

Steven Naylor continues to re-invent himself artistically, always striving to incorporate the best of his past work into the new.

In the 1970s, he was a co-founder of the celebrated recording bands *Lougarou* (later *Garolou*) in Québec and *RAM* in Nova Scotia, exploring music stretching from francophone folklore to jazz-rock fusion.

Building on that diversity, he next embraced the eclectic demands of music for film, television, radio, and theatre, composing and producing dozens of scores, themes, and sound tracks over the next 20 years.

With commissions from CBC, NFB, Parks Canada, and many independent producers—and projects ranging from *The Nature of Things*, to *Sesame Street*, to installations in Canada's National Parks—his media work incorporated an increasingly broad spectrum of musical and sonic elements, laying the foundation for an ongoing deep interest in electroacoustic music.

In parallel, and as a welcome counterbalance to the solitary precision of the studio, in 1990 Steven co-founded Nova Scotia's *Upstream*—an ensemble and organization focused on improvisation in instrumental music.

He spent more than a decade composing for and performing with the group, in configurations that included collaborations with *Symphony Nova Scotia* and with major international guest artists. Steven also produced *Upstream's* first CD, and served periodically on its Board of Directors, and as a co-Artistic Director.

As a professional pianist, Naylor has also performed with the Canadian 'avant jazz' ensemble, The Paul Cram Orchestra at major jazz festivals, including *Jazz em Agosto* in Portugal, where the group recorded its second CD, *Live in Lisbon*.

In 1994, Steven began teaching (part-time) at Dalhousie University, where he also developed a new curriculum in electroacoustic music. He left that position in 2001, to concentrate again on personal work, and to complete the PhD in composition, supervised by Jonty Harrison at the University of Birmingham, UK.

In addition to his work as a composer, performer, and teacher, he is also regularly involved with research and support activities related to electroacoustic music, including co-production of the [Oscillations Festival](#) (2003, 2005, 2008, and 2012); a term as President of Canada's national electroacoustic music association, the [Canadian Electroacoustic Community](#); and serving as a consultant to a research study on the sociology of creative technology, at Acadia University.

His first solo DVD-A of electroacoustic works, *Lieux imaginaires*, was released in 2012, on *empreintes DIGITALes*.

Steven Naylor continues to pursue a diverse range of activities. Some current highlights include:

- Founder and artistic director of [subText](#), an ensemble and concert presentation organization that blends improvised and through-composed music, incorporating both instrumental and electroacoustic resources.
- Independent composer of instrumental, mixed-media, and electroacoustic works; associate composer, Canadian Music Centre.
- Adjunct Professor (non-remunerated) and occasional part-time teacher in the School of Music at Acadia University.
- Principal composer and artistic advisor for *Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia*, a company that produces sophisticated multi-lingual international theatre for young audiences. Steven's scores for Mermaid have now played to live audiences of over 4 million, in more than a dozen countries.
- Developing a series of essays on digital arts, technology and society.

Steven Naylor is married to [Pamela Ritchie](#), a visual artist and professor at NSCAD University in Halifax. They have two daughters, and live near Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

For more information on Steven's background, please see his 2010 interview with Kevin Austin in [eContact 13.3](#) (Canadian Electroacoustic Community).

For information on current work, please visit his personal web site:
<http://sonicart.ca>

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