
Damian Valverde

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PROFILE

Composer, producer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist; with composition experience including placement on “The Americans” and “American Rust” and performing experience as lead guitarist in multiple bands. Bachelor’s in music production, magna cum laude, from SUNY Purchase’s Music Conservatory.

SKILLS

- Knowledge of DAWs, including Logic Pro X, Reaper, Reason, ProTools, and Ableton Live, and plug-ins including Serum, Zebra2, and Diva
- Knowledge of multiple instruments with emphasis on guitar, but also including bass, keyboard, melodica, ukulele, and some drums
- Hands-on experience with a variety of analog and digital synthesizers including Microkorg, Lyra 8, Microbrute, Korg Volcas, and Subharmonicon, as well as modular synths including Eurorack systems
- Experience with MIDI interfaces, mixers, and microphones
- Experience running live sound and lighting for music conservatory performances
- Computer software: Word, Photoshop, After Effects, and Final Cut Pro X
- Works well independently and with others, learns quickly, hard working

COMPOSING

Composed diagetic pieces for TV series, AMERICAN RUST, Season 2 episode 3 and episode 7, which will air on the streamer Amazon Prime spring 2024

Composing score for work-in-progress documentary film series ORGANIC, directed by Egor Subbotin

Composing score for two work-in-progress short films directed by John Costa

Composed score for Motion Picture Editors Guild internal communication video, October 2023

Composed psychedelic score for UNDERGRADS, a short film directed by Egor Subbotin, Spring 2020

Composed diagetic piece for the dramatic TV series, THE AMERICANS, Season 5 episode 4, which aired on FX on March 28, 2017

Composed score for book trailer for supernatural thriller The Saints of the Lost and Found, by Toni McGee Causey, Roadrunner Press, March 2016

Composed score for book trailer for romantic women's fiction A Change of Heart, by Sonali Dev, Kensington Books, September 2016

OTHER ORIGINAL WORK

Under the artist name Fretless Fox

Song, "Dying World," published as part of the inaugural Music Mastermind compilation album, *Hey Mom, Just Want You To Know, I'm Not Crazy*, released to streaming platforms and vinyl LP in January, 2021.

Released the song, "Montclair," on streaming platforms in fall 2020

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

Jones Beach Theater, Jones Beach, NY, June 14, 2017

As part of the Garden of Dreams "O.A.R. 2.0" group, performed the song, "Peace" on the melodica, accompanying the chart-topping band, O.A.R. onstage.

Radio City Music Hall, NYC, April 3, 2017

As part of the Garden of Dreams Talent Show, performed the O.A.R. song, "Peace" on melodica, accompanying a chorus.

ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES

Colony & Pearl Moon open mic nights, Woodstock NY, performing as Fretless Fox, August 2023 to present

Whitson's at The Stood, Purchase College, performed solo as *Fretless Fox*, April 2022

Sunnyside Jam, Queens, NY, performed lead guitar with the band *CB Moniker*, July 2021

Halloween Show at Purchase College, performed solo as *Fretless Fox*, October 2019

Pianos Bar, NYC, performed as lead guitarist in the band *Caleb Coming and the Heat*, June & August 2019

Whitson's at The Stood, performed lead guitar with the band *Hamster*, May 2019

Room 81, NYPIRG benefit concert, performed lead guitar with the band *Hamster*, March 2019

Whitson's at The Stood, performed lead guitar with the band *Hamster*, November 2018

Free Store, Purchase College, performed solo as *Fretless Fox* as part of *Jam if You Can Party* lineup, Oct 2018

Little Skip's, Bushwick, NY, performed solo and with *Hamster*, multiple times, 2018 & 2019

Sidewalk Café, NYC, performed solo, August 2017

RELATED EMPLOYMENT

Equipment Room Apprentice, Purchase College Music Conservatory, September 2021-May 2022

Worked in the music building equipment room. Duties included taking inventory of microphones and other studio equipment, filling out orders and delivering equipment to the studios, checking the condition of all music studios, wrapping out equipment at the end of the semester.

Live Sound Tech for Concerts, Purchase College Music Building, Recital Hall

- Brass Ensembles, Recital Hall, May 1, 2022
- Works for Electric Guitar and Percussion, March 16, 2022
- Purchase New Music – A Concert of Premieres, December 15, 2021
- Wind Chamber Music, December 1, 2021

Post Production Sound Assistant, WONDERSTRUCK feature film, directed by Todd Haynes. Jan-April 2017

- Office work and running errands as needed; exposure to all stages of sound post-production, primarily sound editing and mixing.

Sound Editing Assistant, Harbor Pictures Sound Department. Sept-Dec 2016

- Tasks included creating background tracks for documentaries and dramatic TV projects on ProTools, organizing sound effects libraries, and running errands as needed.

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Mailroom clerk, Skadden Arps Slate Meagher and Flom, LLP, New York, NY. Sept 2014-June 2015

Stockroom assistant, Modell's Sporting Goods, Douglaston, NY. Sept 2013-June 2014

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Music, Purchase, NY, Sept 2018 – December 2022

- Graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in music
- Learned from working musicians, producers, and sound engineers, many of them GRAMMY winners
- Courses included:
 - Two years of music theory
 - Two years of music history
 - Two years of ear training
 - Four years of intimate master classes with working professional music producers

- Classes in film scoring, creative production techniques, midi composition, electroacoustic music, touring, promo & distribution, contracts & publishing, keyboard studies, hand drumming, studio ensemble, and sound engineering

Mastermind Road intensive program and grad program, June 2017 – July 2021

- Studied songwriting, music business, production, and voice in invite-only group
- Performances in multiple Mastermind Showcases at Funkadelic Studio, New York, Fairfield Theater Company Stage One in Fairfield, CT, and online
- One-on-one study with GRAMMY-winning music producer Mike Mangini
- One-on-one study with Broadway guitarist Dillon Kondor (“Dear Evan Hansen”)

The Summit School, Queens, NY, Sept 2013 – June 2017

Regents Diploma

- In addition to academics, education included music theory, collaborative songwriting, and performing original material in the yearly spring concerts.
- Helped set up and run sound for the yearly spring concerts
- Private afterschool lessons with Gary Raheb in guitar and bass, as well as music theory

Queens College Copland School of Music, Center for Preparatory Studies in Music, Sept 2015-June 2017

- Jazz keyboard and bass
- Performances at Queens College and Flushing Town Hall

NYU Steinhardt Summer Electronic Music Institute (SEMI), New York NY, June-July 2016

Audition-based summer program.

- Learned essential elements of sound design, live FX, mixing, and other related arenas; worked with MIDI controllers, Logic and Ableton Live.
- Electronic music performance at NYU’s Frederick Loewe Theater

Litchfield Jazz Camp, New Milford, CT, July 2016

- Jazz keyboard; combos, weekly performances; performed onstage at the Litchfield Jazz Fest

GRAMMY Camp New York, Rubber Tracks, Brooklyn, NY, August 2015

Audition-based summer camp.

Electronic Music Production Track

- Worked with ProTools; composed original electronic music
- Performance at NYU’s Tishman Auditorium