Brian R Banks

Composer-in-Residence and Professor of Music at the Universidad de las Americas in Puebla, Mexico, Brian R. Banks is a highly productive artist with a significant catalog of works—including dozens of commissions, premieres and performances to date—for solo artists, chamber ensembles, choruses and orchestras.

With degrees from Peabody Institute of Music, San Francisco Conservatory and University of California-Berkeley, Brian lectures widely on composers (Ives, Lou Harrison, Revueltas), the music of Mexico, cross-border cultural influences, and arts curriculum at the university level.

Brian’s works often push at the boundaries between popular/world music and the classical music tradition. Current influences include the rhythms of popular music, the dynamism of Revueltas, the humoristic elements of Ligeti and Kurtág, graphic novels and Manga.

“My approach is based on the sense that I’m in the world, of the world. I’m interested in a conversation, in writing music that makes a connection. I’m aiming to be interpretive rather than singular.”

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