

Devon Michael Russo

16 Mark Drive
North Kingstown, RI 02852

(401) 447-0171 ~ devonmrusso@gmail.com ~ www.devonrusso.com

Education

D.M.A [current]

Boston University

2018-21

Doctor of Musical Arts: Vocal Performance

Participated in classes across departments, ranging from Musicology with Joshua Rifkin, art song with Dr. Javier Arrebola, Baroque Chamber Music with Peter Sykes, productions with the Opera Institute, Masterclass with Tom Cipulo, guest lectures from Ēriks Ešņvalds, and vocal lessons from Penelope Bitzas.

M.M.

Manhattan School of Music

2013-15

Master of Music: Vocal Performance

Highlights include Handel's Samson directed by Benjamin Luxon and Kenneth Cooper, Mozart's Don Giovanni directed by Kenneth Merril, participation in the Chamber Choir and Choral Scholar with the Oratorio Society of New York both with Kent Tritle and many productions and out reach with the Opera Theater all while studying with Mark Oswald.

B.M.

University of Rhode Island

2008-13

Bachelor of Music: Vocal Performance

Bachelor of Music: Music Education

Participated in both music education and music performance classes. Major performance moments include the baritone solos in Orff's Carmina Burana, Vaughan Williams' Five Mystical Songs, and the title role in Gianni Schicchi. Studied with Mark Conley.

University Teaching Experience

Boston University

Boston, MA

Voice Department Graduate Assistant

September 2018-Current

- Taught Voice Class for a wide ranging student body from music majors of other instruments to non-majors interested in exploring voice for the first time. Gave students a introduction to proper singing posture, vocal technique, exercises, and performance opportunities.
- Taught non-major undergraduate voice lessons, participated and graded semester juries.

Providence College

Providence, RI

Voice Faculty Member

January 2018-Current

- Taught major and non-major voice lessons on wide ranging repertoire spanning the Western classical music tradition as well as popular praise music, jazz, and musical theatre. Participated and graded semester juries.
- Taught in masterclass setting for voice department
- Actively participated in the faculty concert series and performances.

Community College of Rhode Island

West Warwick, RI

Voice Faculty Member

January 2017-Current

- Taught major, minor and non-major voice lessons on repertoire focusing on the Western classical music tradition as well as jazz, and musical theatre. Participated and graded semester juries. Students continued on to full four year colleges and participated in RINATS competitions.
- Taught personal studio masterclasses, arraigned guest teachers in for masterclass, and coached students on their assigned opera roles.

University of Rhode Island

Kingston, RI

University Chorus Assistant Conductor

Spring 2018

- Assisted in preparing the ensemble for their semester concert. Conducted, added pedagogical insights, and ran sectionals during rehearsals. Acted as a vocal model for the bass section.

Other Teaching Experience

Rhode Island Philharmonic Music School

Providence, RI

Voice Faculty Member

January 2016-Current

- Taught students of all ages and skill levels in a community music setting. Students ranged from 8 year olds teaching private 'music lessons' where students focused on basic vocal technique and musical fundamentals, to advanced middle school and high school students auditioning for all-state choirs, solo and ensemble, and undergraduate degrees in music, and finally older students either returning to their musical lives or finding their musical footing for the first time.

South Shore Conservatory

Hingham, MA

Voice Faculty Member

January 2016-2018

Summer Vocal Institute Instructor

- Taught students of all ages and skill levels in a community music setting. Students ranged from 8 year olds teaching private 'music lessons' where students focused on basic vocal technique and musical fundamentals, to advanced middle school and high school students auditioning for all-state choirs, solo and ensemble, and undergraduate degrees in music, and finally older students either returning to their musical lives or finding their musical footing for the first time.
- Consistently performed as part of the Conservatory Series, and was featured many times during the summer festival concerts.
- During the Summer Vocal Institute would conduct, mentor and coach high school aged students.

North Kingstown School District

North Kingstown, RI

Music Career & Technical Education Board Member [CTE]

2015-Current

Vocal Coach for Departmental Musical Theatre Productions

Departmental Substitute

- Coached students on assigned roles in departmental productions. Including award winning productions of Les Misérables and Beauty and the Beast.
- Take part in planning meetings for the CTE program, organizing internships for future senior students, teaching masterclasses for participants.

Select Performances

OPERA ROLES

Drunken Poet/Hymen	<i>The Fairy-Queen</i>	Haymarket Opera Company Summer Opera	2019
Badger/Pastor (Cover)	<i>The Cunning Little Vixen</i>	Boston University Opera Institute	2019
Arbas	<i>Cadmus et Hermione</i>	Amherst Early Music Festival Opera Project	2018
Second Armored Man/ Papageno (Cover)	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>	Connecticut Lyric Opera	2017
Le Carnaval (Cover)	<i>La Carnaval de Venise</i>	Boston Early Music Festival	2017
Sam	<i>Trouble in Tahiti</i>	Nahant Music Festival	2016
Le Carnaval, Operatuer, Lycas, Les Escoliers	<i>Le Carnaval Mascarade</i>	Baroque Opera Workshop at Queen's College	2016
Dandini (Cover)	<i>La Cenerentola</i>	Opera in Williamsburg	2016
Tirenio	<i>Il Pastor Fido (Handel)</i>	Amherst Early Music Festival Opera Project	2015
Don Giovanni (Cover)	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Manhattan School of Music Accompanying Singers Seminar	2015
Oloferne	<i>La Giuditta</i>	Manhattan School of Music Baroque Aria Ensemble	2015
Farasmane	<i>Radamisto</i>	Manhattan Opera Studio Summer Festival	2014
Papageno	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>	Manhattan Opera Studio Summer Festival	2014
Manoah	<i>Samson</i>	Manhattan School of Music Baroque Aria Ensemble	2014
Sylvester	<i>Three Sisters Who Are Not Sisters</i>	Manhattan School of Music Opera Theater	2013
Samuel	<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i>	Opera Providence	2013

CONCERT & ORATORIO SOLOS

Bass Soloist	<i>Messiah</i>	Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra	2019
Jesus	<i>St. Mark Passion (Bach)</i>	Trinity Lutheran Church	2018
Bass Soloist (Understudy)	<i>Messiah</i>	Oratorio Society of New York	2016

Baritone Soloist	<i>In Terra Pax (Finzi)/ Fantasia on Christmas Carols</i>	Blacksburg Master Chorale	2016
Bass Soloist	<i>Paukenmesse</i>	Nashua Choral Society	2016
Baritone Soloist	<i>Requiem (Faure)</i>	St. Stephen's Church (Providence, RI)	2016
Bass Soloist	<i>Carmina Burana (No. 19)</i>	Boston Symphony Orchestra	2016
Elijah	<i>Elijah</i>	Masterworks Choral Summer Sing	2016
Bass Soloist	<i>Weihnachts-Oratorium</i>	Harvard pro Musica	2015
Argante	<i>Rinaldo</i>	Manhattan School of Music Baroque Aria Ensemble	2014

Training Programs and Ensemble Experience

Voces8 Choral Scholar Program	Young Artist Training Program	2019/20
Aspen Music Festival and School	Seraphic Fire Professional Choral Institute	2018
Connecticut Lyric Opera	Young Artist Training Program	2017/18
Boston Early Music Festival	Young Artist Training Program	2017
Brevitas Choir		2019
Oratorio Society of New York	Choral Scholar	2014/15
Quicksilver Baroque Orchestra: Schien Madrigals		2017
Boston Lyric Opera		2016/2019
Odyssey Opera of Boston		2015/18

Award and Scholarship

- Doctoral Assistanship Boston University
- Merit Scholarship Boston University
- Work Study Recipient Manhattan School of Music
- The American Prize in Voice Friedrich & Virginia Schorr Memorial Award (Art Song and Oratorio) Semifinalist 2016/17
- University of Rhode Island Concerto Competition Winner Year 2012-2013 [Nixon in John Adams' *Nixon in China*]
- Merit Scholarship University of Rhode Island
- NATS Artist Awards Competition Runner Up Rhode Island 2012

Professional Affiliations

- Associated Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA)
- National Association of Teachers of Singing [Home Chapter: Rhode Island] (NATS/RINATS)

Vocal Instructors: Penelope Bitzas, Mark Oswald, Mark Conley

Coaches: Christian Immler, Aaron Sheehan, Julianne Baird, Kenneth Merrill, Kenneth Cooper, David Mayfield, Michelle Beaton

Directors: Gilbert Blin, Antonio Fava, Drew Minter, Walker Lewis, Benjamin Luxon, Dona Vaughn, Richard Gammon, Nathaniel Merchant, Rene de la Garza

Conductors: Paul O'Dette, Stephen Stubbs, Kent Tritle, Adam Pearl, Kevin Mallon, Jorge Parodi, Marcello Cormio, David Angus, John Oliver

Masterclasses: Tom Cipullo, Jayne West, Kendra Colton, William Hite, Pamela Dellal

