

Marcus DeLoach | Composer Biography

Marcus DeLoach's multi-faceted international career as a soloist in opera, musical theater, and popular music inspires a dramatically expressive compositional style that finds its roots in a fusion of the classical tradition and contemporary musical theater vocal idioms.

His first opera, *Mooch the Messy*, based on the book by acclaimed children's author Marjorie Weinman Sharmat, was premiered at the Greenwood Music Festival, SC in 2010, with Metropolitan Opera tenor Keith Jameson in the title role. The opera has been subsequently produced by the Boston Conservatory and Tulsa Opera "Opera on Tour" outreach program, where it has played to over 30,000 school children.

In 2016 DeLoach was commissioned by Music Director Elizabeth Braden to write "Look Up Into the Heavens", an anthem for choir and organ, for the Chancel Choir of Wallingford Presbyterian Church, Wallingford, PA. His *a cappella* anthem "The Prayer of St. Francis" was commissioned in 2013 by the Director of Music Ministries Steve Newberry for the St. John's Chorale of The Church of St. John the Divine, Houston, TX.

While a student at Rice University, DeLoach wrote and produced *Three Capstan Shanties*, folk-song arrangements for three solo voices and harmonium. Additionally, in cooperation with The Kurt Weill Foundation for Music, DeLoach wrote new chamber orchestra arrangements for baritone of four of the composer's most popular songs – "Mack the Knife," "September Song," "Tchaikowsky," and "Johnny's Song."

In 2016, DeLoach completed a new song cycle *Four Robinson Songs* for baritone and piano and based on the poetry of Weldon Kees. His other classical songs include settings of the poetry of Derek Walcott, E. E. Cummings, Robert Bly, and James de Priest's "This Precipice Garden".

His other operatic projects have included authoring the libretto for Jeff Grace's one-act opera *The Train Ride* for American Opera Projects, and serving as stage director for the world premiere of Mark Volker's opera *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* for the Young Opera Company of New England.

DeLoach holds a B.M. and M.M. from The Juilliard School and a D.M.A. from Rice University's Shepherd School of Music where he studied composition with Dr. Karim Al-Zand. Current compositional projects include an original one-act opera, a children's opera, and a song cycle based on the poetry of Robert Bly.

Marcus DeLoach | Compositions

SONGS and CYLCES

Five Poems of Robert Bly for medium voice and piano (2017)

1. When we are in love
2. Two Middle-aged Lovers
3. After Working
4. Snowbanks North of the House
5. I Live My Life (translated from Rilke)

Four Robinson Songs (Weldon Kees) (cycle) for baritone and piano (2015)

1. Robinson
2. Robinson at Home
3. Aspects of Robinson
4. Relating to Robinson

Youth (W. S. Merwin) for baritone, solo voices (S.A.), and piano (2012)

Songs of Marcus DeLoach for solo voice and piano (2010)

- Love After Love (Derek Walcott)
- Star (Derek Walcott)
- This Precipice Garden (cycle) (James DePriest)
 1. Beyond Me
 2. Eclipsed World
 3. Perhaps This Is All There Is
 4. I Should Have Been
- Religious Leanings (e. e. cummings)
- After Working (Robert Bly)
- I Have Just Seen (Angelina Weld Grimké)
- Oh My God (Billy Collins)
- The Moron (anonymous)

Ave Maria Virgo Serena for voice and piano (2009)

CHORAL

Look Up Into the Heavens SSATB and organ (2016)

The Prayer of St. Francis SSAATTBB (2013)

Auf Flügeln des Gesanges arr. for voices, violin, and piano (2013)

OPERA

Mooch the Messy: An Opera for Children (2010)
for tenor, baritone, child, and piano
(also available in a chamber arrangement)

PARODIES

Christmas Camel (2013)

Vergeblisches Mess (1997)

ARRANGEMENTS

Dakotaland arr. for tenor and voices (2015)

Four Kurt Weill Popular Songs arr. for soloist and chamber orchestra (2011)

1. Ballad of Mack the Knife *from Threepenny Opera* (Kurt Weill/ Marc Blitzstein)
2. September Song *from Knickerbocker Holiday* (Kurt Weill)
3. Tchaikovsky *from Lady in the Dark* (Kurt Weill)
4. Johnny's Song *from Johnny Johnson* (Kurt Weill/ Marc Blitzstein)

Three Capstan Shanties arr. for male trio and harmonium (2011)

1. The Drunken Sailor
2. Shenandoah
3. Can't You Dance the Polka

The Streets of Laredo arr. for voice and piano (2005)

Ev'ry Time I Feel The Spirit arr. for voice and piano (2005)

Marcus DeLoach | Headshot

