

AARON ALON, DMA

Aaron Alon is an award-winning composer, writer, director, filmmaker, and teacher. His concert music has been played in concert venues in seven countries on five continents, including in 14 US states, as well as Washington, DC. His concert music has also been released on five labels and awarded numerous national and international composition honors, including those from ASCAP, NACUSA, NFMCA, SCI, Meet the Composer, the Lotte Lehmann Foundation, the Renée B. Fisher Composer Awards, and Mu Phi Epsilon.

Alon is also highly active as a teacher. He is a Professor of Music and the former chair of the Visual & Performing Arts at Lone Star College-University Park. He is a two-time winner of the Lone Star College Faculty Excellence Awards. He also served for a decade as the Director of the Composition program at AFA's summer music festival until 2018 and has previously taught for a number of Houston area universities and continuing studies programs, including at Rice University and the Women's Institute of Houston. Alon's educational work also includes the development of a professional development website for musicians and cofounding the vocal pedagogy website and nonprofit, Vocal Toolkit.

Since 2009, Alon has also been highly active as a playwright and musical theatre composer-lyricist. His plays and musicals have been read and performed in New York City, Houston, San Diego, and Galveston, as well as in the UK. Alon was one of six international finalists for the 2022 Fred Ebb Awards for musical theatre writers and one of three international finalists for the 2023 Stanley Drama Award.

Alon is the writer and director of the award-winning feature film musical *Bully* (2017), which has been screened in and awarded prizes from numerous film festivals around the world. Recent and upcoming projects include three new stage musicals (*The Great White Way: the Bert Williams Musical*, *Mad!*, and *The Chosen Ones*); additional new plays, musicals, and films; and additional content for his YouTube Channel, which has had over 10 million views. He is a founding member and president of the Board of Directors of Thunderclap Productions, a 501(c)3 nonprofit that produces new and under-recognized plays, musicals, and screenplays.

Alon is a member of the Recording Academy (voting member for the GRAMMY Awards), ASCAP, and Mu Phi Epsilon. He holds a DMA from Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, an MM from the Cleveland Institute of Music, and a BA from the University of Chicago. His past composition teachers include Karim Al-Zand, Anthony Brandt, Shih-Hui Chen, Jean Milew, Marta Ptaszynska, and Orianna Webb.