

# Mehmet Ali Sanlikol

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## EDUCATION

- Harvard University** Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Postdoctoral Fellowship in Ottoman classical vocal music written in Byzantine neumes. 2013-15
- New England Conservatory of Music**, Doctor of Musical Arts, Composition and Jazz Studies. 2004
- New England Conservatory of Music**, Master of Music, Jazz Composition. 2000
- Berklee College of Music**, Bachelor of Music, Jazz Composition and Film Scoring. 1997

## APPLIED & PRIVATE STUDY

- Cemal Kafadar; *Ottoman/Turkish history and language* - Harvard University, 2003-2004
- Robert Labaree; *ethnomusicology* - New England Conservatory, 2002-2003
- Lee Hyla; *composition* - New England Conservatory, 2001-2004
- Nilgün Doğrusöz; *classical Turkish music performace, musicology* - İTÜ Turkish Music State Conservatory 2000-2001
- Nektarios Antoniou; *Byzantine music and notation* - Hellenic College/Holy Cross 2000-2001
- John Abercrombie; *Jazz performance* - New England Conservatory, 1999-2000
- Bob Brookmeyer; *composition* - New England Conservatory, 1998-2002
- George Russell; *lydian chromatic concepts* - New England Conservatory, 1998-2000
- Paul Bley; *Jazz piano* - New England Conservatory, 1998-1999
- Manny Albam; *writing for the Jazz Orchestra* - BMI Jazz Composers Workshop
- Herb Pomeroy; *Line Writing & Music of Duke Ellington* - Berklee College of Music, 1994-1995
- Ray Santisi; *Jazz piano* - Berklee College of Music, 1993-1996
- Aydm Esen; *Jazz piano & composition* - Istanbul, Turkey, 1992-1993
- Fethiye Sanlikol; *western classical piano* - Bursa, Turkey, 1979-1991

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- New England Conservatory**, Boston, MA, 2017 – Present  
**Full-Time Faculty, Music History Department.** Courses include “Topics in Improvisation” and “Exoticism in Western Music”
- Emerson College**, Boston, MA, 2007 – 17  
**Senior Faculty, Performing Arts Department.** Courses include “Perspectives in World Music” and “History of Jazz”
- New England Conservatory**, Boston, MA, 2011  
**Adjunct Faculty, Music History Department.** Courses include “History of Jazz” and “Music of Turkey”
- New England Conservatory**, Boston, MA, 2002 – 04  
**Teaching Fellow, Music History Department.** Courses included Music History “Survey III”
- New England Conservatory**, Boston, MA, 2002 – 04

**Teaching Fellow, Music Theory Department.** Courses included “Fundamentals”  
**College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, 2011 – 16**  
**Adjunct Faculty, Music Department.** Created the “Introduction to Composition in Jazz and Pop” course. Other courses included “Introduction to Music” and “Fundamentals of Music”  
**Brown University, Providence, RI, 2011 – 13**  
**Adjunct Faculty, Music Department.** Coached the Middle Eastern Ensemble. Offered private lessons. Courses included “Music of Turkey”  
**Rhode Island College, Providence, RI, 2007 – 13**  
**Adjunct Faculty, Music Department.** Coached the Middle Eastern Ensemble. Courses included “Non-Western Music Cultures” (voted by students among the top 25 classes at Rhode Island College)  
**Berklee College of Music, Boston, MA, 2005**  
**Adjunct Faculty, Contemporary Writing and Production Department.** Courses included music theory and arranging.  
**Tufts University, Medford, MA, 2004 – 07**  
**Adjunct Faculty, Experimental College and Music Department.** Offered private lessons. Courses included “Ottoman/Turkish Music Performance”.

## AWARDS/ DISTINCTIONS

**Creative City Grant from New England England Foundation for the Arts, 2017**  
**The Aaron Copland Fund for Music Performance Program Grant, 2016**  
**Paul R. Judy Center for Applied Research Grant** from Eastman School of Music, 2015  
**Grammy award nomination** with A Far Cry string orchestra, 2014  
**Associate of the Music Department** designation at Harvard University, 2013  
**Clare Fischer Award** from the Professional Writing Division of Berklee College of Music, 1997

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Books*

Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol, *Evterpi: Reform and Notation in Early Nineteenth-Century Istanbul*. In progress.  
Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol, *The Musician Mehters*. Istanbul: The ISIS Press, 2011.  
Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol, *Çalıcı Mehterler*. Istanbul: Yapı Kredi Yayınları, 2011.

### *Conference and Symposium Presentations*

Sanlıkol, Mehmet Ali. “Reconstructing a Turkish Identity in Boston: Mehter, Byzantine Music, Jazz, and More”. Paper presented at *Musics Abroad* seminar as part of the Mahindra Humanities Center at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 2015.  
Sanlıkol, Mehmet Ali. “Reform and Notation in Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century Istanbul”. Paper presented at the Second Boston Byzantine Music Festival, Brookline, MA, 2014.  
Sanlıkol, Mehmet Ali. “Cultural Translations of Ottoman/Turkish Music in Byzantine Neumes: documenting musical evolution of usul and makam”. Paper presented at the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Society for Ethnomusicology, Indianapolis, IN, 2013.  
Sanlıkol, Mehmet Ali. “Karamanlidika Publications: Understanding the Cultural Differences Between Ottoman/Turkish Music and Byzantine Music”. Paper presented at the Mostly Orthros Conference presented by the Axion Estin Foundation, New York, NY, 2012.  
Sanlıkol, Mehmet Ali. “Karamanlica Publications: Cultural Translations of Ottoman/Turkish Music into Byzantine Notations”. Paper presented at the Second International Conference on Analytical Approaches to World Music,

- Vancouver, Canada, 2012.
- Sanlikol, Mehmet Ali. "Ottoman/Turkish Music in Byzantine Neumes: Documenting Musical Evolution in Oral Tradition". Keynote address presented at the Northeast Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Medford, MA, 2012.
- Sanlikol, Mehmet Ali. "The Multi-layered Identity of the Bektaşî Sufi Order and its Music". Paper presented at the *Islam and Music* symposium at Tufts University, Medford, MA, 2012.
- Sanlikol, Mehmet Ali. "The Many Worlds of Islam and the Role of Music in Them". Paper presented at the Massachusetts Music Educators' Association All State Conference, Boston, MA, 2009.

## **OTHER RELATED EXPERIENCE**

- Co-director of the Intercultural Institute at New England Conservatory, 2017
- "Musical Explorations in Orchestra and 'Coffeehouse Opera': Bektashi Sufism, Ottoman Eunuchs and Othello". Talk presented at City University of New York, 2016
- "The Contemporary Musician and Being Musically Bilingual". Talk presented at the Istanbul Technical University's MIAM (Center for Advanced Studies in Music), 2014
- Reviewed Merih Erol's book proposal, entitled *Musical Discourse and Cultural Identity among Ottoman Greeks in the Era of Reform*, for Indiana University Press, 2012
- Consultant for the Turkey exhibit at the Musical Instrument Museum in Phoenix, AZ, 2011 – 14
- Featured as a panelist in "Contemporary Muslim Voices in the Arts and Literatures" presented by The Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University, 2009
- "The Musician Mehters of the Ottoman Period: a presentation on their colorful repertoire and a new approach to contemporary mehter music". Talk presented at the *Sohbet-i Osmani* series at Harvard University's Center for Middle Eastern Studies, 2009
- Co-founded *DÜNYA*, a musicians' collective and record label exploring a cosmopolitan view of the world through the lens of a wide range of Turkish traditions, along with Robert Labaree, [www.dunyainc.org](http://www.dunyainc.org) / 2003 – Present

## **SELECTED PERFORMANCES**

- Carnegie Hall (New York, NY)
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, NY)
- Shalin Liu Performance Center (Rockport, MA)
- Public Theater (New York, NY)
- National Sawdust (New York, NY)
- Jordan Hall (Boston, MA)
- Sanders Theatre (Cambridge, MA)
- Kennedy Center (Washington, DC)
- Theatre de la Ville (Paris, France)
- Arsenal de Metz (France)
- NYU Abu Dhabi (UAE)
- International Famagusta Music Festival (Cyprus)
- International Istanbul Jazz Festival (Turkey)
- Ankara International Music Festival (Turkey)
- Bursa International Music Festival (Turkey)
- Blue Note Jazz Club (New York, NY)
- Le Poisson Rouge (New York, NY)
- Scullers Jazz club (Boston, MA)

The Regattabar (Cambridge, MA)

## SELECTED RECORDINGS

**Resolution** (DÜNYA, 2016) Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol & Whatsnext? featuring Anat Cohen, Dave Liebman, Tiger Okoshi and Antonio Sanchez. DownBeat magazine's September's Editor's Pick

**Whatsnext?** (DÜNYA, 2014) Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol. Included in JAZZIZ's Critics' Choice Top 10 list, 2014

**A Story of the City: Constantinople-Istanbul** (DÜNYA, 2010) Schola Cantorum, Ensemble Trinitas and DÜNYA Ensemble directed by Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol.

**Music of Cyprus** (DÜNYA, 2007) DÜNYA Ensemble directed by Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol. First production to bring Greek and Turkish Cypriots and mainland Greeks and Turks together

## SELECTED WORKS

*Harabat/The Intoxicated* – tenor & ud with orchestra, 2015

*Othello in the Seraglio: The tragedy of Sümbül the black eunuch* – a "coffeehouse opera" in 2 Acts composed for 4 singers and chamber ensemble featuring European period instruments, Turkish instruments and an actor, 2015

*Şu yalan dünya* – tenor, choir and piano, 2015

*The Turkish 2nd Line (New Orleans Çiftetellisi)* – Jazz orchestra and clarinet in Bb, 2015

*Concerto for Soprano Saxophone and Jazz Orchestra in C* – in 3 movements: I. Medium Funk "Rebellion", II. Ballad "Reminiscence", III. Up-tempo Swing "Resolution", 2015

*A Jazzed up Devr-i Revan* – Jazz combo with Turkish instruments, 2014

*The Blue Typhoon* – cello quartet, 2014

*Vecd* – string orchestra, 2012

*Ergenekon: An Ancient Turkish legend* – children's choir, tenor, soprano and mixed chamber ensemble with Turkish instruments, 2002

*Byzantium* – chamber ensemble, 2008

*When queen met the sultan* – clarinet in Bb and piano, 1999

## SELECTED COMMISSIONS

Carnegie Hall (New York, NY)

American Composers Orchestra (New York, NY)

A Far Cry String Orchestra (Jamaica Plain, MA)

The Boston Cello Quartet (Boston, MA)

American Islamic Congress (Washington, DC)

PALS Children's Chorus (Brookline, MA)

DMD Polifonik Koro (Bursa, Turkey)

## LANGUAGES

Turkish	High Advanced level: reading, writing and speaking
Ottoman Turkish	Mid Advanced level: reading and speaking
English	High Advanced level: reading, writing and speaking
Greek	Intermediate level: reading and speaking
German	Low Intermediate level: reading, writing and speaking
Arabic	Low Intermediate level: reading and speaking

## REFERENCES

Available on request