

Joel A. Martin
Concert and Jazz Pianist/Composer



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PROJECTS FOR 2021

- Fall 2021 – Premiere of “HIOPERA” a fully integrated jazz ballet opera with the Dallas Black Dance Theater. Full HD recording will follow. HIOPERA was written in 2019 while on national tour with opera legend Kathleen Battle.
- Summer 2021 – Premiere of “Jazzical Komitas: Passion of Fire” tribute to Armenia’s greatest cultural figure Gomidas. The project will feature Jazzical interpretations of Komitas’ work featuring the Armenia State Symphony Orchestra, Armenian and American classical and jazz musicians, and Serj Tankian, leader singer of rock legend System Of A Down.
- Recording “Running 4 Your Life,” a 30-minute social justice work for orchestra and piano
- Recording “Life In The Age of Covid,” a 13 movement, 73 minute work for piano, orchestra, spoken word and jazz musicians. An epic work based on my recovery from Covid 19 written in April 2020.

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS 2017-2020

- December 8, 2020 – Featured guest artist for Hartford Seminary Virtual Concert for Peace
- September 6, 2020 – Featured artist for the American Mural Project concert with singer Theresa Thomason
- February 18-24, 2020 – HIOPERA Workshop with Dallas Black Dance Theater, Dallas TX

- Dec 6, 2019 – Featured performer for Komitas 150, a celebration of the anniversary of Komitas (Armenian composer/ethnomusicologist). Premiered 10-minute solo piano version of “Jazzical Komitas: Passion of Fire” at St Vartan Armenian Cathedral.
- November 21, 2019 – Featured performer for Toni Morrison’s Memorial at St John Divine Cathedral, NYC
- Nov 10-16, 2019 – “The Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey” – Pianist/arranger with Kathleen Battle at Notre Dame, IN
- Oct 12, 2019 – Featured Artist with live house music band Tortured Soul in NYC
- Oct 11, 2019 – Duo concert in Northampton MA with 4-time Grammy award-winning cellist Eugene Friesen of the Paul Winter Concert.
- Oct 3-10, 2019 – Featured artist for World Congress On Information Technology, Yerevan Armenia
- August 28-September 3, 2019 – West Tour with Tortured Soul (keyboardist)
- July 25, 2019 – Premiere Performance of commissioned work “Bennington Stomp” for Chorus and 4 pianos on the 50th Anniversary of Sonata Piano Camp, Bennington VT
- June 29, 2019 – HIOPERA World Premiere at the Darien Arts Center, Darien CT
- May 26, 2019 – Friesen and Martin cello/piano duo concert in Perth, Ontario, Canada
- April 4, 2019 – Performance of Joel’s 3 movement Jazzical Spirituals with the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, CT
- April 7, 2019 – The Sonicals Piano Duo performance for The Sanctuary Series in South Salem NY. Jazzical solo piano orchestration for 2 pianos.
- February 13-15, 2019 – Special guest performer for Clayton Piano Festival, Clayton NC
- January 20, 2019 – Special guest performer for Eurasian Music Festival, original Jazzical takes on Central Asian melodies
- Dec 16-20, 2018 – Special guest performer and composer/arranger for the Xmas concert of Tar River Swing Band, Raleigh NC
- Dec 15, 2018 – Friesen & Martin cello/piano duo concert in Bellows Falls, VT
- Nov 15-17, 2018 – Gala concert solo performer for Wilmington Music Festival
- October 25-26, 2018 – Featured performer for Kathleen Battle’s “The Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey” at University of CT Storrs

- Oct 2, 2018 – Duo recital of Kathleen Battle’s “The Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey,” Koerner Concert Hall – Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto CANADA
- September 17, 2018 – Featured performer for American Songbook Association Gala, New York City, NY
- September 10-16, 2018 – Kathleen Battle’s “The Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey,” Denver CO
- June 23-29, 2018 – Kathleen Battle’s “The Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey,” Dallas TX
- May 2018 – Three-week stint at the Triad Cabaret Club with Broadway actress/singer Lee Horwin
- April 9-16, 2018 – Kathleen Battle’s “The Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey,” Meany Hall, Seattle WA
- March 25-31, 2018 – Kathleen Battle’s “The Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey,” Northridge CA
- March 7-10, 2018 – Special guest performer and composer/arranger for the Xmas concert of Tar River Swing Band, Raleigh NC
- March 1, 2018 - Kathleen Battle’s “The Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey,” Kansas City, MO with the Metropolitan Opera UR Choir
- February 13, 2018 – Jazzical Solo Piano Gala Concert for the Music Hall, Tarrytown NY
- January 28, 2018 – “The Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey,” Kennedy Center, Washington DC, with the Metropolitan Opera UR Choir
- Nov 3-7, 2017 – Duo Recital with Kathleen Battle “The Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey,” Michigan Opera House, Detroit MI
- Oct 11-21, 2017 – Duo Concert tour in Osaka and Tokyo with Kathleen Battle

