

STEVE SWELL

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EDUCATION

State University of New York (SUNY Empire), New York, NY B.A. in Music	2016
Research Foundation, SUNY, Buffalo State College, New York State Office of Children and Family Services Certificate of Mandated Reporter Training: Identifying and Reporting Child Abuse and Maltreatment	2014
Columbia Teacher's College through Manhattan New Music Project training for District 75 students (special needs), NYC	2002-2005
Jersey City State Teacher's College (New Jersey City University), Jersey City, NJ	1974-1976

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Active recording and touring musician in jazz and new music specializing in improvising and composition	1975 – Present
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SELECTED RECORDINGS (as leader or co-leader):

<i>Imbued with Light: Hommage à Galina Ustvolskaya</i> – with Herb Robertson, Ben Stapp, Christopher Hoffman, Sara Schoenbeck, Robert Boston, Harris Eisenstadt (<i>Silkheart, Sweden</i>)	2024
<i>Space Cube Jazz</i> – Matt Shipp/Steve Swell Duo (<i>RogueArt, France</i>)	2024
<i>For the People of the Open Heart</i> – with Klaus Kugel, Mark Tokar (<i>FSR, Poland</i>)	2023
<i>For Jemeel: Fire From the Road</i> – with Jemeel Moondoc, William Parker and Hamid Drake (<i>RogueArt, France</i>)	2023
<i>We're Playing in Here?</i> – with Gebhard Ullmann (co-leader), Hilliard Greene and Barry Altschul (<i>NoBusiness, Lithuania</i>)	2022
<i>The Chicago Plan: For New Zealand</i> - with Gebhard Ullmann (co-leader, Fred Lonberg-Holm, Michael Zerang (<i>NotTwo, Poland</i>)	2022
<i>Systems For Total Immersion: Hommage à Luciano Berio</i> - with Marty Ehrlich, Sam Newsome, Ellen Christi, Jim Pugliese, Gerald Cleaver (<i>Silkheart, Sweden</i>)	2021
<i>The Center Will Hold</i> – featuring Andrew Cyrille, with Jason Hwang, Ariel Bart, Fred Lonberg-Holm, Robert Boston (<i>NotTwo, Poland</i>)	2020
<i>Astonishments</i> – with Leena Conquest, Jemeel Moondoc, Dave Burrell, William Parker, Gerald Cleaver (<i>RogueArt, France</i>)	2020
<i>Music for Six Musicians: Hommage à Olivier Messiaen</i> - with Robert Boston, Jason Hwang, Tomas Ulrich, Rob Brown, Jim Pugliese (<i>Silkheart, Sweden</i>)	2018
<i>Soul Travelers</i> - with Jemeel Moondoc, Dave Burrell, William Parker, Gerald Cleaver (<i>Rogue Art, France</i>)	2016
<i>Live in Copenhagen</i> - with Peter Brotzmann, Paal Nilssen-Love (<i>NotTwo, Poland</i>)	2016
<i>Kende Dreams</i> - with Rob Brown, Connie Crothers, William Parker, Chad Taylor (<i>Silkheart, Sweden</i>)	2015
<i>The Loneliness of the Long Distance Improviser</i> - Solo trombone recording	2015

- (Swell Records, NYC)
Kanreki: Reflection and Renewal - Double CD of various projects, compositions **2015**
 (NotTwo, Poland)
News? No News! - with Gebhard Ullmann (co leader), Barry Altschul, Hill Greene **2010**
 (Jazzwerkstatt, Germany)
Steve Swell's Nation Of We: The Business of Here - large ensemble compositions **2008**
 (Cadence Jazz Records, NY)
Swimming in a Galaxy of Goodwill and Sorrow - Jemeel Moondoc, William Parker, **2006**
 Hamid Drake (Rogue Art, France)
Slammin' the Infinite - with Sabir Mateen, Matt Heyner, Klaus Kugel **2005**
 (Cadence Jazz Records, NY)

SELECTED RECORDINGS (as featured artist):

- Lifetime Rebel** – Joelle Leandre with Myra Melfrd, Nicole Mitchell, Craig Taborn, Ingrid Laubrock, Joe Morris, Jason Hwang, Fred Lonberg Holm, Mat Manieri, Fred Moten (Rogue Art, France) **2024**
Soundpath – Muhal Richard Abrams and Bobby Zankel's Warriors of the Wonderful Sound, large ensemble (Clean Feed, Portugal) **2020**
More Music for a Free World – Dave Sewelson with Steve Swell, William Parker, Marvin "Bugalu" Smith (Mahakala Music) **2020**
So Perhaps – Paul Dunmall, Steve Swell, James Owston, Mark Sanders (FMR, UK) **2019**
Flower in a Stained-Glass Window/In the Blinking of an Ear - William Parker, 2CD Box Set with Annemarie Sandy, Daniel Carter, Eri Yamamoto (Centering Music) **2018**
Voices Fall from the Sky – William Parker, 3CD Box Set (AUM/Centering Music) **2017**
Double Arc - Ken Vandermark's Resonance Ensemble (NotTwo, Poland) **2016**
Enter the PlusTet - Taylor Ho Bynum's Ensemble (Firehouse 12, CT) **2016**
Turning Point - Dave Burrell's Civil War Project, Live Duo with Steve Swell **2013**
 (NoBusiness, Lithuania)
The Zookeeper's House - Jemeel Moondoc (Relative Pitch, NYC) **2013**
Essence of Ellington- Live in Milan- William Parker Orchestra featuring Kidd Jordan **2012**
 (Centering Music, NYC)
Burning Bridge - Jason Hwang's CMA commissioned composition **2011**
 (Innova Records, MN)
Matter-Anti-Matter - Rob Mazurek's Exploding Star Orchestra with Roscoe Mitchell **2009**
 (RogueArt, France)
All the Notes - Cecil Taylor documentary with Orchestra Humane (member) **2005**
 (Chris Felter Films, CA)

SELECTED PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Vision Festival, NYC** - with various ensembles as leader and sideman **1994-Present**
International tours, major European festivals, clubs, concerts **1985-Present**
 Kerava Festival, Finland; Saalfeden Festival, Austria; Willisau Festival, Switzerland;
 Sardinia Jazz Festival, Italy; Guimares Festival, Portugal; Tampere Festival, Finland;
 Banieulles Blue Festival, France; Son d'Hiver Festival, France
Festival au Desert - Mali, Africa - with Roswell Rudd **2004**
Montreal jazz Festival – with my ensemble **2003**
Performed on sound track for Paul Mazursky film "Faithful" **1996**

Performed/recorded as featured soloist in Anthony Braxton's "Trillium R" opera at John Jay College, NYC	1996
Performed for radio, TV jingles <i>Ford Motor Company, New York Yankees</i>	1990-1997
Performed and toured with the Buddy Rich Big Band	1983
Performed and toured with the Lionel Hampton Big Band	1982
Performed on Broadway in Bob Fosse's musical "Dancin'"	1981-1983
Toured with national companies of Broadway shows <i>Ain't Misbehavin', The Wiz, Chicago</i>	1977-1982

COMMISSIONS

Interpretations Series <i>Tale of Two Sandy Hooks</i> – music and text reflecting gun tragedies in the U.S. Personnel to be determined.	2021
Krakow Jazz Autumn Residency <i>Dances With Questions</i> - with Carlos Zingaro, Elisabeth Harnik, Paal Nilssen-Love, Mikolaj Trzaska, Gebhard Ullmann, Jon Rune Strom, Per-Ake Holmlander	2019
Interpretations Series <i>Leaf Peeping in Poland</i> - with Jason Kao Hwang, Chad Taylor, Larry Roland, Dave Sewelson, Deanna Reyleas, Tom Buckner, Patricia Parker	2017
The Houston Composers Salon Three original pieces for chamber improvisation ensemble	2017
Interpretations Series <i>Composite #8</i> - with Darius Jones, Omar Tamez, James Ilgenfritz, Jonathan Golove performed at Roulette, NYC	2012
Interpretations Series <i>Being Here: America is Not an Abstract Concept</i> - with Cooper-Moore, Rob Brown, William Parker, Leena Conquest, Tom Buckner, Chad Taylor, Matt LaVelle performed at Merkin Hall, NYC	2006
Elastic Arts Foundation Commission (Chicago) <i>One+One+One</i> - with Jeb Bishop and Guillermo Gregorio performed at Gallery 37, Chicago	2006
Vision Festival <i>The Implicate Order</i> - with Sound Vision Festival Orchestra performed at Knitting Factory, NYC	2001

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University Level Workshops University of Alberta (Edmonton, CA); Hochschule fur Musik und Tanz (Köln, DE); Hochschule fur Musik und Tanz (Hannover, DE); Washington University (St. Louis); University of Michigan (most recently October 2024); Tulane University; NYU Guitar Intensive (NYC); Graz Conservatory (Graz, Austria); Hochschule fur Musik (Dresden); New England Conservatory of Music (Boston); Guimares Festival Workshop (Portugal); Czech Jazz Workshop (Prague)	1990-Present
Music Teacher through Brooklyn Conservatory of Music Teaching artist residencies; Leading/instructing Jazz Ensemble at Middle School PS 686 in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn (2017), Group Brass lessons at: PS 89, PS 131 Brooklyn	2014-Present
Instructor at Leman Preparatory School Manhattan Teaching brass instruments (trumpet, trombone, French horn, baritone horn), conducts improvising workshops to band classes	2013-2018

Community Centers/Public School Workshops

Nameless Sound, Houston, Chinatown (NYC), Urban Institute of Contemporary Art (Cincinnati, OH)

1990-Present**Assistant to Professor Steven Feld, Ethnomusicology Department, NYU**

Collaborated on transcriptions of field recordings of the Bosavi tribe of New Guinea

2000

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

"Raw Materials"

Poem, page 71 of SUNY Metropolitan Review

2015*"silent solos - improvisers speak"*

Compilation of poems by musicians, (Buddy's Knife, Germany)

2010*"Intervals 2"*

Compilation of poems by musicians (Sysiphus Press and Beehive Press, NY)

2001

MEDIA AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

"Voices in the First Person II"

Interview conducted by William Parker, poem, photos, art work included (Centering Music/Aum Fidelity, U.S.)

2023*"Conversations II"*

Interview conducted by William Parker, poem included (RogueArt, France)

2016*"Outside Music, Inside Voices"*

Interview on spirituality in music by Garrison Fewell, poem included (Saturn Univ. Press)

2015*"Unlimited Musical Possibilities"*

Interview by Vic Schermer for All About Jazz

2014*"William Parker Sessionography"*

A work in progress by Rick Lopez (Cent 1011)

2014*"Makanda Ken McIntyre - Peace Thru Jazz"*

Bio-Discography of the saxophone legend by Derek Styles (Cadence Jazz Books)

2011*"Jazz 'Bones - The World of Jazz Trombone"*

Profiles of well-known trombonists researched and written by Kurt Dietrich (Advance Music, Germany)

2005

Many additional interviews written and video available at steveswell.com

AWARDS, GRANTS

City Artist Corps Grant (NYFA/DCLA)

2021

Creative Engagement Grant (Lower Manhattan Cultural Council)

2020

Top Ten Recordings 2020 *Astonishments* (Cadence Magazine)

2020

Jazz Road Grant (South Arts)

2019-2020

Nominated Trombonist of the Year, Jazz Journalists Association

2008, 2011, 2020

Selected in Downbeat Critics Poll, Trombone Category

2010-2018, 2020-2024

Trombonist of the Year (El Intruso Magazine, Argentina)	2008-2010, 2012, 2014-2021 & 2023
<i>Steve Swell's Music For Six Musicians: Hommage à Olivier Messiaen</i>	
Selected on NPRs list of Top 50 Albums of the Year	2018
Robert D. Bielecki Foundation Award	2015
Creative Curricula Grant (Lower Manhattan Cultural Council)	2014
Jubilation Foundation Fellowship Award, <i>Tides Foundation</i>	2008, 2012
MCAF Grant (Lower Manhattan Cultural Council)	2008, 2013
Foundation for Contemporary Arts Emergency Grant for tour support	2007
USAI Travel Grant	2006

MEMBERSHIPS - PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Cecil Taylor Foundation, Board Member	2018-Present
Robert D. Bielecki Foundation, Board Member	2014-Present
Arts for Art, Musicians Board Member	2015-Present