

BIOGRAPHY - Ron Hannah

Canadian composer Ron Hannah (b. 1945) is an eclectic musician, finding inspiration in the classics and in travelling the world. He has taught English in China, backpacked across SE Asia, criss-crossed Australia in a camper van and has found musical ideas from all those cultures and places. At present he resides in Austria.

He has Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Music degrees, and a Master of Music (1975) degree from the University of Alberta (student of Violet Archer, Manus Sasonkin and Malcolm Forsyth). He is a member of SOCAN (performing rights organisation), a composer affiliate of the Canadian Music Centre, and of the Österreichisches Komponistenbund (Austrian Composers Association).

His catalog is extensive - over 100 works: choral, chamber, solo, and orchestra, concertos, song cycles, ballets, operas and theatre pieces, the most recent being on of the life of St. Gregory of Armenia, called "The Illuminator" - premiered in Yerevan in 2017. His music tends toward the conservative with a streak of Romanticism, a style that he describes as "dissonant pan-tonality", but elements of the atonal, of textural writing, of minimalism, and of randomness can also be found, with the unending intention of being understood and enjoyed by an audience. He has received commissions from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, the Alberta Choral Federation, the Anahit Foundation (Yerevan, Armenia), and many individuals, including Wilma Maller of the Vienna State Opera. Some of his choral music has also been published by Performer's Edition.

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