

Listening List for Composition Majors

(Online at <http://faculty.ithaca.edu/jvgrossmann/docs/compresourc/listeninglst/>)

Hans Abrahamsen:

Piano Concerto

Marchenbilder

John Adams:

Harmonielehre

Thomas Adès:

Piano Quintet

Asyla

Louis Andriessen:

Rosa

Den Staat

Samuel Barber:

Overture to *The School for Scandal*

Essays for Orchestra

Piano Concerto

Bela Bartók:

String Quartets (6) 4,5,6 (a) ** ***

Concerto for Orchestra

Music for strings, percussion and celesta (a)

Piano Concerto No. 3

Violin Concerto No. 2

Alban Berg:

Piano Sonata

Seven Early Lieder

Violin Concerto

Lyric Suite

Wozzeck

Luciano Berio:

Sequenza (pl. *Sequenze*) (14+)

Il Ritorno degli Snovidenia

Sinfonia

Harrison Birtwistle:

Nine Settings of Celan

Tenebrae

Violin Concerto

Benjamin Britten:

Serenade for tenor, horn and strings (a)

Peter Grimes

Pierre Boulez:
Notations (orchestra)
Notations (piano)
Pierre Boulez (cont.)
Messagesquise
Pli selon Pli
Répons

Elliott Carter:
Sonata for flute, oboe, cello and harpsichord
String Quartet No. 1(a)
Double Concerto
Three Illusions for orchestra

Aaron Copland:
Piano concerto
Piano Quartet
Piano Variations
Symphonies (3) - 1, 3

Azio Corghi:
Divara

Ruth Crawford Seeger:
Rat Riddles
String Quartet (a)

George Crumb:
Vox Balenae
Makrokosmos
Madrigals
Black Angels (a)

Luigi Dallapiccola:
Quaderno Musicale di Analibera (a)
Commiato

Claude Debussy:
La Mer
Jeux (a)
Violin Sonata

Manuel De Falla:
Concerto (a)
El Sombrero de Tres Picos

Henri Dutilleux:
L'Arbre de Songes
Timbres Espace Mouvement

Brian Ferneyhough:
Unsichtbare Farben
Exordium

Lukas Foss:
Time Cycle (a)
Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird
Baroque Variations
Symphonic Phantasy

Luca Francesconi:
DaCapo

Henryk Gorecki:
String Quartets
Symphony No. 3

G rard Grisey:
Partiels
Vortex Temporum

Sofia Gubaidulina:
In Croce
The Light of the End

Howard Hanson:
Symphony No. 2

John Harbison:
Symphony No. 3
Piano Quintet

Jonathan Harvey:
Song Offerings
Cello Concerto
Mortuos Plango, Vivos Voco

Hans-Werner Henze:
Apollo et Hyacinthus
Symphonies (1, 6, 9)

Mario Davidovsky:
Synchronisms (9) piano (a), cello
Biblical Songs

Hindemith:
Symphony Mathis Der Mahler
Ludus Tonalis (a)

Fredrick Kaufman:
String Quartet No. 6 "Urban"

Leon Kirchner:
String Quartet No. 3
Oliver Knussen:
Horn Concerto

Oliver Knussen:
Requiem, Songs for Sue

György Kurtag:
Letters of Trousova (a)
Kafka Fragments
Officium Breve in Memoriam Andreae Szervoánszky
Hommage a R. Sch.

Helmut Lachenmann:
String Quartet No. 3 "Grido"

György Ligeti:
Lontano,
Atmospheres
Requiem
Chamber Concerto,
String Quartet No. 2, (a)
Cello sonata,
Horn Trio, (a)
Piano Concerto
Violin Concerto
Piano Etudes, (a)
Non-sense Madrigals

Magnus Lindberg:
Cantigas
Frescoes
Violin Concerto

Witold Lutoslawski:
Symphonies
Concerto for Orchestra
Cello Concerto
Jeux Vénitiens
String Quartet

Peter Maxwell-Davies:
Eight Songs for a Mad King
Worldes Blis

Olivier Messiaen:
Quartet for the End of Time (a)
Turangalila
Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum
Oiseaux Exotiques
Des Canyons aux Etoiles

Tristan Murail:
Gondwana

Luigi Nono:
Canto Sospeso
La lontananza nostalgica utopica future
Caminantes... Ayacucho

Krystoff Penderecki:
String Quartet (1960)
Passion According to St. Luke
Cello Concerto
Adagietto (from Paradise Lost)

Vincent Persichetti:
Symphony No. 9 Janiculum

Matthias Pintscher:
en sourdine
Sonic Eclipse

Serge Prokofiev:
Symphonies (7) - 1, 2, 5
Piano Concertos (5) - 2,3
Piano Sonata (9) - 7

Augusta Read-Thomas:
Terpsychore's Dream
Sun Spots

Wolfgang Rihm:
Jagden und Formen
Undine

Steve Reich:
New York Counterpoint
Piano Phase
It's Gonna Rain

Christopher Rouse
Gorgon
Trombone Concerto
Symphony No. 1 (a)

Kaija Saariaho:
Graal theater
Notes on Light (cello concerto)
From the Grammar of Dreams

Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez:
Cinco para Cuatro

Giacinto Scelsi:
Four pieces each on a single note

Alfred Schnittke:
Requiem
Concerti Grossi (6) 1, 5
String Quartets

Arnold Schoenberg:
Verklarte Nacht
Pierrot Lunaire, op. 21 (a) *
Chamber Symphony Op. 9
Piano Pieces op. 33

William Schuman:
A Free Song
Violin Concerto
New England Triptych

Roger Sessions:
Symphonies (9) 3, 9
Concerto for Orchestra

Shostakovich:
String Quartet (15) - 5, 8
Piano Concertos (2) - 1
Symphonies (15) - 5, 7

Roberto Sierra:
Memorial Tropicales
Cancionero Sefardi

Karlheinz Stockhausen:
Klavierstucke (19) 11 (a)
Kreuzpiel
Gruppen

Richard Strauss:
Don Juan
Metamorphosen (a)
Alpine Symphony

Igor Stravinsky:

Firebird

L'Histoire du Soldat

Rite of Spring (a)

Petrouchka

Symphony of Psalms

Steven Stucky:

Nell'ombra, nella luce

Ad Parnassum

Concertos for Orchestra

Toru Takemitsu:

November Steps (a)

A Flock Descends into the Pentagonal Garden

Visions

Nostalgia

A Way a Lone

Vladimir Tarnopolski:

Cassandra

George Tsontakis:

Violin Concerto No. 2

Edgard Varèse:

Ionisation

Octandre

Ameriques (a)

Integrales (a)

Poème Electronique

Ralph Vaughan Williams:

Symphonies (9) 1, 4, 9

The Lark Ascending

Claude Vivier:

Lonely Child

Craig Walsh:

Neshanic Wanes

Anton Webern:

Passacaglia, op. 1

Five Movements for String Quartet

Piano Variations,

Symphony op. 21, (a)

Concerto op. 24 (a)

Yehudi Wyner:
Concert Duo
Oboe Quartet

Iannis Xenakis:
Metastaseis (a)
Psappha
Nomos Alpha

Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon:
Flores de Viento I, II

The above list is not comprehensive. It is intended to provide a succinct introduction to the works and compositional styles of a diverse selection of 20th- and 21st-century composers. This compilation represents a basic set of pieces an undergraduate composition student shall become familiar with during the course of a typical four-year undergraduate program.

* Works marked with a parenthetical “a” [(a)] are recommended for analysis.

** A number in parenthesis [e.g. (9)] signifies the number of works in a specific genre or set of compositions. [e.g. Shostakovich, Symphonies (15)]

*** Numbers following such parenthesized numbers [e.g. 1, 7] represent my recommended works within that set of works [e.g. Shostakovich, Symphonies (15) 1, 4, 5, 13]