

Graeme Shields is a Canadian-born composer and organist whose influences range from the Lutheran music tradition to the experimental confidence of the avant-garde. His compositions, often exercises in dry humour and eccentricity, aim to articulate the mysteries of the past, the spirit, and the unknown. His music features repetition, audible process, stark juxtaposition, theatrical elements, and a bricolage approach to harmonic language. Through these features and influences, he has generated a body of work that breathes new life into ancient elements like old-world folk tunes and extinct pagan rituals.

Graeme has had works performed across the US, Canada, and Russia and has been recognized by the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival and the Duluth-Superior Symphony Orchestra. He has also enjoyed artist residencies at Warbler's Roost in South River, ON and Azure in Hot Springs, NC.

Graeme is a founding member of Vital Organ Project; a composer-organist duo that facilitates the creation and performance of new organ music. Since 2017, VOP has been the catalyst for over 20 world premieres across the US and Canada showcasing the instrument's versatility and relevance in the 21st century. Shields has also held numerous organist and accompanist positions across the American Midwest as well as the Turkish American Musical Theatre Alliance, for which he traveled to Istanbul in 2013.

Graeme is pursuing his DMA at the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati and holds degrees from Western Michigan University and the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

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