

# Darcy Copeland

composer & scholar

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[darcycopeland.com](http://darcycopeland.com)

Darcy Copeland is a composer and scholar currently based in Boston, MA. Inspired by environmental philosophy and experiential ways of being in the world, she creates visceral sonic and audiovisual works that reflect the suppleness, vulnerability, and violence of what it means to be human in a world being ravaged.

## Education

Harvard University — PhD in Music Composition, 2022-present

University of Washington — MM in Music Composition, 2019-2021

Columbia College Chicago — BM in Music Composition, 2014-2018

## Advanced Study

Darmstadt Summer Course for New Music, 2022

lessons with Malin Bang, Clara Iannotta, Chaya Czernowin

Luxembourg Composition Academy, 2021

lessons with Clara Iannotta, Georges Aperghis

SICPP Electronics Workshop, 2021

4 Corners Ensemble x Collaborative Piano Institute Composition Program, 2021

precept.concept.percept composition workshop, 2021

Banff Centre for the Arts & Creativity: EQ Evolution of the String Quartet, 2018

lessons with Chaya Czernowin, Tyshawn Sorey, Zosha di Castri

## Research Interests

Environmental humanities & new materialism

Sound studies

Media studies

21st century music composition

Ecofeminism

Deep ecology

## List of Works

*sun-stilled*, 10 mins, for zone expérimentale: ensemble, 2024

*flowers which bloom from blackened earth and poisoned air*, 22 mins, for Broken Frames

Syndicate: ensemble + tape, 2024

*cybernetic witch song*, 6', video, 2023

*threshold of our fragile body*, 14 mins for Lamnth: cimbalom + singing violinist, 2023

*rift-haze*, 9 mins, for Ben Roidl-Ward: bassoon + electronics, 2023

*WOLF*, 12 mins, for .abeceda ensemble: vln, vla, vlc, harp, a. sax, + tape, 2023

*Volatile Horizon*, 12 mins, for collective lovemusic: e-gtr, vla, bass fl, bass cl, tape, live electronics, + lighting, 2023

*to measure impermanence*, 9 mins, voice + electronics, 2023

*contaminant*, 9 mins, cello, tape, + live electronics, 2023

*something buried in the earth*, 12 mins, for *line upon line*: percussion trio, 2023

*YOU LOOK INTO THE SUN*, variable length, fl, cl, tenor sax, vln, vla, vlc, + perc, 2021

*ghosts & monsters*, 6 mins, baritone voice, bass cl, trumpet, trombone + electronics for loadbang ensemble, 2021

*metastasis*, 6 mins, fixed media + video, 2021

*c a s c a d e s*, 15 mins, string quartet, live electronics + video, 2021

*a primal tongue*, 5 mins, fixed media, 2021

*bluet (i): aporia*, 12 mins, solo cello, 2021  
*they condemn that which they do not understand.*, 9 mins, fl, bass cl, pno, perc, vln, vla, + vlc, 2020  
*elegy*, 4 mins, fixed media, 2020  
*an eclipse, a rapture*, variable length 14-20 mins, 4 table top guitars/lap-steels for Aaron Michael Butler; 2020  
*the tiger bares its teeth*, 9 mins, bass cl + perc for Kyle Fleas and Katie Schoepflin Jimoe, 2019  
*even the words that we are speaking now*, 10 mins, soprano saxophone quartet for ~Nois, 2018  
*String Quartet*, 10 mins, string quartet for *Elixir*, 2018  
*petal by petal*, 11 mins, harp + live electronics, 2018

## Current Projects

*one day your body will fill with light and you will be whole again*, for .abeceda ensemble, 2024  
*the enchantment of things both large and small*, for *Duo XAMP*: microtonal accordion duet, 2024  
*the ache of desire / burns a thousand years*, for string quartet, 2024  
*the place where birds sing*, for *Ensemble Cerrado*: soprano, fl, cl, vlc, electronics; part of *Sounds of the Pantanal* research project, 2024

## Fellowships, Residencies, & Awards

2024 Artist in Residence, Arts Itoya, Takeo Japan  
 2024 Artist in Residence, .abeceda ensemble contemporary music festival, Slovenia  
 2023 Artist in Residence, .abeceda ensemble contemporary music festival, Slovenia  
 2023-2024 Helen L. and Benjamin J. Buttenwieser Scholarship  
 2023 John Knowles Paine Travel Fellowship  
 2022-2023 Radcliffe Engaged Student: Climate Justice Grant, Radcliffe Institute  
 2022-2023 Graduate Prize Fellowship, Harvard University  
 2021 International Youth Music Competition in composition; winner  
 2021 SCI National Student Composers Conference; finalist  
 2021 ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Young Composer Awards Competition; finalist  
 2021 International Alliance for Women in Music *Libby Larson Prize*; honorable mention  
 2021 Impulse New Music Festival New Voices Competition; winner  
 2020 Loadbang commissioning competition; finalist  
 2018 Banff Centre for the Arts and Creativity resident artist, Alberta, Canada  
 2018 John and Sheilagh Langille Artist Award, Banff Center for the Arts and Creativity  
 2018 William J. Russo Award for Excellence in Music, Columbia College Chicago

## Scholarship & Research

*Sonic Projections: Material Environmentalism in New Music*, 2023  
*Voice of the Pantanal*, ethnographic film, 2023  
*Sounds of the Pantanal*; an interdisciplinary research trip with Harvard University and Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso do Sul investigating the ecosystem of the Pantanal in Brazil and resulting in a multimedia composition to be premiered in 2024  
*On Music and Mushrooms: The Capacity of Sound and Plants as Worlding Agents*, 2023  
*Posthumanism, Social Media, and the Body: Dissecting 'a primal tongue' for Voice and Electronics*, 2021. Presented at SCI student conference, 2021  
*An Examination of Tone and Eternity in Carnatic Music*, 2020  
*"Retribution Will be Swift": Indigenous Ecological Knowledge and Environmentalism in the Music of Tanya Tagaq*, 2020  
*A Timeline of Magick, Metaphysics, and Transgression in the Music of John Zorn*, 2020

## Discography

*v e i l*, portrait album released on Sawyer Editions, 2022.

## Recent Press

2023 interview for .abeceda new music ensemble, YouTube, <https://youtu.be/tM8ADkp5P2U>

2022 interview with Gašper Livk of .abeceda new music ensemble, YouTube, <https://youtu.be/VzZ7-gvGpbw>

*v e i l* featured by Peter Margasak on [The Best Contemporary Classical on Bandcamp: February 2022](#)