

SUSAN ELIZABETH ALEXjANDER  
[xjander@got.net](mailto:xjander@got.net)

Composer, Performer, Educator, Sound Designer

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**Education** B.A. English Literature and Teaching Credential 1966  
Chatham College, Pittsburgh, Pa. and University of Utah  
M.A. Music Composition and Theory  
San Jose State University, San Jose Ca. 1982  
Graduate and Undergraduate Study:  
Higo Harada composition; Allen Strange, electronic music;  
Lou Harrison, gamelan.  
M.A. Dissertation: - original compositions

**Instruments** Gamelan, Viola Da Gamba, Voice, Piano, Guitar; Chorale

**Mixed Ensemble/Performances**

Gamelan Si Betty, Lou Harrison, director built by William Colvig 1980s  
and Lou Harrison.  
Sekar Kembar (formerly owned by Lou Harrison, dir. by Trish Neilsen)  
Si Aptos (built by Pak Daliyo and owned by L. Harrison/W. Colvig, dir. by  
Trish Neilsen).  
70th Birthday Celebration, May 17, 1987. Selected works by L. Harrison  
including "Philemon and Baukis" with Daniel Kobialka, violin.  
Producer, A Gathering of Angels. Grace Cathedral, SF, Ca. 1992  
Co-Director and performer: Musica Divina with Mihr'un'Nisa  
Douglass, Steven Coughlin and Diana Stork instrumentalists.  
Vox Mundi - Exploratorium performance *Music of the Rainforest* 1994  
dir. Sylvia Nakkach, San Francisco, Ca

**Composition Performances Since 1990**

Sequencia New Music America, San Jose State University, 1990  
November 8. S Alexjander, synthesizer; Don Lax, violin; Karen  
Andrie, cello; Deana Nieves, voice; Andrew McLester, tabla.  
KPFA Morning Concert - Sequencia - with Charles Amirkhanian;  
music and interview.  
Buffalo Bill's Defunct, Cal. State U. Los Angeles, North American  
Saxophone Alliance. William Trimble, sax.  
In This Body, Music from *Sequencia* and original soundtrack for AXIS 1991  
Dance Co. , Thais Mazur, dir. October 25, 26 and 27. Laney College,  
Oakland, Ca.  
Eikos, for synthesizer and violin. S. Alexjander synth. and Wendy  
Reid, violin. Oakland Museum Concert Series, Birds, Frogs and

- Other Creatures. Nov. 24, Oakland Museum.
- Helix; Soundtrack for AXIS Dance Troupe for Boston Performance 1992
- Buffalo Bill's Defunct - KPFA Radio, - live performance
- Buffalo Bill's Defunct - Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento: Wolford/  
Rosenblum Duo
- Tellings: AXIS - Michigan Women's Festival, 1994
- Film score - AXIS -
- The Way In: original music for a Cal Performance with AXIS,  
Berkeley Museum of Art
- Lord, Make Me An Instrument of Thy Peace and The Lady and  
The Bear; Fresno State U., Heleme Joseph-Weil, sop., April
- For Ida: (voice and piano). Commissioned by Rita Bottoms, S.C.
- Buffalo Bill's Defunct - Performances by the Wolford/Rosenblum  
Duo, Santa Cruz, Ca.
- DNA, Pulsars, Elements Sound Design; Young People's Millenium 1999  
Concert, Honolulu, Hawaii. Synthesizer Performance - Sheraton  
Hotel. Dir. Dixie Belcher.
- Kyrie - In Memorium for Mike Tom. Voice and Piano; Honolulu, 2001  
Hawaii
- Two Art Songs: My Body A Tree, And For No Reason, text by Hafiz. 2007  
Michael Tierra, piano; Kathleen Nitz, soprano. "Spotlighting  
21st. Century American Women Composers." Aptos, CA. 2008
- Buffalo Bill's Defunct; Dale Wolford, Saxophone, Ivan  
Rosenblum, narration. Santa Cruz Chamber Players, "Saints,  
Sinners and Sassing Bach," Santa Cruz, CA. and Carmel, CA
- Two Art Songs: My Body A tree; And For No Reason  
Tamra D'Ann Paselk, recital. SF Conservatory of Music; June 27th
- Eikos; Rebecca Jackson, violin; SA synthesizer. New Music Works  
of Santa Cruz, CA. Oct. 10; UCSC Music Center Recital Hall
- And For No Reason: Portland Piano International; Katherine Work,  
piano; Annie Mancini, Soprano. World Forestry Center, July 11-18th.  
Portland, Oregon. 2010
- Zero Waiting, Crazy Jane: New Works by Women Composers of  
Cascadia, Sept. 23, Lincoln Hall, Portland State University. 2011
- Eikos, Crazy Jane Collaborates! Cascadia Women's concert, Colonial Heights  
Presbyterian Church, Portland, Oregon. Friday Nov. 9th, Paloma Griffin  
violin, SA sythesizer. 2012.
- Fluid, Vashon Island concert with Jessa Young. Dec. 15th,
- Fluid; ballet. Choreography by Lavinia Magglio, Portland Festival  
Ballet. Portland, Oregon, Groovin Green House. Jan.
- Two Art Songs, for voice and piano. Crazy Jane Misbehaves Concert, 2013  
Lincoln Hall, Portland, Oregon. Vakare Petroliaunaite, voice;  
Jennifer Wright, piano.

**Museum/Gallery Exhibits**

<u>Museum of Modern Art; San Francisco, Ca. (<i>Sequencia</i>)</u>	1994
<u>Santa Barbara Museum of Art: <i>Out of Sight; Imaging/Imagining Science (Sequencia)</i></u>	1998
<u>Universal Concepts Unlimited Gallery; New York City. <i>Women In Science (Genomically Yours). (Sequencia)</i></u>	2003
<u>Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History, SC, Ca. <i>Into-Being; The River.</i> Sound design for video w/ Diana Hobson.</u>	
<u>Fort Collins Museum of Contemporary Art; Co. Convergence of Art and Science – (<i>Sequencia</i>).</u>	2005
<u>Catalyzing Science In Our Schools; New York Academy of Sciences; 2005. (<i>Sequencia</i>)</u>	
<u><i>Zero Waiting</i>: Art Film Soundtrack; visuals, Diana Hobson. The Salt Gallery, Hale, Cornwall, UK.</u>	
<u><i>Zero Waiting</i>; The Gallery of Cogswell College</u>	
<u><i>Zero Waiting</i>; Sculpture IS; Pajaro Valley Arts Council and Gallery</u>	2006
<u>New York Hall of Science, Digital '06: Bio/Med Sci Art exhibition (<i>Sequencia</i>)</u>	
<u><i>Zero Waiting</i>; “On/Off; Art in the Digital Era”, Cabrillo College Gallery, Aptos, CA.</u>	2007
<u><i>Zero Waiting</i>: en Trance: Santa Cruz, CA.</u>	2009
<u><i>Zero Waiting</i>, en Trance: Galerie Califia, Horazdovice, Bohemia, Czech Republic.</u>	
<u><i>Divining Nature; An Elemental Soundscape.</i> Soundscape in collaboration with sculptor Rebecca Kamen for <i>Divining Nature, An Elemental Garden</i>; Greater Reston Art Center, McLean, Virginia. October.</u>	
<u><i>Zero Waiting</i>; Cielo/Sky: Feb. 12-March 15th Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands</u>	2010
<u><i>Coming On The Backs of Whales</i>, for OCEAN, an experiential gallery installation: Thais Mazur dir; Lisa Denning underwater photography; SA soundtrack. Michael Stocker, guest lecturer. OddFellows Hall July; Mendocino, CA.</u>	
<u><i>Elements of Tone Elemental Matters: Artists Imagine Chemistry.</i> Soundtrack in collaboration with Rebecca Kamen, sculptures. Chemical Heritage Foundation; Philadelphia, PA. Feb. to December</u>	
<u><i>Zero Waiting</i>; Transducere; Root Division Gallery; SF CA. November</u>	2011
<u><i>Fluid</i>: Gallery installation in collaboration with sculptor Rebecca Kamen. Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery, Smith Farm Center For Healing. Washington, DC, April/May</u>	2012.
<u><i>Divining Nature</i>: Permanently gifted to Taubman Museum of Art; Roanoke, VA. Collaboration with Rebecca Kamen, sculptor.</u>	2013

**Professional Services: Music**

<u>Director: Science &amp; The Arts; a company which supports scientific research, artistic creativity and outreach to celebrate the vibrational</u>	ongoing
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interconnectedness of the universe.

Composer/Producer: *Sequencia* ...CD recording 1990  
 Produced by Science and The Arts. Composed (original) music using tunings derived from DNA molecular vibrations, for electronic synthesizer, violin, cello, tabla and voice.

Co-Producer : *A Voice of Vision...*with Willow Simmons. Directed by Amanda Simmons. An evening presentation of the music and artistry of Hildegard of Bingen, Pacific Cultural Center, Santa Cruz, Ca. Performance included period costumes, music ensemble of chorus, medieval harp and viola da gamba (Luciana Lombardi), dramatic readings, staging, music and Illuminations on 'stained-glass' windows.

Published scores: *Buffalo Bill's Defunct; Eikos.*

Music Co- director: *A Gathering of Angels:* Grace Cathedral, SF 1992

Music director: *The Way In:* A Cal Performance at the Berkeley Art Museum with AXIS Dance Troupe, February. NEA Grant. Artistic Director, Thais Mazur. 1994

Chant director: *Women's Dream Quest,* Grace Cathedral, SF 1990-'94

Soundwalk, for March Music Moderne. Mt. Tabor Park, March 2013, '14

**Original Research W/Vibration**

Micro/macrocosmic Music: a way of deriving tuning banks to present of sound from the vibrational data of the natural world. First gathered from the infrared spectra of DNA. Expanded to include atomic elements (hydrogen, oxygen etc.), water, thunder, pulsars. 1988

**Recordings**

*Sequencia* 1990

*Elements As Tone* 1995/'10

*Divining Nature* 2010

*Coming On The Backs of Whales* 2011

*Fluid* 2012

**Published articles/Magazine Interviews**

Discovery Channel Magazine; *I Sing The Body Atomic.* J. R. 1991

New York Times Science Section: *From Techy to Trendy,* 1992

*Today's Products Hum DNA/s Tune.* R. W.

Experimental Musical Instruments: *DNA Tunings.* S.Alexjander

Future History Magazine: *Microcosmic Music: A New Level of Intensity.* S.. Alexjander 1993

Open Ear Magazine: *DNA Tunings.* S.Alexjander

Ascolti Profondi, Deep Listeners. *The Twilight Zone,* G.G. 1994

IEEE: Engineering in Medicine and Biology: *The Infrared Frequencies of DNA Bases: Science and Art.* S.Alexjander 1999

Journal of MiNai'Sa Club; Seoul, Korea. *DNA Tunings,* W.L. 2001

New York Times: *The Art of the Code, Or, At Play With DNA.* S.B. 2003

Night Magazine, *Women in Science*;( *Genomically Yours*). D.V.  
The Economist: *Back To Bases*; *The Art of DNA*. N.S.  
*Alternative Therapies*; *Taking Note: Music, Mind and Nature*, by  
 Larry Dossey, MD  
*Muy Interesante*; *Como suenan tus genes?* 2007  
*Elemental Matters*; *Artists Imagine Chemistry*:  
*Liberty Universtiy Online*; *Title Magazine*; *Nature Magazine*; *CEN-Online* 2011  
 On Web: *F#*; *What's This All About?*; *Fluid, the Soundtrack Creation*;  
*Elements of Tone*.

**Radio/TV Interviews** 1990/present

BBC Radio  
 Wisconsin Public Radio – *To The Best of Our Knowledge*  
 KPFA Radio, Berkeley Ca. *Wavelength*  
 WGEM TV – Illinois  
 CNN TV  
 KUSP Public Radio, Santa Cruz, Ca. *Mind, Body, Spirit*  
*Sharry Edwards Radio Interview*  
*The Green Network* with Carolyn North  
*Healing Conversations* with Lauren Galey - Radio  
*Distillations Broadcast* (Chemical Heritage Foundation): *Good Vibrations*  
*Radio Interview with Mia Lobel*; *Femgineer*.

**Teaching/Music**

San Jose State University adjunct faculty; SJ, Ca 1985-'90  
 Music Theory and Music Involvement  
National University, San Jose. Music Involvement 1988  
JFK University, Orinda. Semester: Sound And Consciousness 1992  
Private Seminars: The Metaphysics of Sound, Berkeley Ca.  
Union Institute, Sacramento, Ca. Adjunct faculty: music 1994  
Goddard College, Plainfield, Vt. Adjunct faculty; Health Arts 1999'01  
California Institute of Psychoacoustics, San Francisco, CA. 2003,4  
 Theory from a psychoacoustic perspective  
Cogswell College, Santa Clara, Ca. Music Theory; adj. prof. 2003-2008  
Private teaching: harmonics and composition ongoing

**Lecturing, Presentations and Workshops**

Presentations on Hildegard of Bingen (slides and music); 1986/87  
 Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Women's Studies)  
 University of California Santa Cruz; Women In The Arts, Kay Metz  
 University of Utah, SLC, Utah; Women In Music, Anne Hankinson  
 Cabrillo College, Aptos, Ca. Women In Music, Steven Key  
 San Jose State University History of Music, William Trimble  
 KKUP Radio, Cupertino, Ca. Hour interview with music of Hildegard of

Bingen; Thomas Montoya, host.  
International Sound Colloquium, Epping, New Hampshire. 1991  
 Presenter: *Music In The Natural World*  
California College of Arts and Crafts; Oakland, Ca. Lectures 1992/3  
*On the Nature of Sound, Harmonics and Architecture.*  
American Composer's Forum: Presentations of *Sequencia* 1995  
 For high school composition seminars..Berkeley High.  
Goddard College, Vt. Keynote Graduation Speech for Health 2001  
 Arts. *Tuning of the World; Riding the Wave.*  
MiNaiSa Club, Seoul, Korea. Invited to present *Sequencia*.  
 Unable to attend.  
SETI Conference: Encoding Altruism; Paris, France. Invited to 2003  
 present *Interstellar Composition about DNA Through a Language*  
*of Tone..* Unable to attend.  
East/West Bookstore, Mountain View, CA 2004  
Gateways Bookstore, Santa Cruz, CA  
California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, Ca.*Our Biosphere;*  
*Reconnecting With The Chalice of Life Through* 2005  
*Sound; Vox Mundi Project.* Berkeley, CA.  
*Our Biosphere; Sounds of the Earth;* lecture at Earth Retreat,  
 Juneau, Alaska 2006  
OMEGA Institute, Rhinebeck, NY: *Sound and The Biosphere* 2007  
Norwegian Light Association, Oslo, Norway. Oct. 17th and 18th,  
 Oslo Bymuseum, Frognerveien 67, Oslo Norway Seminar 2008  
International Light Association Conference, Heidelberg, Germany  
 October 24th; evening presentation: *Microcosmic Music*  
*Portland Piano International: Composing with the Harmonic Lattice*  
*and Other Sonic Delights*, July. World Forestry Center, Portland, OR. 2010  
*International Light Association 8th Annual Conference: FLUID* 2011  
*Soundtrack: The Body's Breath of Life in Sound and Light.*  
 St. Sauvier des Monts, Quebec, Canada  
Colours of Water, an ISIS Conference. FLUID.Menier Gallery, 2013  
 London, UK. March 20-27.  
*The Sacredness of Silence and Sound;* FLUID, with Siere Munro  
 Studio Nia, Portland, Oregon  
*Soundwork*, FLUID, weekend workshop with Joshua Leeds.  
 Ashland, Oregon

## Broadcasting

1983 to 2009

Programmer: KPFA Pacifica radio, Berkeley; 94.1 FM, non-commercial.  
 Producer for Bay Area Women's Philharmonic. Host,  
 Morning Concert twice/mo. Music and interviews with New Music artists  
8 -Programmer, KUSF, San Francisco (U. of SF) 90.3 FM, non-commercial  
 radio. Classical/free-form.

Programmer KUSP radio, 88.9 FM non-commercial, Santa Cruz, Ca.  
*"So-Called Classical"; Fast Forward* - 20th and 21st. C. Music  
KUSP Interviews included: Bay Area artists and performers Pauline Oliveros, JoAnne Fallata, Paul McCandless, Arte Lande; Tania Leon etc.  
KUSP Host: Cabrillo Music Festival Broadcasts (remote van), 1990  
Sunday Night Specials: *"An Evening With Lou Harrison"*  
Producer: Two radio plays for broadcast: *"Sorry, Wrong Number"* and *"Baba Yaga,"* Russian folk tale w/ Diana Moll  
KUSP Radio Gamelan - live premiere performance of the first on-air radio gamelan in the U.S.....host and performer.

**Professional Organizations**

<u>Board Member;</u> Nature Sounds Society, Oakland, Ca.	1990-'95
<u>Board Member:</u> Santa Cruz Chorale	2004/5
<u>American Composer's Forum</u>	
<u>Panelist/Advisor:</u> The Wellcome Trust Grants; UK	2002+
<u>ASCI</u> (Art and Science Collaborations, Inc.) Member	ongoing
<u>Noetic Sciences</u> , Member	
<u>BMI</u> , New York City	

**Works in Progress**

Under Cottonwood Sky, for chamber ensemble and soundtrack.  
ZUVUYA: Remembering The Ocean. Seven-country Pacific Rim tour featuring Ocean, A Living Sculpture with director Thais Mazur and filmmaker Lisa Denning. Scheduled installation Jan. 2014: MELD Gallery, Kona, Hawai'i