiana Arts Commission.

During his student years, Aikman was composing works that would later win national acclaim: *Spring is purple jewelry* (1990) won the 1995 G. Schirmer Young American Art Song Competition and was performed by multiple Grammy-Award winning vocalist Dawn Upshaw in her Carnegie Hall debut with pianist Gilbert Kalish in 1997; *Glossolalia* (1991) for chamber ensemble, was awarded the International Society for Contemporary Music's National Award, New York, 2000. After graduating from The School of Music at Indiana University with a Doctorate in Music (1993), James Aikman became a Fulbright Fellow in Music Composition (1993-1994) and traveled to Amsterdam, Holland where he was a private student and colleague of one of the world's foremost composers, Louis Andriessen, through the auspices of the Netherlands Royal Conservatory. In Amsterdam, he wrote his Second Sonata for Violin and Piano on commission for the 25th Anniversary of Cathedral Arts and the 15th Anniversary of Suzuki and Friends, premiered by Hidetaro and Zeyda Ruga Suzuki in Ruth Lilly Hall, Indianapolis.

Upon returning to the United States, James Aikman became a Fellow in Music Composition at the University of Michigan (1996-1999, Ann Arbor). During this time, Aikman completed music for his first solo CD, *White Sunday Light*, which was a compilation of works written during this fellowship and recorded by members of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. Aikman was concurrently named Composer-In-Residence with Cathedral Arts of Indianapolis (1996–2000).

Tragedy strikes in the midst of success, when Aikman's wife, pianist Deanna Aikman, was diagnosed with ALS, Lou Gehrig's Disease in August of 1997. Thus, with three young children (ages 7, 4, and 6 months at that time), James Aikman faced the challenge of a lifetime. Since then, he has simultaneously

raised wonderful children, continued to write music, lectured on various musical topics at The University of Michigan and Butler University, composed, conducted and produced music, all the while caring for, and overseeing the total care for, his former wife. (They divorced in 2009, to make possible the continuation of her care.)

Aikman *has* persevered . His work is recognized by Who's Who in America, Who's Who in the World, and continues to receive annual awards for its "unique prestige value" (1990 – 2009) from ASCAP (The American Society for Composers, Authors and Publishers). His career is ever blossoming: a recording of his works for violin, piano and electronics was released in 2005 on the Centaur label that has continued to receive internet and radio play in the U.S. and abroad. He has written a song cycle, *Some Things I Love* (2007), for Lyric Mezzo Soprano, Bass/Baritone, Chorus and String Orchestra based on seven poems by former President and Nobel Peace Laureate, Jimmy Carter, with President Carter's permission and support. *Some Things I Love* was first performed in May of 2009 by The Lamont Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, Lawrence Golan, Music Director and Conductor. Aikman's new *Violin Concerto: Lines in Motion* was performed and recorded by Charles Wetherbee, violin and the St. Petersburg Symphony, Vladimir Lande, conducting, in St. Petersburg during June of 2009. In November of 2009, the *Violin Concerto: Lines in Motion* received an exhilarating American premiere during the National Gallery of Art's 64th American Music Festival, performed by Mr. Wetherbee, violin, and the National Gallery Orchestra led by Mr. Lande in our nation's capital.

Aikman's drive to seriously study music and the art of its composition has brought him to many cities where he has studied privately, has worked in master class settings, or on panels with an astounding variety of notable musicians and composers of contemporary music: Michael Schelle, Earle Brown, Frederick Fox , Donald Erb, Claude Baker, John Eaton, Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, John Corigliano, Joan Tower, Steven Stucky, Milton Babbitt, Harvey Sollberger, Earl Kim, Bernard Rands, Jacob Druckman, Gunther Schuller, Louis Andriessen, Leslie Bassett, and William Bolcom.

As the conductor and oboist, Vladimir Lande, has stated: "James Aikman can trace his compositional lineage, via his teachers and grand teachers, through Beethoven, to J. S. Bach, and before! He is proud of that honor. His music, while genuinely influenced by the present, reflects this grand tradition of music making, and recalls the best in our musical heritage. The relationship between composer, musicians and audiences is *renewed* in his music. This combination of attributes is allowing him to write *true* music of the future."

James Aikman lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan with his three children.