



James Hegarty, piano, keyboards, electronics

www.JimHegarty.com

www.NoiseReductionSociety.com

Artist Statement

James H. Hegarty is a jazz artist with a wide field of influences. His topics of interest include cultural and social diversity, the juxtaposition of contemporary topics with historical reference, and arts activism. Hegarty's colorful, dynamic, fluid, works in sound, video, theatre, and performance are inspired by literature and the arts, non-idiomatic improvisation, and contemporary cultures.

“My music is about communicating immediate ideas; it is a dialogue, a conversation in sound that expresses insight and human connection/interaction. My process involves open forms, idiomatic techniques, non-traditional scales and harmonies, melodic line, and rhythmic energy.”

Recent Performances

- The Sheldon Concert Hall
- Regular monthly performances at the Tavern of Fine Arts
- Foam
- Jacoby Arts Center
- St. Louis Art Museum
- Contemporary Art Museum St Louis
- Lemp Neighborhood Arts Center
- Three Sinks Gallery
- Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City
- EyeDrum gallery in Atlanta
- Performed with Douglas R. Ewart on the New Music Circle series

Recent Recordings

Cut it/out (solo piano) was recognized by Corey Hall at JazzReview.com as “*a very personal and original recording.*” Stef Gijssels of Free Jazz said, “*Nice album!*” and gave it three stars.

Leaving Venice was cited as an “*unassuming gem from an American artist with much to say. Unreservedly recommended...*” on the Ambient website AmbientMusicGuide.com.

Grants and Awards

- National Endowment for the Arts composer grant for composition and production of multimedia opera, “The Soul of the Rock.”
- Elgin Arts Commission grants for compositions and multimedia performances

St. Louis

- Active as an educator, performer, and arts administrator
- Panelist for Regional Arts Commission
- Founded the music technology program at St. Louis Community College at Forest Park
- Led numerous student jazz ensembles with performances in St. Louis and the Elmhurst Jazz Festival
- Board member and music chair of the New Music Circle avant-garde presenting organization

Chicago

- Premiere of “The Soul of the Rock” at Harold Washington Public Library
- Arrangements for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- Arrangements for the Chicago Pops Orchestra
- Numerous commercial productions and arrangements
- Founded “Gatherings,” a non-profit organization that presented experimental music in house concerts in Chicago
- Wrote, performed and produced jazz recordings with Cornelius Bumpus

New York

- Performances of “The Soul of the Rock” at Here Arts Center
- Installation of “The Lost Mansion of Sojourn” At Ward-Nasse Gallery

Background

Hegarty grew up in Chicago and did grad studies at the American Conservatory of Music and Northern Illinois University.

“During my time at the conservatory and later when I worked for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, I spent most of my lunch hours walking through the galleries and exploring the works of art at The Art Institute, directly across Michigan Avenue. As an assistant to the associate conductor, I attended hundreds of concerts, rehearsals and recording sessions. These artistic and musical experiences are as much a part of my training as the classes I attended.”