

# Benjie Messer

(480) 310-9826  
benjiemesser@gmail.com  
www.benjiemesser.com

---

## Film and Media Credits

- “Stand Up Guy” (2009)** **composer**  
Composed theme song and scored the most recent episode of the independent comedy web series. Carol Benwell, director.
- Got Milk? (2009)** **composer**  
Independent comedy short. Chris Redish, director.
- At Best Derivative (2009)** **composer**  
Independent comedy feature. Ryan Pierson, director.
- The Mating Game (2008)** **composer**  
Independent comedy short. Jay Lee, director.
- A Magical Valley Christmas (2007)** **composer**  
Local Christmas special filmed in Twin Falls, Idaho. Mark Bork, Director.
- Spiritrax.com (2007-present)** **arranger**  
Arranged and produced over 100 original sing-along backing tracks of religious songs for sale on the Spiritrax.com website, in widely varying styles.
- One Light Music Productions Custom Music Department (2007-present)** **music programmer**  
Produced music for the following Stage Stars Karaoke albums:  
- Wizard of Oz                      - Spring Awakening                      - Little Shop of Horrors  
- West Side Story                      - Oklahoma                      - Hairspray  
- The Little Mermaid                      - Damn Yankees                      - South Pacific

We also create backing tracks for live theaters around the country and for singers, which often require arranging and/or transcription.

## Works In Concert

- The Dave Henning Sextet Plays the Music of Benjie Messer (2008)** **composer/trombonist**  
Eight original compositions for jazz sextet.
- Boston Summer Music Clinic (2005)** **composer**  
Three Dances for Violin, Flute, and Mandolin
- Inner Orchestra (1996-2003)** **composer/trombonist**  
Original instrumental jazz and funk. Performed regularly, released two albums, presented a free grant-funded educational series of public concerts. Opened for George Clinton and P-Funk, Michael Franti and Spearhead, Yusef Lateef, Soulive, Steve Turre, Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey, and Melvin Sparks.
- Benjie Messer Sings! (2002)** **composer/pianist/vocalist**  
An evening of original songs for voice and piano.

**The Barons of Swing (1999)**

An evening of original swing dance music, both vocal and instrumental.

**composer/trombonist**

**Education**

**University of Massachusetts (2000-02)**, Amherst, Mass. Master's in Music Education

Composition teacher: Yusef Lateef

**Hampshire College (1995-99)**, Amherst, Mass. Bachelor of Arts

Composition teachers: Andrew Jaffe and David Reck of Amherst College, Salvatore Macchia of the University of Massachusetts.

**Professional Memberships**

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP)

American Federation of Musicians (AFM), Local 586

**Performance**

Active as a freelance trombonist (and often doubling as a pianist). Currently performing regularly with Bad Cactus Brass Band (New Orleans-style second line), Rakatá (latin), and the SCC Big Band (jazz).

**Relevant Computer Skills**

**Sequencing and Audio Editing** (Logic Audio, Melodyne)

**Sample Libraries** (EastWest Orchestras, Colossus, Liquid Audio, RealGuitar, Apple Loops, etc.)

**Notation** (Sibelius, Finale)