

DOUGLAS J. CUOMO



Composer Brochure

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CHRONOLOGY

1958	Born in Tucson, AZ
1976	Began professional music career, touring the US with a Las Vegas show band.
1991	"Atomic Opera", Cuomo's first major stage work, premieres at Ohio Theatre, NYC.
1993	Composed theme and score to NBC's "Homicide: Life on the Street".
1998	Composed theme and score to HBO's "Sex and the City".
2002	Composed theme and incidental music for PBS's "Now with Bill Moyers".
2004	"You Are Only An Instrument" debuts at The Joyce Theatre in New York City.
2007	"Kyrie" premieres with Chanticleer, recorded on the album "And On Earth, Peace: A Chanticleer Mass".
2008	"Arjuna's Dilemma" premieres at Brooklyn Academy of Music's Next Wave Festival. "Fortune", for children's chorus and soloist, debuts with Young People's Chorus of New York. "Only Breath", for solo cello and electronics, debuts with Maya Beiser and is toured on her program "Provenance".
2009	"A Far Playground", for viola or cello and piano, premieres at New York City's Merkin Concert Hall.
2010	"Black Diamond Express Train to Hell" debuts with American Composers Orchestra, featuring Maya Beiser, conducted by George Manahan. Violinist Shem Guibbory and percussionist Rex Benincasa debut "Slowly She Turns" in New York City.
2013	"Doubt", a chamber opera based on the play by John Patrick Shanley who also wrote the libretto, debuts at Minnesota Opera conducted by Christopher Franklin and directed by Kevin Newbury.

Stage Works

Chamber Opera

Arjuna's Dilemma

Chamber opera in one act (2008)

Libretto by the composer after scenes from the Bhagavad Gita and poems by Kabir

Translations by Ramananda Prasad

(English, Sanskrit)

Commissioned, developed, and produced by Music‐Theatre Group

I Alap - II Prologue - Gathering Forces - III Dilemma - IV My limbs fail, my mouth becomes dry - V The Answer - VI Interlude: A Clear White Light - VII The Vision - VIII Epilog

Indian vocalist - tenor - four female voices

1(pic, afl).0.1(bcl).tsax.0-0.0.0.0-2perc(I: glsp, xyl, crot, tri, finger cym, sus cym, tam-t, s.d, tamb, chimes, metal percussion array, various small metal color instruments, dumbek; II: 2timp, crot, tri, finger cym, sus cym, sus China cym, s.d, tamb, tom-t, b.d, mark tree, clav, wdbl, marac, metal chain in metal mixing bowl, various small metal color instruments).tablas-pno-2vn.va.vc.db

70' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: August 22, 2008 · Purchase, NY (USA)

PepsiCo Theater

Conductor: Alan Johnson

Original staging: Robin Guarino · Costumes: Gabriel Berry · Set design: Donald Eastman

Organizer: Music-Theatre Group

(scenic)

Savage Winter

for tenor (amplified), trumpet (amplified, with improvisatory sections), piano (keyboards), electric guitar (with improvisatory sections), and electronics (2017)

Text based on poetry by Wilhem Müller, freely adapted by Douglas J. Cuomo

(English)

The Man · tenor

75' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: February 17, 2018 · Pittsburgh, PA (USA)

Pittsburgh Opera Headquarters

Eric Ferring, tenor · Conductor: Douglas J. Cuomo

Original staging: Jonathan Moore

Opera

Doubt

Opera in 2 acts (2012)

libretto by John Patrick Shanley, after his play and film

(English)

Commissioned by the Minnesota Opera

Father Flynn · baritone - Sister Aloysius · dramatic soprano - Mrs. Miller · mezzo-soprano - Sister James · mezzo-soprano

1(pic).1(ca).2(2.bcl).asax(tsax, barsax).1-2.1.1.1-timp.2perc(glsp, crot, xyl, vib, mar, sleigh bells, tri, sus cym, lg sus cym, h.h, cow bell, tam-t, tamb, bng, s.d, tom-t, b.d, brake d, chimes, guiro, ratchet, claves, wdbl, wind machine, mark tree, shaker, slapstick, tin cans)-pno(cel)-str

120' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: January 26, 2013 · St. Paul, MN (USA)

Ordway Center for Performing Arts

Conductor: Christopher Franklin

Original staging: Kevin Newbury · Costumes: Paul Carey · Set design: Robert Brill
(scenic)

Orchestra

Chamber Orchestra - Ensemble

Arjuna's Dilemma

Chamber opera in one act (2008)

Libretto by the composer after scenes from the Bhagavad Gita and poems by Kabir

Translations by Ramananda Prasad

(English, Sanskrit)

Commissioned, developed, and produced by Music‐Theatre Group

I Alap - II Prologue - Gathering Forces - III Dilemma - IV My limbs fail, my mouth becomes dry - V The Answer - VI Interlude: A Clear White Light - VII The Vision - VIII Epilog

Indian vocalist - tenor - four female voices

1(pic, afl).0.1(bcl).tsax.0-0.0.0.0-2perc(I: glsp, xyl, crot, tri, finger cym, sus cym, tam-t, s.d, tamb, chimes, metal percussion array, various small metal color instruments, dumbek; II: 2timp, crot, tri, finger cym, sus cym, sus China cym, s.d, tamb, tom-t, b.d, mark tree, clav, wdbl, marac, metal chain in metal mixing bowl, various small metal color instruments).tablas-pno-2vn.va.vc.db

70' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: August 22, 2008 · Purchase, NY (USA)

PepsiCo Theater

Conductor: Alan Johnson

Original staging: Robin Guarino · Costumes: Gabriel Berry · Set design: Donald Eastman

Organizer: Music-Theatre Group

(scenic)

Objects In Mirror

for chamber orchestra (2016)

Commissioned by Orchestra of the Swan for their 21st Anniversary season, generously supported by Arts Council England

I Elliptical Sewing Machine - II Ballad - III Squabble

fl.ob-tpt in C-hpd-solo vn-str

12' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: November 8, 2016 · Stratford-upon-Avon (UK)

Stratford ArtsHouse

Diane Clark, flute; Victoria Brawn, oboe; Hugh Davies, trumpet; David Le Page, violin · Conductor:

David Curtis · Orchestra of the Swan

Proverb

for percussion quartet (2023)

Commissioned by the Tippet Rise Art Center

15' "

Ordernumber: ED 30447

Premiere: September 2, 2023 · Fishtail, Montana (USA)

Tippet Rise Art Center

Sandbox Percussion

Solo Instruments with Orchestra or Ensemble

Violoncello

Black Diamond Express Train to Hell

concerto for cello and sampled sermon (2010)

Co-commissioned by the American Composers Orchestra and Orchestra of the Swan (UK)

1(pic).1.1.1-1.1.1.1.1-4timp.2perc(I. b.d, s.d, 2 tom-t, crash cym, sus cym, vib, glsp, xylo, mar, 3 brake drums, wind gong, tri, mark tree; II. b.d, s.d, 2 med sus cym, crash cym, chimes [F, A, D], tam-t, temple blocks, tri, mark tree, thundersheet)-hp-sampler-str

18' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: December 3, 2010 · New York, NY (USA)

Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall

Maya Beiser, cello; Douglas J. Cuomo, sampler · Conductor: George Manahan · American Composers Orchestra

Chamber Music

Baked

for percussion and saxophone quartet (2008)

based on the theme song from "NOW with Bill Moyers"

sopsax.altsax.tensax.barsax-1perc(timbales, cowbell, wdbl, cym)

3' 0"

Material on hire

Deliquescent

for solo cello with voice (2015)

16' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 30189 (Score)

Premiere: May 15, 2016 · New York, NY (USA)

The Cell

Ashley Bathgate, cello

Proverb

for percussion quartet (2023)

Commissioned by the Tippet Rise Art Center

15' "

Ordernumber: ED 30447

Premiere: September 2, 2023 · Fishtail, Montana (USA)

Tippet Rise Art Center

Sandbox Percussion

Seven Limbs

for guitar (acoustic and electric with effects) and string quartet (2021)

commissioned by Center for the Art of Performance, UCLA

70' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 30345 (Score and parts)

Premiere: February 5, 2021 · Los Angeles, CA (USA)

Royce Hall, UCLA

Nils Cline, guitar · Aizuri Quartet

Slowly She Turns

for violin and hand percussion (2010)

Commissioned by Shem Guibbory

7' "

Ordernumber: ED 30439 (Score (also performing score))

You Are Only An Instrument

for Indian slide guitar, bansuri, and tablas (2004)

Commissioned by the David Parsons Dance Company

5' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: June 10, 2004 · New York, NY (USA)

The Joyce Theatre

Debashish Bhattacharya, Indian slide guitar; Subhashish Bhattacharya, tablas; Steve Gorn, bansuri

Keyboard Instruments

Piano

Piano solo

Gift

for piano (2005)

3' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: October 17, 2005

Kathleen Supove, piano

Vocal Music

Choral music

Mixed Choir

Choral Suite from Arjuna's Dilemma

for SATB chorus, solo violin and piano (2008)

from Arjuna's Dilemma, a chamber opera in one act

(English, Sanskrit)

Commissioned, developed, and produced by Music-Theatre Group

I. Stop My Chariot - II. The Pleasures of the Kingdom - III. My Head Turns - IV. The Divine Eye - V. I Am the Letter "A" - VI. Did You Listen, Did You Hear? - VII. Karisye Vachanam Tava

14' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: August 22, 2008 · Purchase, NY (USA)

PepsiCo Theater

Conductor: Alan Johnson

Original staging: Robin Guarino · Costumes: Gabriel Berry · Set design: Donald Eastman

Organizer: Music-Theatre Group

(scenic)

August 22, 2008 · Purchase, NY (USA)

PepsiCo Theater

Conductor: Alan Johnson

Original staging: Robin Guarino · Costumes: Gabriel Barry · Set design: Donald Eastman

(scenic)

Kyrie

for SATB chorus or men's chorus (2007)

Commissioned by Chanticleer

7' 30"

Material on hire

Premiere: April 26, 2007 · New York, NY (USA)

Temple of Dendur at the Metropolitan Museum of Art

Oh Krishna

SATB from Arjuna's Dilemma (2009)

3' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 30030 (Choral score)

The Fate of His Ashes

A Requiem for Victims of Power (2016)

for SATB chorus and organ

text from the Epistle to the Reader of "Hydriotaphia" (1658) by Sir Thomas Browne

(English)

Commissioned by Seraphic Fire, Patrick Dupré Quigley, Artistic Director, in partnership with John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

10' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 31297 (Choral score)

Premiere: November 11, 2016 · Coral Gables, FL (USA)

First United Methodist Church

Nathan Laube, organ · Conductor: Patrick Dupré Quigley · Seraphic Fire

What You Can Do for the World

for double SATB chorus a cappella (2018)

choral score with piano reduction

(English)

Commissioned by Young Peoples Chorus of New York City, Artistic Director/Founder Francisco J. Núñez, for Radio Radiance

5' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 30185-01 (Piano score)

What You Can Do for the World

for double SATB chorus a cappella (2018)

(English)

Commissioned by Young Peoples Chorus of New York City, Artistic Director/Founder Francisco J. Núñez, for Radio Radiance

5' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 30185 (Choral score)

Premiere: November 3, 2018 · New York, NY (USA)

Merkin Hall

Young People's Chorus of New York City

Men's choir

Kyrie

for SATB chorus or men's chorus (2007)

Commissioned by Chanticleer

7' 30"

Material on hire

Premiere: April 26, 2007 · New York, NY (USA)

Temple of Dendur at the Metropolitan Museum of Art

Women's / Children's Choir

Fortune

for youth choir and soloist (2007)

commissioned by the Young People's Chorus of New York City

8' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: April 27, 2008 · New York, NY (USA)

Miller Theater

Conductor: Francisco Nuñez · Young People's Chorus of New York City

Symphonic vocal works

Solo Voice with Orchestra or Instruments

The Boy's Nature

from the opera Doubt (2012)

for mezzo-soprano and orchestra

libretto by John Patrick Shanley

(English)

Mrs. Miller · mezzo-soprano

1.1.2(2.bcl).asax.tsax.barsax.1-2.1.1.1-timp.2perc(vib, chimes, sus cym, b.d, s.d, mark tree)-pno-str

8' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: July 22, 2015 · Chicago, IL (USA)

Jay Pritzker Pavilion

The Grant Park Music Festival 2015

Annie Rosen, mezzo-soprano · Conductor: Ward Stare · Grant Park Orchestra

The Doubt Sermon

from the opera Doubt (2012)

for baritone and orchestra

libretto by John Patrick Shanley

(English)

Father Flynn · baritone

1(pic).1.2(2.bcl).asax.barsax.1-2.1.1.1-timp.2perc(chimes, tri, gslp, s.d, vib, sus cym, b.d)-pno-str

6' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: July 22, 2015 · Chicago, IL (USA)

Jay Pritzker Pavillion

The Grant Park Music Festival 2015

Anthony Clark Evans, baritone · Conductor: Ward Stare · Grant Park Orchestra

Choir with Orchestra or Instruments

Choral Suite from Arjuna's Dilemma

for SATB chorus, solo violin and piano (2008)

from Arjuna's Dilemma, a chamber opera in one act
(English, Sanskrit)

Commissioned, developed, and produced by Music-Theatre Group

I. Stop My Chariot - II. The Pleasures of the Kingdom - III. My Head Turns - IV. The Divine Eye - V. I
Am the Letter "A" - VI. Did You Listen, Did You Hear? - VII. Karisye Vachanam Tava

14' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: August 22, 2008 · Purchase, NY (USA)

PepsiCo Theater

Conductor: Alan Johnson

Original staging: Robin Guarino · Costumes: Gabriel Berry · Set design: Donald Eastman

Organizer: Music-Theatre Group
(scenic)

August 22, 2008 · Purchase, NY (USA)

PepsiCo Theater

Conductor: Alan Johnson

Original staging: Robin Guarino · Costumes: Gabriel Barry · Set design: Donald Eastman
(scenic)

Voice and Keyboard Instrument

Our Vision for the Future

for soprano and piano (2014)
(English)

Commissioned by Lyric Fest, Artistic Director Laura Ward

6' 0"

Material on hire

Premiere: March 28, 2014 · Bryn Mawr, PA (USA)

Bryn Mawr College, Goodhart Hall

Lyric Fest

Kiera Duffy, soprano; Laura Ward, piano

Silhouette

for soprano and piano (1991)

commissioned by Theatre T.W.E.E.D. and NeoLabos Dance Company as part of Atomic Opera

8' 30"

Material on hire

Premiere: October 25, 1991 · New York, NY (USA)

Ohio Theatre

Mia Kim, soprano; Mark Berman, piano

Sorry for Your Loss

for soprano and piano (2014)

(English)

Commissioned by Lyric Fest and John and Sandra Stouffer, American Women Poets in Song, March 2014

10' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 30137

Premiere: April 6, 2014 · New York, NY (USA)
Morgan Library and Museum
Christine Brewer, soprano

The Boy's Nature

from Doubt, an opera in two acts (2012)

(English)

8' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 30121

The Doubt Sermon

from Doubt, an opera in two acts (2012)

text by John Patrick Shanley

(English)

6' 0"

Ordernumber: ED 30120