

GREG ZBACH

"There are so many beautiful stories to tell, but whatever the medium, word, picture or sound,
the art is In the Telling!"

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MY STORY SO FAR!

Greg Zbach - Life before Photography:

My first recollection of a fascination for the visual arts and music came in the late 50's, when I saw Disney's Fantasia at the beautiful Warner Theater. The combination of music, art and animation had a profound impact on the rest of my life, and it was clear I wanted more.

My interest in being on the stage side of entertainment, dates back to high school days, with running sound for Tech High School auditorium; College with radio, theater and TV, and DJ w/my equipment for a fraternity (Not an official frat); Amsco R&D picnics (DJ w/my equipment and committee) and ISS Picnics (DJ w/my equipment and committee chair).

At an early age I also recognized my love for electronics. In fact, I was experimenting with RTL logic circuits in the seventh grade (bought from the infamous Poly Packs – "U-test-em"). I designed and built a 4-transistor crystal microphone amplifier and a tube uhf receiver for police weather and fire frequencies. I also obtained a CB license and installed an antenna on my parent's roof.

During my high school years, the performing arts tugged at me, and I ran sound for the high school auditorium (stage crew) and hung around musician types. Through it all, I dreamt about composing.

The first two years of electrical engineering at Gannon College were brutal. I needed something for the right side of my brain to achieve balance in my life. I was already into music collecting, and this quickly got out of control. As an example, I was into Pink Floyd in 1968. I had an extensive album collection approaching 3,000 (from classical, folk, blues, rock, progressive, jazz and of course electronic), and don't even mention CD's! Continuing to seek balance, I helped in the proposal, building and running of WERG – Gannon radio. To help with the radio station I passed a test in Buffalo and obtained an FCC Radio Telephone Third Class Operator permit. If that wasn't enough, I was sound engineer for 39 Gannon theater productions; and a member of Alpha Psi Omega, an honorary dramatic fraternity. The bulk of my sound work was done with the old-fashioned tape splicing method. This was very tedious work. I remember using two reel-to-reel tape decks loosely synced together, to simulate quadraphonic sound effects in the theater. I received four awards for my theatre work: Erie Bravo Award for Musical Direction in Sound for 1973 and 1974; and Talisman Players: Technical Contribution in 1973 and Greatest Technical Contribution in 1974.

Erie City Council asked if the electrical engineering students could design and build a voting machine for council use during my junior year 1973. It needed to be relay based for ease of repair and I was the only engineer who could design a latching relay circuit. Our junior design beat out the seniors competing design. It is still used today.

As a sign of the times to come, my senior seminar was titled: "Electronic Music Synthesis". I actually used an Arp Odyssey for the synthesizer demonstration.

After graduating in 1974, I had three job offers on the table. The first was for a crystal engineer at Bliley. The second was a design engineering position with Smith Meter in their Research and Development department. And the last was an engineering position and a radio host for WQLN, a public broadcasting station. I went to Smith Meter for the salary and what was fascinating me at the time, electronics. I would eventually be affiliated with Bliley at Sunburst Electronics, where I currently work. But what would my life be like now if I chose WQLN?

Between 1974 and 1984, I spent the bulk of my time in electronic design, including hardware/software development with one of the first microprocessors; very high-tech at the time, and very exciting for me. My big corporate design was the Prepay/Postpay HK Cashcon console. In the evening, I also designed microcontrollers for a number of companies in town. The fascination for electronic music had a hand in my buying a high-tech digital music synthesizer for the Apple II computer, the Mountain Hardware Music System with Passport Designs Sound Chaser. I was very excited about this technology, but was not quite ready to delve into the difficult user interface. I designed and help build the Erie City Council voting machine in my junior year at Gannon. The design beat out the competing senior entry in 1973. The voting machine is still used today. For local businesses I designed a controller for a dry-cleaning machine, an X-Y micrometer interface with drivers and an Auto Sampler Temp Probe Selector Switch.

Again, I felt that tug from the other side of my brain, and started Studio Z in 1983, an electronic music production studio. Through Studio Z, I recorded many commercials, demo's, and concerts for local businesses and organizations; including Walter Hendl's music for the play "Dark of the Moon", and Erie's Bicentennial Fanfare. To get more involved with the community, I joined The Erie Civic Ballet in 1985, and became an Executive member of in 1987, where I fell in love with dance.

When MIDI was first introduced, I obtained a copy of the specification, and in a true engineering spirit, designed a hardware MIDI interface and a software music sequencer for the Apple II in 1984. About this time, a radical shift occurred, a complete change in my way of thinking and living; when I realized I wanted to use creative tools to compose, rather than design them (hardware/software).

With encouragement from a musician friend, I bought a MIDI synthesizer, drum machine, and a PC with DOS Cakewalk. In 1988, I composed a ten second radio spot for announcing Glass Growers Gallery come back after a fire, and was hooked. With no musical training, it took me six months to compose my first instrumental, appropriately named "The Awakening," and I haven't looked back since.

As for multimedia I designed professional websites and interactive CDROM's for my employer and a number of local organizations. I also created a number of videos, 3D animations with my music and a video suite based on music from my CD - "The Seasons" and my photography.

Over the years I composed music for a number of short 3D computer animations, and radio and TV commercials; including United Way, Glass Growers Gallery, Children's Piece Festival and the Arts Festival/Erie Bicentennial. I prefer writing for dance and was commissioned to compose an instrumental suite for modern dance, to celebrate Erie's Bicentennial. A number of my instrumental works have been choreographed and performed at Mercyhurst College, and We Love Erie Days. Recently, two of my tone poems were choreographed and performed at the Erie Arts Festival by Sandy Brown (with Baryshnikov's American Ballet Theater). The Arts Festival was also the site for the premiere of "Legend," a tone poem based on an Eries Indian legend of how the peninsula was formed; Choreographed by Christina Maria of Lake Erie Ballet.

I have published three audio CD's of music for dance, "The Seasons," in 1998, "In the Telling" in 2000, and the latest CD "Grimsby – A Children's Ballet" in 2002. All three are registered/copyrighted with the Library of Congress. By combining my two loves, electronics and music, I have fulfilled a childhood dream to compose. Who would have known?

"Grimsby" is a full-length children's ballet based on the book by Erie author Don McQuaid. A performance of the piece, choreographed by Christina Maria, was presented in March of 2002 at the historical Warner Theater. The performance included original costumes and lighting. To hear my music at the Warner, where it all began for me, was a thrill.

Continuing my involvement in the community, I joined the board of The Erie Summer Festival of the Arts in 1992, where I held an executive position. There I formed a program called "Computer Tools for Arts and Music" or "CTAM," to expose/educate the community to the creative power of this wonderful invention. We celebrated 10 years in 2002.

As an outreach program, I formed "Festival of the Arts Computer Time" or "FACT" in 1998, conducted at The Blasco Memorial Library. This is a hands-on environment, where children are exposed to creative software in a fun setting. FACT has been expanded as a result of a grant from the Verizon Foundation.

On a side note, I finally got to meet someone that has inspired me for a long time. I met Dr. Bob Moog at a lecture on the history of synthesizers and a book release on Leon Theremin by Albert Glinsky, all held at the Erie Art Museum on March 18th of 2000. What an honor! I bought my first digital camera just for this event. It was a Sony 1 megapixel with floppy drive for storage. Within a week or two, I realized two things. I loved photography, and the camera I bought was not enough for me. My hero of electronic music synthesis was inspired by Leon Theremin. I finally got to meet Bob Moog who inspired me to get into electronic music originally, and wound up indirectly getting me into digital photography." How is that for fate!

And to prove it is never too late to pursue a dream, I am now seriously into digital photography, something I have wanted to do for years. Most of the photos are taken close to home, appreciating what is around us!!! The digital darkroom is a natural for me. There is a parallel here with my composing! My interests seem to follow the technical revolutions; such as midi in the late 80's and now digital photography in late 90's. (Electronics comes

naturally to me!) I have copyrighted six CDROM's of photographs. Thirty of my works were exhibited at the Schuster Art Gallery in 2003 (Camera Meets Computer). The video suite "The Seasons in Photos and Music" also premiered at the gallery. This multimedia piece will soon be released as a DVD. Other exhibitions included "The Water Element" at Glass Growers Gallery and "The Growing Season" at Auer Framing Gallery.

Photos were accepted five years in a row for exhibition in the Erie Arts Festival Panorama juried art exhibit, where in 2003 I received the "Excellence Award," in 2004 the "Gold Circle Award" and in 2006 "Third Place." Photos were also accepted three years in a row for the "Lily Festival" at the Stonewall Gallery where I received "Honorable Mention" in 2006 and five honorable mentions at the 2005 Erie National Wildlife Refuge photo contest. I was offering works for sale at two local galleries, Glass Growers and Bayfront.

For the longest time, I always felt electronics was my first love! Now.....I am not so sure!

From microprocessors to composing! From tape to digital audio! From radio to photography! My life is a series of interconnecting paths, and in the natural process of seeking balance, I wind up traveling them all!!

Greg Zbach

3-9-01; 8-3-01; 2-25-02; 7-22-02; 8-03-03; 07-26-06; 04-14-20; 05-04-21; 05-28-24; 03-27-26

Discography - Published CD's

I. The Seasons - Music for Dance; Self-Published in 1998

Stained glass by John Vahanian

Layout by Jim Zbach

Press Release:

Written for modern dance, "The Seasons" consists of instrumental tone poems composed in the "New Age" style and includes the suite: "Images of Home." "The Seasons" recreates in music, the imagery and feelings of six memorable encounters with nature in the composer's home town of Erie, Pennsylvania.

II. In The Telling - Myths, Insights and Inspirations; Self-Published in 2000

Photograph by Chris Zbach

Layout by Jim Zbach

Press Release:

Please come in, make yourself comfortable and escape the frenzy of the outside world. Welcome to a sonic universe where you just might find a little insight on life. Listen to stories of New Year's Eve snow storms, majestic Indian spirits, imaginary sea creatures, and reflect on life: past, present and future.

"It is In The Telling, the composer's soul is revealed."

III. Grimsby - A Children's Ballet; Self-Published in 2002

Photograph by Greg Zbach

Layout by Jim Zbach

Press Release:

Based on a children's book by Don McQuaid. Words and illustrations Copyright 1998 by Mc-JA Productions.

Music

"Blues Before Bedtime" on Passport 4 Track software/Apple; Oldest evidence of a written fragment of music; 10-20-83

Notes I took on basic rules of composing from Rich Nevins of The Stabilizers (Album "Tyranny" - 1986; Signed w/Capital); 9-10-84

Glass Growers Radio Spot (Re-opening After the store Fire) "We're Back"; 11-5-88

Finished and copyrighted my first compositions "The Awakening" and "Quest for Peace"; 10-23-91

"Music for Dance"; Finished First Take - DAT Master 4-92 Inspired by: "The Story of a Mother" - A Short Story by Hans Christian Anderson Total Time: 53:21; Part I 10-23-91; Part II 4-27-92

Applied for commission from Erie Bicentennial Commission for "Images of Home". Received Commission by Bicentennial for "Images of Home"/Night Sounds. 6/95

Composed music for Grimsby, a children's book by Don McQuaid, late 1996.

The Seasons:

CD Master 7/97

Artwork finalized 1/98

Published 3-3-98. At Copyright office 3-29-98

Press Pack 3/98

I used a 486 40 mhz PC with 8 meg of ram and a 1 gig hard drive. It took about 8 hours to load the 80 meg tif cover scan.

CD of crickets (sequenced) and spring peepers (my recording) played at "Nocturne - The Last Full Moons of the Millennium." featuring artwork/pictures by John Vahanian and Lee Steadman, 11-5-99.

Met Dr. Bob Moog at a synth lecture held in the Erie Art Museum; 3-18-01

In The Telling:

My second CD of instrumental music "In The Telling" published, 4-8-00

Grimsby - A Children's Ballet:

My third CD of instrumental music "Grimsby" published, 2-13-02

Music for my Fourth CD:

The 3 - piece CD including/called "The Traveler"; "Night Visions" and "Reflections II" sent in for copyright 10-28-02.

I have finished a fourth piece (a ten minute suite) and started the fifth track - 08-11-06.

Multimedia

Finished multimedia piece with Fred Weiser on 6-13-93, called "Silicon Dreams". 2 computers synced together; mine running music I composed with Cakewalk Pro for Windows; Fred's computer running Vistapro III with a 3 minute fly-by of simulated landscape. 105 Meg file, 8 frames per second, approx. 1500 frames. Fred's computer was tied up for 2 weeks rendering the landscape. For Erie Summer Festival of Arts, to be demonstrated live.

Finished "CTAM - The First 4 Years" interactive Multimedia CD showcasing work done by CTAM crew. 6/96

Recorded, assembled and mastered story CD of Grimsby with my music 4/97. With Don McQuaid reading Grimsby

CTAM Interactive Multimedia Portfolio finished for 6/97.

Finished "CTAM - Seven Years in the Making" interactive Multimedia CD showcasing work done by CTAM crew. 6/99

Finished a Multimedia CDROM "ThankYou" for sponsors, with original sound effects and music; based on Astound 1; 8-15-99

Finished "CTAM 2000 Business Card" CDROM; an interactive multimedia presentation. The CD includes a multimedia "Thank You" for CTAM sponsors, a picture slide show, a 360-degree panorama of the workshops, the CTAM prospectus and interactive portfolio. 11/00.

Entered "CTAM 2000 Business Card" CDROM into the Keystone Awards; The International Association of Business Communicators; www.iabcerie.org 12-11-00

Designed and created my personal web site 3-12-01; www.erie.net/~gregz

Finished 20 second promo video for CTAM/FACT using 3D animation, stills, video from Rob Gibson, original sound effects and music; 3-17-01

Designed my 3D Logo 3-17-01

Secured the web domain name www.gregzbach.com on 5-20-01

Created CTAM - Celebrating 10 years; an interactive presentation with audio/video/animation based on Astound; 9/5/01

The Edinboro Animation Department students, under the direction of Dave Weinkauff and Michael Genz, will be creating an animation of the first chapter of Grimsby, using my music to be ready in June of 2002. Mtgs on 12-14-01 and 1-25-02. In attendance were Dave

Weinkauf/Teacher; Michael Genz/Professor; Terry L. Smith, Ph.D. Dean, School of Liberal Arts; along with Ruth Jageman, Joseph A. Anastasi, and Don Mcquaid;

Created my own designer stationary 3/2002

Finished first of 4 multimedia pieces "Summer" with 141 photos and "Dawn" from "The Seasons" 10/15/2002 for the suite "The Seasons in photos and music"

Finished second of 4 multimedia pieces "Fall" with 60 photos and "Fall" from "The Seasons" 12/9/2002 for the suite "The Seasons in photos and music"

Finished third of 4 multimedia pieces "Winter" with 77 photos and "Winter" from "The Seasons" 1/1/2003 for the suite "The Seasons in photos and music"

Designed a Sunburst business e-card using Multimedia Builder - 1/2003.

Finished fourth of 4 multimedia pieces "Spring" with 105 photos and "Spring" from "The Seasons" 3/08/2003 for the suite "The Seasons in photos and music"

Designed a kiosk program of my "The Seasons in photos and music" using Multimedia Builder to run at Schuster; 4-1-03.

Designed an interactive cdrom presentation w/virtual tour and product/capabilities tours for Sunburst - 3/10/2003.

Designed an e-card of "Camera Meets Computer" w/panoramas of the exhibition and based on the show post card using Multimedia Builder 6/8/2003.

Finished first prototype DVD of "The Seasons in Photos and Music" 6-16-03.

Designed Sunburst website at www.sunb.com ; up 7-14-03.

Finished Version I of "Sunburst Electronics Resource Center - 2004" on 5-24-04; An interactive Presentation of the capabilities of Sunburst with photos (all mine), help, 360-degree panorama virtual tour and contacts. Opus Pro 4 used to make the presentation.

Designed 4/1 postcard for The Growing Season - Auer Framing Gallery; using "Tulipa" my macro photo of a Tulip; printed by 4by6.com - 4/2005.

Commercial Work

Glass Growers Radio Spot (Re-opening After the store Fire) "We're Back"; 11-5-88

Music for United Way radio commercial 9/89

Music for Glass Growers Gallery TV Christmas Commercial 12/89

Children's Piece Festival 7/91 Radio commercials: Original music: voice over recording; SMPTE - MIDI SYNC from Fostex model 80 to Cakewalk; final mix down to DAT

Bicentennial commercial on TV Ch 12 & 35. Contained 10 sec. 3D animation by Craig Ulmer and Synced Sound effects and music by me 6/95

Promo video for Grimsby by Lou Richards made with my music 7/97

Froggy 94.7 WFGO commercial w/my music/name from mid-Feb to March 17th 2002; (w/Grimsby theme) long commercial

- Classy 100; WXKC commercial w/my music/name from mid-Feb to March 17th 2002; (Grimsby theme used)

- 6 of my nature photos on display at Glass Growers Gallery as of 6-6-03: Harsh Winter; An Ant's View; Meet the Shrooms; Mantle Piece; Snailed; Message from Above

- My photo of the Sunburst building and mention of my new position at Smith: "Virtual Integration" article on Sunburst in March-April 2006 in national magazine "Manufacturing Today"

- Invited to exhibit works on a Wall (rented) at Bayfront Gallery for June 1, 2006

Dance

Sound track for Erie Civic Ballet Company/Ismet Mohammed - Directing Paid \$15; 10/73

Spring Show - Mercyhurst College Ballet 4-3-91, 4-4-91 "The Awakening" performed live by me; Choreography by Erin Marton; Director - Mary Price Boday

Cultural Alternatives 92; We Love Erie Days 8-29-92 3 Pieces for Dance From "Music for Dance" Performed live by me; Choreography by Erin Marton; Perry Square - Gazebo

Performed "Dawn" live on main stage of Arts Festival, at 7PM on 6-25-93. Sandy Brown Choreographed and danced with John Marshall Sharp. Sandy, a former Erie resident, is now with Baryshnikov's dance company, American Ballet Theater. John is with the New York Ballet. 6-26-93 "Dawn" performed on main stage using tape at 7PM.

Paul Abrahamson of Pittsburgh Ballet agreed to choreograph and dance w/partners to "Rain Dances". Rain Dances canceled due torain 6-24-94!

Sandra Brown choreographed and performed w/Alexies Sanchez "Night Sounds" at festival 6-24-95. Article in Sunday Times 6-18-95.

Mercyhurst Dance/Lake Erie Ballet - New Works Showcase - "Oile'an" performed. Choreography by E. J. Marton 2-9-96. In Showcase 2-8-96

Avalon (3 Excerpts from Story of a Mother) performed at Arts Festival. Choreographed by E. J. Marton and performed by Lake Erie Ballet School 6/96.

Celebrating Community Days/Avalon Hotel "Spring" performed by E. J. Marton (also Choreographed) 10/4/96. Live on Erie Cable Vision and recorded. In Showcase 10/3/96.

Appeared on stage at the kick off assembly for Grimsby at Grover Cleveland Elementary. Carrie Burns Frase Choreographed and danced to my music. 5/97

Legend performed at Arts Festival main stage. Choreographed by Christina Maria and performed by Lake Erie Ballet School 6-25-99.

Legend performed at Arts Festival main stage. Choreographed by Christina Maria and performed by Lake Erie Ballet School 6-24-00.

Legend performed at Hirt Auditorium for Erie Insurance 75 year anniversary. Choreographed by Christina Maria and performed by Lake Erie Ballet School 9-24-00.

Grimsby, a full-length original children's ballet based on a book written by Don McQuaid was performed by Lake Erie Ballet, with original costumes and lighting. Christina Maria, Artistic Director of Lake Erie Ballet, choreographing the piece. The performance took place at The Historic Warner Theater on March 17th of 2002 at 2:30 pm.

After hearing the sound in the Warner Theater on Saturday, 3-16-02 during the dress rehearsal of Grimsby, I asked for a rental PA system for the Sunday performance and would kick in \$\$\$\$. It was worth it. The Warner PA system had no low or high end, and would distort when pushed only a little (The PA amp is still tubes!!!). Cost me \$20. We had 1,200 to 1,300 people. I sold a number of CD's and signed many books/CD's. Posters were gone before the ballet started. The children were so quiet and attentive.

"Dance Through Time - Part III" October 8 & 9 2005 at Harding Elementary School; Lake Erie Ballet Performed the Introduction & Finale choreographed using some of City...Country; Country-for Intro and City-for Finale.

Lake Erie Ballet performed excerpts from Grimsby ballet on 06-24-06; Leslie Scalese, New Artistic Director, set the works and read the story over the dancing. The excerpts were performed at the main stage of the Summer Festival of the Arts.

Design

Design of Erie City Council voting machine in junior year of Gannon; Relay based; Design beat out competing Senior entry; 1973; I was the only engineer who knew how to design a latching relay required for this project

Designed and built a 50 chip video/keyboard interface for microprocessor work; worked with Les Williams on project; 1976-1977

Prepay Postpay HK Cashcon Console design with Smith Meter; First major design project; all logic w/no micro; Included UL Approval; Have a picture standing in front of pumps, where the beta sign was; Sign shows gas for 40 cents a gallon; 4/1977

F8 to Ay-3-8910 Programmable Sound Generator by General Instruments with lots of assembly software written; Waveform Synthesizer; 1979

F8 microcontroller design for Bill Benson of Anthony Cleaners to control Dry Cleaning Machines; 2/80

Aim microcontroller board; 3/4/80

X-Y Micrometer Apple II Assembly drivers w/manual for Plastek and Erie Computer; (Paid \$500); Digital Caliper serial interface assembly language software drivers; 1981

6502 hardware emulator design; 1981

Voice Activation System for Micro-surgery - Amsco; 1/7/82

Flashing lights and sound box for my son Shawn's Darth Vader Halloween outfit; Box attached to belt (I had 3 days to design and build); 10/82

Lord Corp. Project; Auto Sampler Temp Probe Selector Switch (Paid \$500); 1983

Project responsibility for modular, multiprocessing control system; EAGLE II. Included system and board design, ISBX based network computer, data acquisition, digital I/O, multiprocessing serial interface, and a parallel expansion board; Amsco 1983-1984

Obtained a copy of Midi 1.0 spec dated 8/5/83 (At Amsco w/Rich Nevins; 3/84

Apple II multi-channel midi interface and software sequencer design; 9/84

Sampler design for Apple (Successive approximation type); 7/85

Studio

STUDIO Z: Own an 8-track/electronic music studio, started in 1983. Now a digital multitrack facility.

Radio/TV commercials for:

Erie Area Business and Labor Council 5/86
Glass Growers Gallery (Radio) 11/88 & (TV) 7/89
United Way 9/89
Children's Peace Festival 7/91
Erie Bicentennial 3D Logo 6/95

Demo's for jazz groups:

Field Theory 4/85
Blue Horizons (digital recording) 10/90
8 Past Time 10/00

Sound tracks for:

One Bird's View 9/85
Solomon's Song 1986
God and a Woman 7/87
H2O 4/88
7th Angel 5/88
Adagio Like Water 6/20/88
Dark of the Moon 4/90
Sun and Moon (digital) 9/90

Organ recitals by:

Wallace Wiese 1989
Dorothy Dunn Griswald 1992/94/94

Music production for:

12 Erie Civic Ballet shows 1985-89
1 Mercyhurst Ballet 1989

Many nature recordings (5-digital): 1985 to 1999

Mixed 25 music compilations: 1982 to 1999

Recorded/Produced 5 weddings including my own on 10-26-74

Studio Highlights:

Apple II with 1 disk drive and 32 k ram in 1981

Mountain Hardware Music System 1981; For Apple II; 16 voice polyphonic digital waveform generator synth dual card design with 32khz sample rate

Passport Designs Sound Chaser computer music system 9/16/83; For Apple II; 4 octave keyboard w/interface card and 4 Track software to work with Mountain Music System card

Obtained a copy of Midi 1.0 spec dated 8/5/83 in 3/84 (At Amsco w/Rich Nevins)

Purchased Sequential Circuits Drum Tracks and Korg Poly 800 7/9/84

Studio bench layout with Apple computer, Sequential Circuits Drum Tracks, Korg Poly 800, Passport Designs Sound Chaser Keyboard, Apple II w/Mountain Hardware Music System; 7/84.

Purchased Tascam Porta Studio in 7/84

Demo of runner up for the Pa. state song by Jageman/Hendl; 1-9-88

Tascam model 80 8-track reel-to-reel, model 450 mixer, Nakamichi MR2 ; 3/88

First PC; AT 10Mhz, 512k ram, 20 meg hard drive on 10/88 (\$1,500)

Purchased Cakewalk dos 2.0b dated 1/30/89 (Version 2.0a 7/88)

Recorded Walter Hendl's music to Dark of the Moon, lectures and various piano and Erie Philharmonic performances 4/90

Rap Song Production - Walt Cusick; Russell Howard Multitrack Recording; Mix down; master to DAT 5-21-91

Organ Recital - Stations of the Cross - Dupre Dorothy Griswald - Organ; St. Patrick's Church DAT recording 4-12-92

Festival Strings w/ Walter Hendl Conducting Erie Arts Festival; DAT recording 6-26-92

Tom Christopherson on solo bowed bass; Wally Wiese - piano; Dat recording between Jan. - March 1993

"Hearts for the Arts" - Arts Festival fund raiser; With Walter Hendl, Wally Wiese, Patty Sullivan, Tom Christopherson; Dat recording 2-13-94

Organ Recital - Various Classical pieces Dorothy Griswald - Organ; St. George Church DAT recording 3-20-94

Recorded Walter Hendl's Bicentennial Fanfare. 1995

Composed/Recorded music/sound effects for Bicentennial Logo commercial on TV Ch 12 & 35. Contained 10 sec. 3D animation by Craig Ulmer and Synced Sound effects and music by me. 1995

First CD Writer in 3/96

Recorded Don McQuaid reading Grimsby 1/97. Assembled and mastered story CD of Grimsby with my music 4/97.

CD of crickets (sequenced) and spring peepers (my recording) played at "Nocturne - The Last Full Moons of the Millennium." featuring artwork/pictures by John Vahanian and Lee Steadman at The Erie Art Museum, 11-5-99.

Recorded Alec Chien - piano at Hirt Auditorium; Arts Festival; 6-23-00

Recorded Festival Strings - Frank Collura Conducting at Hirt Auditorium; Arts Festival; 6-28-02

Recorded Festival Chamber Music Society - Walter Hendl Conducting at Hirt Auditorium; Arts Festival; 6-29-02

The newly released book "Walter Hendl - The Early Years" includes my recording of Walter conducting festival String Orchestra at the 2002 Arts Festival on 6-29-02. I received credit for "Remote Recording and Mastering". 2003

Community Involvement

Helped propose/build WERG Gannon Radio; also, music director, disc jockey and engineer 1972 – 1974

Design of Erie City Council voting machine in junior year of Gannon; Relay based; Design beat out competing Senior entry; 1973; I was the only engineer who knew how to design a latching relay required for this project

Sound Production for 39 Gannon plays 1971 - 1974

Member of Talisman Players and Alpha Psi Omega theater organizations 1973 - 1974

Erie Bravo Award for Musical Direction in Sound 1973 - 1974; Talisman Players: Technical Contribution 1973, Greatest Technical Contribution 1974

Did a Demo of the Passport Designs Sound Chaser and Mountain Hardware Music System for Erie Apple Crunchers Club on 12/83

Member of Erie Civic Ballet Board of Directors from 1983 through 9-27-89; Became executive board member 1985

Erie Days 8-16-91 thru 8-18-91 Sponsored by Jageman & Jageman MDS Inc. (thru Ruth Jageman) Booth for The Erie Visual Art Exposition Internationale "Computers - Music Composers Tool" Demonstrated Computers, MIDI, Software Sequencers, Electronic Music Composition, Etc.

Cultural Alternatives 8/29/92; Erin Marton danced to my music at North Park Row

Became executive member of Erie Arts Festival Board of Directors on 9-15-92; Presidential Appointee of Ruth Jageman

Committee chairperson for Computer committee - Erie Summer Festival 10/92.

Wrote prospectus 1/93 - "Computer Tools for Arts and Music".

Organized and conducted a first of a kind event for the Erie area, "COMPUTER TOOLS FOR ARTS AND MUSIC", an exciting program that integrates traditional art forms with the new and dynamic field of computer graphics and music. Workshops were offered on fractal graphics, 3-D landscape simulation, music composition, animation, graphic arts, and kaleidoscope imaging. Computer graphics movies ran continuously, and an original multimedia show with synthesizer music and graphics, was demonstrated. Presenters include Fred Weiser, Les Williams, and Greg Zbach. The workshops were informal, open for children and adults, and admission was free.
CTAM 6/93

Formed "FACT" or Festival of the Arts Computer Time to demo art/music software for kids at Blasco Library starting 4-18-98

Became Executive Member Arts Festival in late 2000

Joined The Torch Club on 4-11-01

Winter Carnival in Children's Library area (FACT) January; 1999-2002

Received news of a grant from the Verizon Foundation for FACT/CTAM by email on 7-5-01;
Grant received with a very nice cover letter on 8-2-01

Expansion of FACT to teens and adults in September of 2001

Redesigned and moved the CTAM web site to www.goerie.com

Guest Speaker at the Torch Club; Subject: CTAM - Celebrating 10 years; used the laptop and Astound in an interactive presentation with audio/video/animation; 9/5/01

Judge for the Arts Festival Song Contest for 3 years; 1999 - 2001

CTAM celebrated 10 years in 2002

Donated "Black Eyed Susans" and "Liquid World" (Exhibition Mat and bag) To Fairview Middle School "Adopt an Artist" 14th annual Auction to be held at Lake Shore Country Club March 3rd 2006.

Theater

Directed by (Number in [#]):

1. Joseph Epoleto

2. Jerry Brace

3. Fr. Tom McSweeney

4. R. Michael Morris

5. W. David Anderson

6. Joe Mosier

7. Tom Mikotowicz

8. Steve Bishoff

6/71 Rosemarie/Stage Crew [#2] (book & lyrics - Otto Harbach & Oscar Hammerstein II; music - Rudolph Friml & Herbert Stothart)

7/71 Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf/Sound [#1] (Edward Albee)

7/71 Curse you Jack Dalton/Follow Spot Light [#2] & [#1] (Wilbur Braun)

8/71 Hello Dolly/Follow Spot Light [#1] (music & lyrics - Jerry Herman; Book - Michael Stewart)

10/71 Indians/Sound [#1] (Arthur Kopit)

11/71 Saint Joan/Acted - Gentleman of 1920 [#2] (G. B. Shaw)

Four One Acts/Sound: (12/71)

3/72 Where's Charley?/Follow Spot Light [#1] (book - George Abbott; Music & lyrics - Frank Loesser)

4/72 Insect Comedy/Sound [#7] Mercyhurst High School (Josef & Karel Capek)

Five One Acts-Review Sketches/Lights [#5]: (5/72)

5/72 The Tempest/Sound [#1] (William Shakespeare)

7/72 Ali Baba and the Magic Cave/Sound [#6]

Two One Acts/Sound: (9/72)

10/72 Child's Play/Sound [#3] (Robert Marasco)

Seven One Acts/Sound: (11/72)

12/72 Celebration/Sound Track & Mic-Mixing [#4] (Tom Jones & Harvey Schmidt)

2/73 The Cave Dwellers/Sound [#8] (William Sayoran)

3/73 Miser/Sound [#4] (Moliere)

3/73 White Liars/Sound Mercyhurst College

5/73 New Players; Old Games/Sound [#4] (Mike Morris)

6/73 A Multimedia Show/Sound 1973 Erie Arts Festival with Fred Collins - Paid \$40

7/73 40 Carrots/Sound Village Theater Paid \$15 (Adapted by Jay Allen; From a play by Barillet & Gredy)

10/73 Antigone/Sound [#4] (Sophocles - Adaption by R. Michael Morris) 10/73 - 11/73

12/73 Will/Sound [#3] (Musical by Ed Cashman)

5/74 A Midsummer Night's Dream/Sound [#4] (William Shakespeare)

Radio

1971 to 1974:

Took part in original proposal, design and building of WERG - Gannon radio; also, music director, disk jockey, engineer, recording and production.

I was on the original committee to write a proposal for the station. It was submitted twice before the President of Gannon College, Monsignor Wilfred Nash, approved the station. I have an original draft of a letter to the committee, dated 8-29-71, requesting to be a part of the station (anything to do with sound).

The original intent was to give the Department of Communication Arts an opportunity to teach radio broadcasting and management through actually running a station. WERG was established in 1972 as a 10-watt educational, non-commercial radio station.

I helped to build the facility, including setting up the antenna on top of the Zurn science building. The first good wind storm brought it down. It was a valuable lesson in mechanical engineering. The facility was on the air in December of 1972. In 1979, the station was upgraded to 3000 watts.

My radio show was called "The Greg Zbach Music Show," and aired on Friday evenings from 11pm to 2am; prime time for Gannon students. I put together a 10 - 15 second sound montage to introduce the show that included music, sound effects, comedy and voice. Some of the sponsors were Attuned Records, Windrose and Glass Growers Gallery.

All of my shows had a basic theme, but some of the specials I presented where:

"Warriors and Tribes"

"Sounds of the Sea"

"A Radio Banquet"

"Friends"

"John McGlauglin Special"

"The Last Radio Show"

I was very careful in setting the mood with the music. I looked at the mood of the music like a flowing river, and would change the styles and types to control the ebb and flow. The music styles ranged from rock, classical, folk, blues, jazz, electronic, comedy, progressive rock, space music and avant garde.

Also on 10/73 I helped produce, added sound, edited, helped in sound effects, ran board and played Dracula in a "Dracula Radio Play."

Photography

Artist's Statement:

So many spontaneous events occur around us, that go totally unnoticed. A bee covered in pollen; reflections in a pond; the sky lighting up at sunset. Each are beautifully unique in their own right, and if missed, are gone forever.....

My challenge as an artist, is to capture in photography, the naturally occurring shapes, textures and events, that go on above, below and around us, on any given day.

History:

- I bought my first digital camera to get a photo of myself with Dr. Bob Moog who was conducting a lecture on the history of synthesizers at the Erie Art Museum on 3-18-00.
- My first Photo Copyright CDROM was registered at the Copyright office in September of 2001.
- My photo "Harsh Winter" was accepted for the Erie Summer Festival of the Arts juried art exhibit - Panorama 2002.
- Sold my first photo - "Harsh Winter" in November of 2002.
- My first photo exhibition was at the Schuster Gallery (Gannon University) with Eric Grignol. The show was called "Camera Meets Computer" in April of 2003. I Sold 5 photos and premiered my DVD "The Seasons in Photos and Music" on a big screen. The show photo was "Lily Pond".
- My work was displayed for sale for the first time at Glass Growers Gallery in May of 2003.
- Received my first award, the "Excellence Award" for "Skeletal Remains" in June of 2003 at the Erie Summer Festival of the Arts Panorama 2003 juried art exhibit.
- I exhibited 10 photos at Barnes & Noble in November of 2003. The show went thru Jan 2004.
- My Exhibition, "The Water Element" opened at Glass Growers Gallery on April 9th of 2004 and included 25 photos. The show photo was "Liquid World". Sold 4 photos at the reception.
- My photos "Black Eyed Susan's" and "Leaning Toward Sunset" were accepted for the Erie Arts Festival juried art exhibit Panorama 2004. I Received the "Gold-Circle" award for "Leaning Toward Sunset".
- My photo "Sun Catcher" was accepted for the 4th Annual Lily Festival and Juried Art Show in - The Stonewall Gallery of The Campbell Pottery Store in July of 2004.

- My exhibition at Auer Framing Gallery opened May 6th of 2005. The Exhibition was called "The Growing Season" and included 27 photos. The show photo was "Tulipa".
- full page review on my exhibit "The Growing Season" appeared in Showcase on June 2nd, 2005. The article was titled "Nature Front and Center" by Karen Rene Merkl.
- My photos "Inversions II", "Reflections V" and "Web Rings" were accepted for the Erie Arts Festival juried art exhibit Panorama 2005.
- I exhibited 12 Flower photos at the Moonsense Cafe show "Variety & Veracity" June thru September of 2005 thru Glass Growers Gallery.
- My photo "Lily Pond II" was accepted for the 5th Annual Lily Festival and Juried Art Show in - The Stonewall Gallery in The Campbell Pottery Store in July of 2005.
- Received 5 Honorable Mentions in 3 categories for 4 photos at the 2005 Erie National Wildlife Refuge Biannual Photo Contest, sponsored by the Presque Isle Audubon Association in November of 2005.
- I exhibited 12 works at Borders Books and Music Café Espresso in December of 2005.
- I exhibited 27 works for Figgies Restaurant in Fairview for their grand reopening, from January to mid March of 2006 thru Glass Growers Gallery.
- I donated 2 Matted photos to Fairview Middle School "Adopt an Artist" 14th annual Auction, held at Lake Shore Country Club March of 2006.
- I exhibited 6 works for the program "Trees: Beauty Biology and Bounty" from May thru June of 2006; sponsored by Glass Growers Gallery and "LEAF" - Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park.
- In the article "Sunburst Electronics Rides Competitive Wave," my photo of Sunburst Electronics and mention of my new position "Program Manager" of FMC Technologies were featured in the nationally published magazine "Manufacturing Today" in March-April 2006.
- My work is offered for sale for the first time at The Bayfront Gallery in June of 2006.
- My photos "Rock On" and "Ice Shadows" were accepted for the Erie Arts Festival juried art exhibit - The Ruth Jageman Panorama 2006, where I received "Third Place" award for "Rock On" in June.
- My photos "Singing in the Rain" and "Lily's Last Dance" where accepted for the 6th Annual Lily Festival and Juried Art Show in The Stonewall Gallery in The Campbell Pottery Store in July of 2006. I received Honorable Mention for "Lily's Last Dance". Both pieces sold, with "Lily's Last Dance" selling at the opening reception.

GRIMSBY

Grimsby is a full-length original children's ballet based on a book written by Don McQuaid. The music was publishing in February of 2002. See Discography for more info.

The ballet was performed by Lake Erie Ballet, with original costumes and lighting. Christina Maria, Artistic Director of Lake Erie Ballet, choreographing the piece. The performance took place at The Historic Warner Theater on March 17th of 2002 at 2:30 pm.

Grimsby - A Children's Ballet

Based on the children's book by Don McQuaid

Also, the Edinboro Animation Department students, under the direction of Dave Weinkauf and Michael Genz, will be creating an animation of the first chapter of Grimsby, using my music.

Lake Erie Ballet performed excerpts from Grimsby ballet on 06-24-06; Leslie Scalese, New Artistic Director, set the works and read the story over the dancing. The excerpts were performed at the main stage of the Summer Festival of the Arts.

FESTIVAL MISSION:

To provide four free days of exposure to art, music, dance, poetry, literature, mime, storytelling and theater to encourage patronage of such activities in the community. The Erie Area Summer Festival of the Arts is a multi-disciplinary festival held at the Erie bay front. The Summer Festival offers Erie and surrounding communities a wide variety of artistic experiences, including the visual arts, dance, theater and music. All events are free-of-charge to the public. The goal of the Festival is to appeal to a wide range of people in an informal, varied environment.

The Festival is concerned with variety and diversification among the performing arts programs and exhibitions. It seeks to appeal to no single aspect of the arts, whether it be classical music or rock and roll, ballet or aerobic dance; it seeks to offer something for everyone. It is our belief that program diversification is the ultimate strength of the Festival. Although a few nationally known performing artists appear on our program and many craftspeople travel from distant states to participate, our emphasis is primarily on regional and local artists.

CTAM MISSION:

Computer Tools for Arts and Music is the Computer Committee of the Erie Area Summer Festival of the Arts. As part of the Festival, our program integrates traditional art forms with the new and dynamic field of computer graphics and music

CTAM was founded to educate the public and promote the use of computers as a tool for the exploration and creation of art and music. The computer is "THE GREAT EQUALIZER". With the availability of powerful, easy to use computers, professional, high-end creativity tools are finally within reach of anyone with a dream and the desire.

Through workshops, demonstrations and performances, CTAM will introduce and promote the computer as a new and wonderful artistic tool.

FACT:

The exciting new workshop for children called "Festival of the Arts Computer Time," or "FACT," has been conducted monthly at the Blasco Memorial Library since 1998. The latest computer art/music software for children is demonstrated in an informal and fun environment. FACT is a hands-on opportunity for children of all walks of life, to experience the creative side of computers.

As a direct result of a grant from The Verizon Foundation, the popular FACT program will be expanded throughout the year.

The children's workshops will still be hands-on, and will include such popular programs as Disney's Magic Artist Studio, Tonka Construction II, Barbie's Digital Makeover, and new titles as they are released. Kids actually work directly with the computer, and there are usually two available for use.

The workshops will stress creative software/hardware in arts and music. They are informal and free, and people are welcome to stop in any time during the scheduled program. Other non-scheduled topics can be covered if time allows. The workshops will always be conducted on Saturday, and will be located in the children's area of the Blasco Memorial Library.