

Michael Cirillo
Short Biography and Current Research Interests

I am a jazz violinist, fiddler, and composer. I began studying violin at four. By twelve I was gigging several nights a week throughout Arizona, and by fifteen performing regularly at national jazz festivals including twice at the prestigious Sacramento Jazz Festival.

I also competed in fiddling contests. In 1990, when I was nineteen, I won the title of *Arizona State Grand Fiddle Champion* and *Arizona State Guitar Accompanist Champion*.

Since then I have made my living playing music. I have performed for Hugh Hefner and Justine Timberlake in Hollywood, played fiddle at Planet Hollywood Paris, and worked as a strolling violinist on a cruise ship to Ensenada. I have played just about every gig imaginable.

Recent performances include music festivals in Paris, Italy, and Luxemburg. Recent local venues include concerts for the *Tucson Jazz Society* and *ASU's Kerr Cultural Center*.

I have been fortunate to work with jazz violin great Johnny Frigo, jazz mandolin legend David Grisman, country music icon Glen Campbell, and Nashville dobro virtuoso Jerry Douglas.

I also enjoy teaching. Recently I taught a graduate workshop in *Alternative Violin Performance and Pedagogy* (March 2010) at ASU, and instructed K-12 orchestra teachers in fiddling and jazz violin at the *Rolland Fiddle Camp* (July 2011) in Colorado.

I complement industry with academia. From Arizona State University I earned a *Master of Liberal Studies* (2006), a *Bachelor of Music in Theory and Composition* (2003), and a *Bachelor of Music in Jazz Violin* (2003).

Computational media is important to my work: audio recording and editing, audio synthesis, notation, algorithmic composition, 3D editing and animation, video editing, video compositing, image authoring and manipulation, data visualization and sonification, interactive computational modeling, web design.

I have experience in several computer languages:

- Python
- Processing
- C#
- Mathematica
- Java
- Visual Basic

I am comfortable with many media authoring tools:

- Sonar (digital audio workstation, composition)
- Finale (music notation, composition)
- Blender (3D modeling, animation, compositing, video editing)
- Mathematica (data visualization and sonification, algorithmic composition)
- Processing (data visualization and sonification, interactive media)
- Microsoft Expression Studio (interactive media, UI, web development)
- Microsoft Visual Studio (integrated development environment: C# and VB)
- miscellaneous (Adobe Photoshop, Adobe After Effects)

Please see the next page for my specific research interests and portfolio links.

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Specific Areas of Interest:

Composition

I work in traditional composition, electro/acoustic composition, computational models of musical creativity, interactive composition, and media composition.

Innovative Violin Performance

I research jazz violin, fiddle playing, and innovative and multicultural violin styles, techniques, and pedagogies.

Music, Math, and Science (The Pythagorean Tradition)

The past informs and inspires the future. I research the interplays of music, mathematics, and science throughout the history of these fields. I also explore the contemporary vanguard of this tradition.

Music, Cognition, and Computation

What goes on in the brain when we create and enjoy music? Can these processes be reproduced computationally? How can this inform creative work?

Music and Informatics

I am interested in common information abstractions and computational methods with broad trans-disciplinary reach. Can informatics serve as a fundamental language for trans-disciplinary research? What role can music play in this emerging and proliferating field?

Thanks for your interest. Feel free to visit my website: www.fiddlermike.com

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