

Jessica J. Fogle

Songwriter/Pianist/Teacher

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Experience Highlights

Singer-Songwriter: Released 3 1/2 studio albums as a singer-songwriter, on iTunes and Bandcamp.com (as “Jessica Fogle” and “Jessica in The Rainbow”). Performing regularly in indie music venues in Chicago and West Michigan since 2005. Recent album “Catalysts” was nominated for “Best Album by a New Artist” and “Album of the Year” by the WYCE 88.1 Jammies awards in 2015, and was a finalist for “Best Jazz Album” (for its jazz-folk elements). Listed as one of the ‘Top 5 Acts to Catch at Lamp Light Music Festival’ in 2015. Awarded an Emerging Songwriter Residency with Crosshatch Center for Art & Ecology (formerly I.S.L.A.N.D.) Hill House in Northern Michigan. Songs published in “Paramanu Pentaquark” and featured in articles by Local Spins and Melolagnia. For more information, visit jessicaintherainbow.com

Composer for Film: Composed music for 10 original songs with Shakespeare lyrics for the feature movie-musical “Were the World Mine”, featuring Wendy Robie (Twin Peaks), Jill Larson (All My Children), Judy McLane (Mamma Mia, Broadway), Zelda Williams (daughter of Robin Williams) which swept the festival circuit in 2008 and won 15 awards, including “Best Music” at the Nashville Film Fest, and received glowing national press. Was ranked in the Top 100 films on Netflix for two years, and continues to screen regularly on the LOGO network. Album released through PS Classics (a Broadway Cast Recording record label).

Piano Teacher: Current owner of Jessica in The Rainbow Piano Studio, teaching 25 weekly piano and songwriting students in West Michigan. Also taught a full roster of students through ‘Piano Lessons In Your Home’ in Chicago (2006-12), as a highly-referred teacher, especially for ability to work with unique students (who need an intuitive, flexible, and encouraging teacher). Adaptable and creative, encourages personalized approaches to method-based lessons, which includes classical, folk, music theory/technique, YouTube transcriptions (including video game and anime underscoring), and pop/rock piano via lead sheets and chord theory. Former students have gone on to Interlochen High School and NYU for Music Business, in addition to releasing albums on iTunes. Hosts popular and fun yearly recitals for students, where all genres of music are encouraged.

Accompanist & Musical Director: Toured nationally as a pianist and music director for Child’s Play Touring Theatre, performing improvised piano and acting on stage daily for hundreds of kids and teachers, and teaching classes on creativity, songwriting, and general music. Performed piano & music directed/conducted in professional productions of over 15 musicals in New York City, Chicago, and the Midwest. Venues performed in include Theatre Building Chicago, Apple Tree Theatre (Chicago), Dominican University (Oak Forest), Wagon Wheel Theatre (Indiana), Lincoln Center’s Directors Lab, Dixon Place, HB Studios, AMAS Musical Theater Lab, John Housman Theater on 42nd Street, The Singers Forum, The Triad Theater, and City Center Encores Youth Program (NYC). Understudied as Music Director for “Hello Muddah, Hello Fadduh” on Off-Broadway. Served as Music Director for “Sex the Musical!” at Danny’s Skylight Room on Off-Off Broadway. Frequently conducted 6-10 piece orchestras while performing piano. Served as full time accompanist for Mona Shores High School (2012-15), which included daily advanced sight-reading skills and frequent performances, including a live filming by The Travel Channel during America’s Tallest Singing Christmas Tree. Accompanist for the Musical Theatre department each summer at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp (2012-15). Created the Create-A-Mini-Musical-Play Program (aka C.A.M.M.P), during which kids ages 7-16 create their own characters, stories, dialogue, movements, song lyrics, melodies, and perform in an original mini-musical. Performed and directed in additional educational settings, including Marymount School (NYC) and Gymboree Play & Music (Chicago), ages 6-months to 4 years. Began career at age 18 as music director/vocal coach/pianist/conductor with The Racine Youth Players in Racine, WI for kids ages 5-19, & performed in over a dozen musicals, garnering positive local press and an offer to take over the company.

Education

M.F.A. from New York University/Tisch School of the Arts in Musical Theatre Writing (2002). Collaborated with dozens of classmates, performed as vocalist/pianist during masterclasses and for staged readings, received weekly critique from industry professionals including William Finn (25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee), Mel Marvin (Tintypes), Sybille Pearson (Baby). Co-wrote the musical “Benjamin Starling” with Danny Pitt Stoller, which had a staged reading in NYC featuring Broadway actors such as Megan McGinnis (Belle, in Broadway’s Beauty in the Beast), and was later produced by Spirit of Broadway Theatre in Connecticut for a 4-week professional run.

B.A. in Music and Theatre from Lawrence University & Conservatory of Music (2000). Cum laude honors in course, and independent study for the directing and performing of final project: “The Believers” an original musical. Graduated with a double major (emphasis in Piano Performance & Dramatic Literature), in addition to an English minor. Hired as Teaching Assistant for Freshman and Sophomore level Music Theory classes, after excelling in the highest track of music theory courses offered. Recipient of 5-year high honors scholarship, and the IDEA Fellowship, providing a grant awarded to highly creative individuals, which funded a semester of study in the arts in London, England.