

DENNIS YERRY

A versatile jazz pianist, composer, arranger and teacher, Dennis Yerry was raised in the Catskill Mountains of New York State. He studied at the State University of NY at New Paltz and privately with keyboard artists Richard Tee, Sharon Freeman and Ronnie Matthews at the Jazzmobile in NYC. He has been a member of ASCAP since 1987. Mr. Yerry, a Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Native American brings the American Indian perspective on relationships with the earth to schools and university panels in his speaking engagements as well as with his music. He is currently an adjunct professor at Dutchess County Community College in Poughkeepsie, NY, teaching jazz piano and improvisation.

- Composer - **The Nocalulla Experience** - Outdoor Theatre on site in Gasden, Alabama at the Nocalulla State Park. **Summer 2019**
- Co-director and Instructor - **Sitka Fine Arts Camp** - Sitka, AK - piano instructor - **2015 - 2021**
- Composer and Music Director for **Unto These Hills**, Cherokee, NC, a retelling of one of the longest running outdoor dramas in the country. **2006 - 2022**
- Performer at **United Nations 60th Anniversary**, Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, CA - **2005**
- Soloist with Hawkproject, **Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra**, Flagstaff AZ. – **2002**
- Native American music consultant and performer in PBS Series "**The West**" - Ken Burn's documentary. Performing native flute, singing and drumming. - **1996**
- Native flute and traditional singing, "**Lewis and Clark**", PBS Documentary on the **Corps of Discovery** by Ken Burns. - **1997**
- Musical Director/Composer - "**Black Elk Speaks**" - Denver Center Theatre, **1994, 1993** (winner - "American Theatre Critics New Play Award"), **1995** - Mark Taper Forum - Los Angeles
- Composer, **Manituwak**, Schoharie Creek Art Players, play based on local Native American history, **1999**
- Music composer/director, **American Indian Dance Theatre**, 10th anniversary show, Kotuwakan collaboration with choreographer Laura Dean - **1998**
- Music Director / Composer **Woodstock Youth Theatre**, Woodstock, NY – **1995 - 2002**
- Composer - HBO series "**White Snow**" - Fairy Tales for Every Child - background score for Native American cartoon - **1996**
- **Native American Giving of Thanks Celebration** at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York
1992 - 2005 Musical Director/Composer/Performer - created performance concept, directed performers and musicians; ensured authenticity, commissioned to compose 3 new pieces in **1992**
1991 Composer/Conductor - premiere of choral piece, "**The Great Vision**" for 20 piece intertribal chorus, piano and native flute. Featuring **R. Carlos Nakai**.

DENNIS YERRY

Discography:

Native American Contemporary Compositions - Composer

Kay Olan – And That’s the Way That Story Goes – Producer / Composer

Ann Osmond & Dennis Yerry – Optimistic Voices – Producer / Performer

Matt Tooni – Seasons - Producer

Kay Olan – Mohawk Stories – Producer / Composer

Unto These Hills (A Retelling) – Producer / Composer for CD of music from the Outdoor Drama in Cherokee, NC

Shades of Green – (native flute) CD with Dorothy Papadakos, recorded live with the Great Organ at St. John the Divine Cathedral.

The Catskills: A Sense of Place - Child of the Mountains - an Audio Teaching Resource sponsored by the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development

The Song Inside – (vocals, native flute) with Sloan Wainwright, Farkie Music

White Boy With A Feather – (native flute) with Jason Downs, Jive Records

Let Us Put Our Minds Together - the Hawk Project, producer/composer

The West - Film Soundtrack - Sony Classical

The Catskill Collection - compiled by Jay Ungar and Molly Mason (Fiddle and Dance Records)

Music for the Fifth World - collaboration with Jack DeJohnette, John Scofield and members of Living Colour

Native Son - solo record release on Wildlife Records featuring Dan Brubeck

I Send A Cry - (producer/arranger) New Age recording by Charles Lawrence

Reviews:

Woodstock (NY) Times: “Dennis Yerry flawlessly playing a jazz accompaniment”

NY Daily News: Mr. Yerry is "one of the most talented newcomers on the local jazz scene."

Variety: (re: Black Elk Speaks) "A stunning musical score has been arranged for flute and drums by Dennis Yerry."

Arizona Daily Sun: (re: Hawkproject) The Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra brought one of the finest concerts in their history to Ardrey Auditorium. The music was mesmerizing, and struck me as transcendent, taking the listener to their soul's depth.

150 Watson Hollow Rd., West Shokan, NY 12494

website: www.dennisyerry.com

telephone: (845) 853-3394

email: dyerry313@gmail.com