

Gregory Hall
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Director/Composer **GREGORY HALL** (b. 1959) was born in San Francisco, CA. He holds a B.A. degree in Music from the University of California, Santa Barbara (1982), and a Diploma degree in Composition from the Curtis Institute of Music, Philadelphia PA (1986), where he studied with Ned Rorem. He completed further studies in 2005 at Boston University with Lukas Foss. From 1993 to 2005 he was Vice-President of the Maine Composer's Forum (MCF), and served from 2005-present as President of the MCF. In 2000 he was elected to the membership of the American Composers Alliance (ACA). His works are published (non-exclusively) by the ACA. He is a Fellow of the Ucross Foundation, a fellow of the Virginia Center for Creative Arts, and a member of the American Composers Forum, and the American Music Center.

He has participated in concerts by the ACA, Society of Composers, Inc., Maine Arts, Gamper Festival, The Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States, Ought-One Festival, and in numerous concerts of the Maine Composers Forum.

As director, he has gained recognition for producing videos that detail his technique of “*Compositional Improvisation*,” and for creating extensive machinima that focus on an alternate character to Geralt of Rivia in the video game *Witcher 3*. His fascination with songwriting—and combining contemporary opera and musicals—has resulted in the chamber opera *Marvelous*, based on the sequel book to L. Frank Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, a tale he has wanted to tell in his own fashion for decades.

He has now combined his filmmaking and music skills in creating a film of *Marvelous*. During the months of March-May 2026, Mr. Hall garnered the following film festival awards for the film of his opera *Marvelous*:

Festival	Award	Category
Paris Film Awards	Winner	Best Original Score
Swedish International Film Festival	Winner	Best Original Music
Cannes World Film Festival	Semi-Finalist	Best Musical Film
Mannheim Arts and Film Festival	Winner	Artist Feature Film
Madonie Film Festival, Region of Sicily	Winner	Best Original Score
Caravan International Film Festival	Winner	Best Film Score / BGM
Crown Wood International Film Festival	Winner	Best Film Score
Sweden Film Awards	Finalist	Best Music Video
SilverVox Film & Music Festival	Official Selection (Premiere)	Experimental Feature
LA Film & Documentary Award	Official Selection	Musical/Dance Film
Veneto International Film Festival	Official Selection	Best Original Score
American Golden Picture International Film Festival	Official Selection	Best Composing
Crown Point International Film Festival	Official Selection	Score Feature Film
Mei International Film Festival	Winner	Best Score - Feature Film
Luleå International Film Festival	Semi-Finalist	LGBT Film
Eastern Europe Film Festival	Honorable Mention	Best Original Music
Athens International Monthly Art Film Festival	Honorable Mention	Best Original Score
Gloucestershire Film Awards	Honorable Mention	Best Musical Film
Folkestone Film Festival	Honorable Mention	Best Feature Film (40+ min)
Scarlett International Film Festival	Honorable Mention	Best Feature Film

In January of 2026 he was invited to submit to the 2026 Opera America Discovery Grant program. On June 21, 2025, he gave a talk/presentation at Ozcon International, Burbank, CA, about the film of his opera *Marvelous*. On April 5, 2025, *Marvelous* was premiered by Sistersville Opera in Sistersville, West Virginia, which also served as production site for the film. In April 2024 he completed a two-week residency at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Amherst, VA. In 2024, soprano Merissa Beddows was awarded a \$5,000 Young Alumni Grant from the Curtis Institute of Music, Philadelphia, PA, to produce and star in *Marvelous*. In 2023 *Marvelous* was a finalist for the American Prize in Composition, Opera/Theater division.

In 2018 the Ensemble SevenSeasons commissioned his chamber improvisation *Improvisation for Six*. In 2017 his *Templates for Improvisation Through Sight-Reading* were included in the Massachusetts Innovation Nights Showcase, Norwood, MA. In 2013 he received a second commission from the Music Teachers National Association for the piece *The Four Ranges*. In 2007 he had a two-week residency at the Ucross Foundation, Ucross, WY. In 2001 he was elected to the membership of the American Composers Alliance. The orchestral work *Arkadia* was commissioned in 2000 by the Arcady Chamber Orchestra, Bar Harbor, ME. Mr. Hall was selected as “Maine Composer of the Year” in 1997 for the Gamper Festival of Contemporary Music, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME. In 1991 he received a commission for the piece *Hardanger Trio* from the Music Teachers National Association.

CRS Artists released his *Six Sketches for Orchestra from ‘Niagara’* on the CD *The NYC and Philly Performance*: CD 2299, 2022. CRS Artists released his *Halling for Violoncello* on the CD *Virtual Virtuosity*: CD 1496, 2014. Ravello Records released his solo CD *Compositional Improvisations From The Mysteria*: RR7870, 2013. Navona Records released his *5 Variations on Ongiara* on the CD *Harmonious Dissonance*: NV5830, 2010. Ravello Records released his *Quartet* for saxophones on the CD *Quartet at the Crossroads*: RR7805, 2010. *Water: 2 Poems of W.S. Merwin for Soprano and Orchestra* appears in Vol. 15 of ERMMedia's *Masterworks of the New Era*: ERM 5999, 2009.

Mr. Hall's recordings and works have been reviewed numerous times: in the *New Music Connoisseur*, the *New York Times*, *The American Record Guide*, *MusicWeb International*, and the *Portland (Maine) Press-Herald*.

Always fascinated with what he would come to call compositional improvisation—and aware that most vital musical styles usually incorporate improvisation—he eventually developed a system of musical notation templates, which allow for improvisation that combines the latest discoveries in music theory with the logic of tonal harmony. His musical template *Compositional Improvisations Volume 1: Water* is published by the ACA. He actively performed his compositional improvisations for the piano 1-2 times a week in front of live audiences in the online world Second Life from 2009-2014. As a compositional improviser he has participated in the 2010-2016 Back Cove Contemporary Music Festivals (Portland, ME), the 2010 and 2011 Yarmouth Contemporary Music Festivals (Yarmouth, ME), as well as an ongoing series at the Meetinghouse Concert Hall (Wells, ME), 2010-2011, further concerts in Boston MA, and is a member of the improvisational electro-acoustic duo *Mysteria Ways* and the piano improv duo *Mysteriae*.

Mr. Hall is listed in Marquis' *Who's Who in America* and Marquis' *Who's Who in the World*.