

COLLEGE &
UNIVERSITY

Manhattan College: Adj. Assoc. Professor • Piano, Theory, Composition, Music Appreciation • 2006 - Present.

Prior Positions: CUNY (John Jay), Pace Univ., Florida Atlantic Univ., Broward/Palm Beach Community College.

Courses Taught: piano (private & class), composition/theory, music appreciation (Medieval–present), world music, opera, musical theater, jazz, vocal performance, Beethoven, art history, public speaking, French romanticism, “Great Classics” series, public speaking, many independent studies.

Piano Lecture Recitals on Baroque/Classical/Romantic/20th Century music.

EDUCATION

Juris Doctorate	City University of New York , New York, NY
M.M. & B.M.	The Juilliard School , New York, NY
B.A., Political Science	Northwestern University , Evanston, IL

CONCERT
PIANIST

Recordings at www.JamesBehr.com/Piano • Behr is a Steinway Artist

Soloist: Over 200 solo recitals & orchestra appearances throughout the U.S., including Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center; Carnegie Recital Hall (Weill); the Ravinia, Chautauqua and Tanglewood Festivals; and many orchestras, including the Naples Philharmonic, Virginia Symphony and Florida Symphonic Pops.

Radio & TV: *Keyboard Artists* (WNYC, New York), *Morning Scherzo* (WXEL, FL), *Impromptu* (3 broadcasts, WXEL, FL), TV program *Talk of the Town*.

Carnegie Recital Hall (Weill), First Prize, Bradshaw & Buono International Piano Competition, 2013.

Artist in Residence: Florida Symphonic Pops — concerto soloist in seven concerts.

Chamber Music/Vocal: Many appearances nationally, Lincoln Center, *Classics to Broadway series* (piano/violin/vocal).

Prizewinner & Finalist in 6 Piano Competitions: First Prize, Bradshaw & Buono International Piano Competition, NY; Society of American Musicians Competition, IL; Cullowhee Music Festival Competition, NC; Boca Raton Music Guild Competition, FL; Five Towns Music Festival Competition, NY; Chicago Music Club Piano Competition, IL.

REVIEWS

- “A demon pianist” – *THE BOSTON GLOBE*
- “An outstanding performance by the gifted artist.” – *THE HOLLYWOOD OBSERVER*
- “A brilliant pianist.” – *THE VOICE*
- “Impassioned music... a standing ovation.” – *THE HUDSON VALLEY NEWS*
- “He was received with great enthusiasm ... He proved to be not only a superb pianist, but also a good lecturer who possesses profound knowledge.” – *THE WYNMOOR NEWS*
- “He received standing ovations when he thrilled the audience with his performance [of Rhapsody in Blue].” – *THE DEERFIELD OBSERVER*
- “Behr distinguished himself ... His [Grieg Concerto] rendition was flawless, breathtaking, a true musical adventure.” – *THE BOCA RATON REPORTER*
- “A formidable talent.” – *GREAT NECK SYMPHONY GUILD*
- “A very gifted and talented pianist.” – *THE CORAL SPRINGS FORUM*

COMPOSER

Recordings at www.JamesBehr.com/Original Works

Piano: *Traveler in Portugal* (7-work suite), *Rhapsody Tableaux* (4-works), *Jubilation*.

Piano Concertos: No. 1 “Fantasy Latina”, No. 2 “Europa” (six movements), No. 3 “Paradigms”.

Symphonic: Symphonic/Dance works from original Behr musicals ***The Count of Monte Cristo*** and ***Wall Street Dreamquest***, *Dream Ballet*, *Jokester Scherzo*, *Interlude Macabre*, ***Boca Sweet*** (*symphonic pops*): *Kaleidoscope Overture*, *Old Vienna*, *Flamenco*, *Paris/Notre Dame*, *Chick-Ziccato*, *Perpetual Motion*, *Hispanica*.

New Age (*Suite Memoirs*, 11 piano works), ***Fusion Rock/Jazz*** (*Kaleidoscope Suite*, 9 works), ***Nu Jazz*** (*Prisms*, 10 works).

Musicals: *The Count of Monte Cristo*, *E-date*, *Wall Street Dreamquest*, *The Jungle Island*.

Vocal: Dozens of musical theater and art songs, contemporary and R&B ballads.

Commissions: *Sinfonia Virtuosi*, Fla. Youth Symphony, Coral Ridge Presbyterian Orchestra, Gold Coast Orchestra (FL).

TV: Music score for video documentary, “Jack London: American Original”, 2014.

REVIEWS:

- “Full of beautiful, romantic, sweeping melodies.” – *OUTER CRITICS CIRCLE*
- “Genius composer” – *InTheFray MAGAZINE*
- “Dramatic, exciting, melodic ... this belongs on a major New York Stage.” – *NEWS BLAZE*
- “A great score ... The lyrics were smart and sassy and the musical score was truly one of the best of the night.” – *GREENWICH VILLAGE EXAMINER*
- “It was great! ... I felt we were watching a West Side Story-esque, Les Mis kind of production where there was a song for everyone... I loved it ... A lot of pizzazz, staying power fueled by solid music and excellent performances.” – *REVIEW FIX*

MUSICAL THEATER

Recordings at www.JamesBehr.com/Original Musicals

MUSICAL DIRECTOR, CONDUCTOR, ORCHESTRATOR, & COMPOSER OF 4 MUSICALS:

Conductor & Musical Director: Camelot; Sweeney Todd; On Your Toes; Pirates of Penzance; Hello Mudduh, Hello Faddah (tour); Jazz Singer (NY & tour); Closer Than Ever; The Sound of Music; Brigadoon; Oklahoma; Pay Joey; How to Succeed in Business; Apple Tree; West Side Story; Finian's Rainbow; Count of Monte Cristo (Bleecker St. Theater); Dreamquest; Jungle Island; Usdan Center for the Creative & Performing Arts, NY; French Woods Festival, NY.

The Count of Monte Cristo – an original musical - book & music by James Behr

- Finalist, New York Musical Theatre Festival (NYMF).
- Staged Equity Production at the Bleecker Street Theater, NY (2012 Planet Connections Festivity).
- Best Musical Score: 2010 NY West Village Musical Theatre Festival.
- Previews at Off-Broadway Roy Arias & Wings Theater (New York, NY).

E-date – an original musical - book & music by James Behr

- Finalist, New York New Theatre Work Festival, 2014.
- Off-Broadway Performance, Times Square Center, New York, NY, 2014.
- Staged Reading sponsored by Theater for the New City, New York, NY, 2014.

BMI Musical Theater Workshop: Composer/Member, New York, 1994-97

Orchestrator/Arranger: Queen Esther, Chaplin, The Jazz Singer, and four self-composed musicals (The Count of Monte Cristo, Wall Street Dreamquest, E-date, The Jungle Island).

DISCOGRAPHY

Available On iTunes, Amazon & more: 1. Behr Plays Behr Plays (Rhapsody Tableau [original], Chopin B minor Sonata), 2. Suite Memoirs (new-age piano), 3. Kaleidoscope Suite (fusion classical/rock), 4. Prisms (jazz), 5. Symphonic (Piano Concertos, Broadway and symphonic works)

PUBLICATIONS

Music Critic & News Reporter: Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel, Broward Tribune; Boca Raton News, News of Delray, Montgomery Sentinel, Northwestern Daily, Northwestern Review.

Book Writer: Author of three books.

“*Music Theory: A Better Approach*” (textbook for college-level music theory).

“*America on the Verge*” (political & education/fine arts commentaries).

“*Tale of a Common Man*” (experiences of a courageous Jewish family during the German Imperial & Nazi eras).

Law Review & Staff Writer: City University of New York Law School.

ADDITIONAL

NBC-TV Music Consultant: Music/Piano consultant on filming set for TV program *Kings*, 2008-09

Philharmonic Orchestra of Florida: Orchestral Pianist, 1990-91

Vocal Coach: Opera, Lieder and Musical Theater Literature, New York, 2002-Present

Piano Professors/Master Classes: Nadia Reisenberg, Oxana Yablonskaya & Herbert Stessin (*at Juilliard*); Laurence Davis & Gui Mombaerts (*at Northwestern University*); *Master Class Performances* for John Browning (six), Phillipe Entremont, Ozan Marsh, Leon Fleisher, Horacio Gutierrez, Michel Block.

Competition Judge: Lucy Moses School of Music, NY; Palm Beach/Broward Music Teachers Assn.

Scholarship Awards: The Juilliard School, The Chautauqua Institute, City University of New York.

Academic Excellence Award: Alpha Lambda Delta, Northwestern University.

Associate Producer/Co-Host, City Edition (WNUR-FM, Chicago): Weekly public affairs program.

Professional Development: Chamber Music (Felix Galimir, Daniel Kaplan, Paul Doktor (Juilliard), New Art Trio (Chautauqua Festival); Science of Piano Practice (Ozan Marsh, Chautauqua); Vocal (Laurence Davis, Northwestern Univ.); Composing/Piano Exhibit (Broward Arts in Educ. Convention); Piano Pedagogy & Dalcroze Eurhythmics.

Computer: Mastery of music printing and digital/midi/recording programs (Digital Performer, Sibelius, East West QL Symphonic Library), Adobe Photoshop, MSWord, Everweb (website), familiar with Finale.

Languages: Familiarity with German and Spanish.

American Red Cross Commendation: 9/11 relief efforts in New York.

Visit www.JamesBehr.com for Press Kit, Reviews, Awards, Bio, and Numerous Recordings. Contact for Additional Information.