

THOMAS BOWERS, M.A.

• bowersharpsichords@gmail.com

Education

M.A., Historical Performance (Harpsichord), Longy School of Music, 2014

Cambridge, MA

Course Work: Applied Music Lessons (harpsichord, Avi Stein; organ, Libor Dudas), Continuo Playing, Research and Materials, Keyboard Literature I and II, Mostly Monteverdi, Intimate French Cantata, Rhetoric, Schenkerian Analysis, Early Opera Project (continuo player, Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*)

Selected Masterclasses: Martin Pearlman, David Shemer, Vivian Montgomery

Honors: The Longy School of Music of Bard College Presidential Scholarship, Assistantship in Harpsichord and Continuo Organ Tuning and Maintenance

B.A., Music (Piano) and Philosophy, The Florida State University, 2012

Tallahassee, FL

Course Work: Theory of Piano Technology I and II, Organ Design and Maintenance, Applied Music Lessons (piano, Josh Pifer, Karyl Louwenaar-Lueck; harpsichord, Karyl Louwenaar-Lueck; organ, Michael Corzine), Baroque Ensemble

Honors: Dean's List, President's List, Phi Beta Kappa, College of Music Dean's Student Advisory Council, Freshman Honors Scholarship

Additional Activities: Directed Independent Study in Applied Piano Tuning (Fall and Spring 2010), Directed Independent Study in Historic Tuning, FSU Piano Forum (Fall 2010), FSU Liszt Festival (Spring 2011)

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Intern, Zuckermann Harpsichords International, Fall 2008, Summer 2009
Stonington, CT

Duties: Stringing, bridge pinning, voicing, jack regulation, damper regulation, action regulation, keyboard production and finishing, case finishing, tuning and maintenance of showroom instruments, deliveries and service calls in Connecticut and New York City, exhibition representative and tuner at the Boston Early Music Festival (June 2009)

Harpsichord Teachers

Avi Stein

Vivian Montgomery

Karyl Louwenaar-Lueck

Continuo Teachers

Avi Stein

Dana Maiben

Organ Teachers

Libor Dudas

Michael Corzine

Additional Mentors: Anne Garee (Program Director, FSU Master of Arts in Piano Technology), Glenn Giuttari (The Harpsichord Clearing House), Richard Auber (Zuckermann Harpsichords), Peter Watchorn (Boston College, Hubbard Harpsichords, Zuckermann Harpsichords, Musica Omnia), John Bennett (Bennett/Giuttari continuo organs)

Summer Programs

- Cambridge Choral Summer Course, Cambridge, UK, 2024
- Westminster Choir College Choral Institute at Oxford, full conductor, 2018
- International Baroque Institute at Longy School of Music of Bard College, 2014
 - Masterclasses with Arthur Haas
 - On-site keyboard technician
 - Continuo accompanist for participating vocalists

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Work Experience

Independent Historical Keyboard Technician, 2009 – present

- Service calls, restorations, and instrument rentals in the New England, Alabama, and Florida
- Contract work with the Harpsichord Clearing House (Nov 2024-present)
- Historical keyboard restoration in home shop
- Selected clients:
 - Newport Classical, Newport, RI
 - Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra, Providence, RI
 - Handel and Haydn Society, Boston, MA
 - The Bach Parley, Tallahassee, FL
 - St. Andrew's Chapel, Sanford, FL
 - Cathedral Church of the Advent, Birmingham, AL
 - Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery, AL
 - St. John's Episcopal Church, Montgomery, AL
- Current projects:
 - 1808 Broadwood grand piano restoration/conservation in preparation for sale (personal collection)
 - 1990s David Johnson clavichord, complete rebuild in preparation for sale (personal collection)

Director of Music and Organist, Sept 2015 – Oct 2024

Christchurch Anglican, Montgomery, AL

Duties:

- Service playing: organ, piano, harpsichord, cantor
- Direct the Chancel Choir
- Lead weekly mid-week rehearsals for choir and contemporary musicians
- Plan all service music
- Plan concerts throughout the year, utilizing local musicians as well as visiting artists such as Olivier Chassain (classical guitar, Paris Conservatory) and Alexei Romanenko (cello, Jacksonville Symphony)
- Coordinate musicians for special services
- Plan and lead seasonal services of Choral Evensong
- Work with guest choirs
- Manage music staff, including accompanist, staff soprano, Director of Contemporary Music, flautist, Director of Children's Choir
- Oversee maintenance of instruments: Allen organ, Hubbard & Broekman Flemish single harpsichord, two grand pianos, two upright pianos

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Historical Keyboard Technician, Summer 2013, June 2014 – Sept 2015

The Harpsichord Clearing House, Rehoboth, MA

Duties:

- Restoration of musical instruments in preparation for sale: harpsichords, fortepianos, clavichords, virginals/spinets, continuo organs, and pedal harpsichords:
 - Musical finishing: action and jack regulation, stringing, voicing
 - Soundboard repair
 - Case stabilization
 - Case and parts refinishing
- Organize and execute rentals, service calls, and concert tunings (harpsichord, fortepiano, continuo organ, etc.) in the Boston Metro Area and around New England. Selected clients:
 - Handel and Haydn Society
 - Boston Baroque
 - Emmanuel Music
 - Boston Early Music Festival 2015 (tuning for various Festival Concerts, rehearsals, workshops)
 - Tufts University
 - Marsh Chapel (Boston University)
 - Wheaton College (Norton, MA)
 - Providence College
 - Longy School of Music of Bard College
 - International Baroque Institute at Longy (2014 Summer Workshop)
- Perform sample recordings of instruments for website
- Exhibition representative and tuner at the Boston Early Music Festival (June 2013, June 2015)

Organist and Choirmaster, Jan 2014 – Sept 2015

St. Chrysostom's Episcopal Church, Quincy, MA

Duties:

- Service playing
- Organize concerts and special music
- Hiring, organizing, and accompanying outside musicians
- Co-founder of the Hive Gallery, a seasonal early music concert and art opening at St. Chrysostom's

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Workshops, Lectures, and Additional Teaching Competencies

- Private Instructor: harpsichord, organ, guitar. (2014 – 2019)
- “*Insight Among Friends*” presented at the Lonergan Workshop 2021, The Lonergan Institute at Boston College. (June 2021)
- “Harpsichord Voicing, Maintenance, and Regulation” workshop for piano technician master’s students at Florida State University. (Fall 2015)
- “Gregorian Chant in the Anglican Liturgy” presented at *Theology on Tap* Lecture Series, Church of the Advent Beacon Hill, Boston, MA. (Dec 2013)
- “Harpsichord Quill Replacement and Voicing” workshop for piano technician master’s students at Florida State University. (Spring 2011)
- “Harpsichord Stringing and Regulation” workshop for piano technician master’s students at Florida State University. (Spring 2010)
- Certificate of Completion of the Teaching Artists Program at Longy School of Music of Bard College. (Spring 2014)

Publications

- Book review: *The Harpsichord Stringing Handbook*, by Thomas Donahue in *The Diapason*. (Sept 2016 issue)

Ensembles and Selected Performances (full list available upon request)

- Harpsichordist, Handel’s *Messiah* with the Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra, Providence, RI. (Dec 2024)
- Harpsichordist, Baroque trio concert with Alexei Romanenko (cello, Jacksonville Symphony) and Jonathan Kuo (violin, Jacksonville Symphony), Montgomery, AL. (Sept 2024)
- Harpsichordist, “Masters of the Baroque: Telemann, Handel, Corelli, Barrière, & La Guerre” with Alexei Romanenko (cello, Jacksonville Symphony) and Miriam Barfield (violin, Columbus Symphony, Tallahassee Symphony), Montgomery, AL. (Aug 2022)
- Guest Organist, Bishop’s Electing Synod Mass, St. Peter’s Anglican Cathedral, Tallahassee, FL. (May 2022)
- Harpsichordist, “A Celebration of the French Baroque” with Katerina Juraskova (cello), Montgomery, AL. (March 2019)
- Harpsichordist, Bach’s Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 with the Montgomery Symphony Orchestra, Montgomery, AL. (Nov 2018)
- Founding member, *Incendium Novum*.
 - “Faithfully Yours: A Bach Tribute,” Montgomery, AL. (April 2018)

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- Outreach Concert with ClefWorks (chamber music organization), Baldwin Arts Magnet School, Montgomery, AL. (April 2018)
- "Saints & Sinners: Women Composers of the Baroque" Boston Early Music Festival Fringe Concert, Boston, MA. (June 2017)
- "Gems of the Italian Baroque," Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, Troy, NY. (Jan 2017)
- Artist in Residence, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Cambridge, MA. (2015 – 2017)

Other Activities and Achievements

- Elected Treasurer for the Montgomery, AL chapter of the American Guild of Organists, 2024-2025 term
- Produced two videos for the ClefWorks YouTube channel exploring the harpsichord and the development of keyboard actions from the harpsichord and clavichord to the modern piano. (Aug 2020)
- Consulted on the assessment of The Alabama Department of Archives and History's collection of keyboard instruments. (June 2020)
- Featured as a promising young harpsichordist and builder in "Twenty Under Thirty," *The Diapason*. (May 2015 issue)
- Drafted successful proposal to bring Dr. Peter Watchorn to the FSU College of Music as a visiting Housewright Scholar. (Spring 2012)