

Dan Cavanagh is the Associate Director of Jazz Studies and an Associate Professor of Music at the University of Texas at Arlington. He is an Honorary Fellow of the National Academy of Music, and was named a Prizewinner in the 2009 International Music Prize for Excellence in Composition. He has garnered numerous awards for his jazz compositions, including a 2006 First Music Commission from the New York Youth Symphony Jazz Band Classic program, Featured Performance at the 2006 International Jazz Composers' Symposium, Honorable Mention in the 2007 Gil Evans/IAJE Commission Competition, Finalist in the 2002, 2005, and 2007 ASCAP Young Jazz Composers competitions, and ASCAPPLUS awards each year since 2003. His music continues to be performed across the country and internationally, and he has received commissions from a wide range of groups across North America, including bassist John Brown, trumpeter John Adler, Georgetown University, Virginia Tech University, Simpson College (Iowa), the New Mexico All-State Jazz Ensemble, the Nova Jazz Orchestra (Minnesota), the Westwinds Jazz Orchestra (Calgary, AB), The University of Oregon, the University of Texas at Arlington, Grammy-winning drummer and leader Joe McCarthy, the Fort Worth Jazz Orchestra led by Adonis Rose, and various high school and middle schools. Cavanagh was commissioned by Documentary Arts, Inc. to compose music for its documentary film, *The Beat Hotel*. His music for big band is published by Walrus Music and UNC Jazz Press. He also was commissioned by the HR Big Band in Frankfurt and Lawrence University to participate in the Radiohead Jazz Project. His arrangement of *Packt Like Sardines in a Crushd Tin Box* was recently published by Sierra Music.

In November 2008, the Jazz Emporium Big Band, led by Cavanagh, released an album entitled *Pulse*, consisting of eight of Cavanagh's original charts. The Jazz Emporium Big Band is made up of the finest jazz musicians from around the country, and the recording has received significant radio play since its release on OA2 Records. All Music Guide's Ken Dryden writes that *Pulse* is an "auspicious...and striking release." Several other groups around the country have recorded his music, including John Adler (*Confronting Inertia*, Origin Classical, 2009); the University of Northern Iowa Jazz Band One, directed by Chris Merz (*Strange Wonderful*, 2009); the Nova Jazz Orchestra (*A Time of Reckoning*, 2009, *In a Lucid Moment*, 2007, *Hard Room*, 2005, NJO Records), and the University of Texas at Arlington Jazz Orchestra (*Caravan of Cool*, 2009, *Legacy*, 2006), the US Naval Academy Next Wave Big Band (*Just Getting Started*, 2010). A recording by the John Brown Jazz Orchestra (*Setting Standards*) featuring three of his arrangements is due for release in summer 2012 on Brown Boulevard Records.

Cavanagh has performed with (as pianist) and composed for the Fort Worth Jazz Orchestra, led by drummer Adonis Rose. His piano trio CD, *The Heart of the Geysier*, featuring bassist Linda Oh and drummer Joe McCarthy, is slated for release on OA2 records in April 2012. In June 2008, he was one of three pianist/composers nationwide invited to participate in the Steans Institute for Young Artists Jazz Program, a component of the Ravinia Music Festival held outside Chicago. He has performed with leading jazz figures Terrell Stafford, Jon Irabagon, Jeff Coffin, Jason Marsalis, the Adonis Rose Quintet, Remy Le Boeuf, Linda Oh, the Fort Worth Jazz Orchestra, John Riley, Grammy-winners Joe McCarthy and Irma Thomas, among others.

In addition to his teaching at UT Arlington, he works as a freelance jazz pianist and composer in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. He is also active as a clinician and adjudicator in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, and has appeared as a guest artist or conductor with groups across the nation. He is on the faculty of the International Jazz n' Youth Exchange in Rheine, Germany.

He received a Master's of Music degree in Jazz Studies/Composition from the University of Oregon, and was awarded the Outstanding Graduate Student in Jazz Studies award upon graduation. While there, he studied jazz composition with Steve Owen and jazz piano with Randy Porter and Toby Koenigsberg. Prior to graduate school, he worked for MakeMusic!, Inc, makers of Finale notation software. He received his undergraduate degree in Theory/Composition from St. Olaf College, where he studied jazz with Dave Hagedorn and theory/composition with Timothy Mahr, Mary Ellen Childs, Peter Hamlin, and Charles Forsberg. For more information, visit [www.dancavanagh.com](http://www.dancavanagh.com).