

Tomás Huse Jonsson

301 West Franklin St. Apt 212, Baltimore, MD 21201 —
tomasjonsson@yahoo.com — +1 832-481-2965 — www.musicbytomas.com

Educational Information:

M.M. (Jazz Studies) at the University of North Texas in 2024

GPA: 4.0/4.0

B.M. (Classical Piano Performance) from Rice University in 2022

GPA: 3.86/4.0

Honors & Awards:

2024 BMI/PeerMusic Latin Music Award for “Ocurrencias”

2024 Downbeat Student Music Award “Latin Group Outstanding Performance” for Duo Brasil

2024 Downbeat SMA “Outstanding Large Vocal Jazz Ensemble Performance” for UNT Jazz Singers

2024 Graham H. Phipps Paper Award for “Misunderstood: The Other Side of Art Tatum”

2024 Leopold Schepp Foundation Edythe Bobrow Scholar

2024 UNISA International Jazz Piano Competition, 2nd Place and Best Jazz Ballad

2023 Jacksonville Jazz Piano Competition, 1st Place

2022 Rice Undergraduate Distinction in Research and Creative Works

2022 Mary Ellen Hale Lovett Traveling Fellowship

2021 Special Mention in Amsonia International Composition Contest for *Nocturne*.

2019 Scored an animated short film *Lil' Hybrids* that won a Bronze Remi Award at Houston WorldFest.

2018 Texas All-State Jazz Band

2018 Pauling Piano Competition, 1st Place

Notable Performances and Experiences:

July 2024 Jazz, TX (San Antonio) show with Benny Benack III

June 2024 Jazz Aspen Snowmass Big Band directed by Christian McBride

November 2023 Murchison Performing Arts Center (with Helen Sung and the One O'Clock Lab Band®)

October 2023 Denton Arts and Jazz Festival (with the One O'Clock Lab Band®)

September 2023 Steve's Wine Bar (with Nick Finzer Sextet)

May 2023 Jacksonville Jazz Festival (with Ulysses Owens, Jr. and Reuben Rogers)

April 2023 Paul Voertman Concert Hall (with Laila Biali and the UNT Jazz Singers)

October 2022 Denton Arts and Jazz Festival (with the UNT Jazz Singers)

June 2022 Brevard Jazz Institute

July 2021 Jazz in July Program

June 2021 Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium (with Michael Dease and Jane Monheit)

June 2021 Brevard Jazz Institute

July 2019 UNT Jazz Combo Workshop

Discography:

2026 Album *The Unsung Sinatra* ft. Elijah Thiessen

2024 Duet EP *Two Percent* ft. Dani Toralla

2024 Single *Close to You* ft. Caity Gyorgy

2023 Single *Espressivo* ft. Benny Benack III

2022 Album *First Impressions* (multigenre solo album of all original music, self-recorded, mixed, and mastered)

2021 EP *Four Songs without Words* ft. Connor Chaikowsky

2020 Single *Nocturne* for Piano and Strings

Research:

2023 “*Misunderstood: The Other Side of Art Tatum*” published May 2024 in *Harmonia*, Vol. 20

2022 [Lecture-Performance](#) + Q&A to Scriabin Society of America on “Scriabin’s Harmonic Prophecies of Jazz”

Employment History:

Years	Activity	Description
2023-2024	Piano Teacher	Teach virtual private music lessons (classical and jazz) to low-income Dallas ISD Middle School and High School students.
2023-2024	Church Pianist at Friendship Baptist Church of the Colony	Accompany a Black Gospel youth choir and band during weekly services and rehearsals.
2022-2024	Teaching Fellow at the University of North Texas	I taught and developed a hybrid curriculum for Jazz Studies students seeking to improve their piano skills, both in Classical fundamentals and Jazz harmony.
2022-2024	Orchestral Pianist at New Texas Sinfonia	I serve regularly when the chamber orchestra needs a pianist. May/June 2024: "Appalachian Spring (suite for thirteen instruments)" - Aaron Copland June 2023: "Symphony No. 4" - Gustav Mahler arr. Klaus Simon October 2022: "The Carnival of the Animals" - Camille Saint-Saëns
2021-2022	Church Pianist at West University Baptist Church	Traditional Service: Played grand piano with a small chamber orchestra, choir, and pipe organ. Contemporary Service: Played Electric Keyboard backing up a CCM-Style Band.
2022	Teaching/Resident Assistant at Brevard Jazz Institute	Assisting faculty, supervising high-school student living quarters, coaching younger students, and keeping track of the students.
2018-2021	Church Pianist at The Fountain of Praise	Recommended songs and created arrangements for the church band in the Black Gospel tradition.
Summer 2019/2020	Legal Intern at Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office	Assist prosecutors in summarizing evidence, listening to phone calls, contacting witnesses, translating and transcribing audio. During the Summer of 2020, I accepted a position as an intern again but was unable to attend due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
Summer 2017	Legal Intern at The Middleton Law Firm, PLLC	I interned with attorney and judge Brian Middleton to learn about the legal process, help him in his office, and observe court trials.
2011-2018	Houston Young Artist (two 4-year terms)	HYAC is a group of elite musicians volunteering to perform at retirement homes, hospitals, and concert halls around the city.
2015-Present	Music by Tomás www.musicbytomás.com	Since the age of 5, I have been studying the piano to perform, compose, and enjoy music. I perform in concert halls, churches, corporate events, weddings, funerals, and restaurants across a diverse spectrum of genres.

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Recent Honors & Awards:

2025 Rubato International Jazz Piano Competition, Gold Medal
2024 BMI/PeerMusic Latin Music Award for “Ocurrencias”
2024 Downbeat Student Music Award “Latin Group Outstanding Performance” for Duo Brasil
2024 Downbeat SMA “Outstanding Large Vocal Jazz Ensemble Performance” for UNT Jazz Singers
2024 Graham H. Phipps Paper Award for “Misunderstood: The Other Side of Art Tatum”
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2019 Scored an animated short film *Lil' Hybrids* that won a Bronze Remi Award at Houston WorldFest.
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2018 Pauling Piano Competition, 1st Place

Research:

2023 [“Misunderstood: The Other Side of Art Tatum”](#) paper accepted for publication May 2024 in *Harmonia*, Vol. 20
2022 [Lecture-Performance](#) + Q&A to Scriabin Society of America on “Scriabin’s Harmonic Prophecies of Jazz”

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2023-2024	Church Pianist at Friendship Baptist Church of the Colony	Accompany a Black Gospel youth choir and band during weekly services and rehearsals.
2022-2024	Teaching Fellow at the University of North Texas	I taught and developed a hybrid curriculum for Jazz Studies students seeking to improve their piano skills, both in Classical fundamentals and Jazz harmony.
2022-2024	Orchestral Pianist at New Texas Sinfonia	I serve regularly when the chamber orchestra needs a pianist.
2021-2022	Church Pianist at West University Baptist Church	Traditional Service: Played grand piano with a small chamber orchestra, choir, and pipe organ. Contemporary Service: Played Electric Keyboard backing up a CCM-Style Band.
2018-2021	Church Pianist at The Fountain of Praise	Played and created arrangements for the youth choir band in the Black Gospel tradition.

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2022 Rice Undergraduate Distinction in Research and Creative Works
2021 Special Mention in Amsonia International Composition Contest for *Nocturne*.
2018 Texas All-State Jazz Band
2018 Pauling Piano Competition, 1st Place

Institutional Funding Received:

2024 Peabody LaunchPad Career Development Grant *The Unsung Sinatra* Album
2024 Peabody LaunchPad Logistical Grant for Travel and Performance at Jazz Education Network (JEN) 2025
2023 UNT Need-Based Travel and Recording Scholarship for recording *Two Percent* EP ft. Dani Toralla
2023 UNT Need-Based Travel and Recording Scholarship for recording *Close to You* ft. Caity Gyorgy
2023 UNT Need-Based Travel and Recording Scholarship for recording *Close to You* ft. Benny Benack III
2022 Mary Ellen Hale Lovett Traveling Fellowship for Brevard Jazz Workshop

Notable Performances:

July 2024 Jazz, TX (San Antonio) show with Benny Benack III
June 2024 Jazz Aspen Snowmass Big Band directed by Christian McBride
February 2024 APEX Jazz Festival with One O’Clock Lab Band
November 2023 Murchison Performing Arts Center (with Helen Sung and the One O’Clock Lab Band®)
October 2023 Denton Arts and Jazz Festival (with the One O’Clock Lab Band®)
September 2023 Steve’s Wine Bar (with Nick Finzer Sextet)
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October 2022 Denton Arts and Jazz Festival (with the UNT Jazz Singers)
June 2021 Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium (with Michael Dease and Jane Monheit)

Selected Discography:

2026 Album *The Unsung Sinatra* ft. Elijah Thiessen
2024 featured on One O’Clock Lab Band Album [*Lab 2024*](#)
2024 Duet EP *Two Percent* ft. Dani Toralla
2024 Single *Close to You* ft. Caity Gyorgy
2023 Single *Espressivo* ft. Benny Benack III
2022 Album [*First Impressions*](#) (multigenre solo album of all original music, self-recorded, mixed, and mastered)

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Employment History:

Years	Activity	Description
2024-2026	Graduate Jazz Fellow	Perform original compositions and arrangements around the Baltimore/DC area with GJE, directed by Sean Jones.
2023-2024	Piano Teacher	Teach virtual private music lessons (classical and jazz) to low-income Dallas ISD Middle School and High School students.
2023-2024	Church Pianist at Friendship Baptist Church of the Colony	Accompany a Black Gospel youth choir and band during weekly services and rehearsals.
2022-2024	Teaching Fellow at the University of North Texas	I taught and developed a hybrid curriculum for Jazz Studies students seeking to improve their piano skills, both in Classical fundamentals and Jazz harmony.
2022-2024	Orchestral Pianist at New Texas Sinfonia	I serve regularly when the chamber orchestra needs a pianist. May/June 2024: "Appalachian Spring (suite for thirteen instruments)" - Aaron Copland June 2023: "Symphony No. 4" - Gustav Mahler arr. Klaus Simon October 2022: "The Carnival of the Animals" - Camille Saint-Saëns
2021-2022	Church Pianist at West University Baptist Church	Traditional Service: Played grand piano with a small chamber orchestra, choir, and pipe organ. Contemporary Service: Played Electric Keyboard backing up a CCM-Style Band.
2022	Teaching/Resident Assistant at Brevard Jazz Institute	Assisting faculty, supervising high-school student living quarters, coaching younger students, and keeping track of the students.
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2011-2018	Houston Young Artist (two 4-year terms)	HYAC is a group of elite musicians volunteering to perform at retirement homes, hospitals, and concert halls around the city.

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2024 Downbeat Student Music Award “Latin Group Outstanding Performance” for Duo Brasil

2024 Leopold Schepp Foundation Edythe Bobrow Scholar

2024 UNISA International Jazz Piano Competition, 2nd Place and Best Jazz Ballad

2023 Jacksonville Jazz Piano Competition, 1st Place

Notable Performances:

November 2025 The Lalu Hotel (Taiwan) with The Grooveline Dallas

November 2025 Busboys and Poets DC with Dominick Farinacci’s Modern Warrior Project

October 2025 Baretto NYC with Benny Benack III Quartet

October 2025 The Kennedy Center with Marcel Penzes New Orleans Jazz Sextet

September 2025 Boordy Vineyards with Brinnae Ali and Sean Jones

March 2025 - Present: Pianist for Javier Nero Jazz Orchestra Residency at An Die Musik

March 2025 Guatemala Jazz Festival with Afina-Dos (Latin Jazz Duo)

July 2024 The Kitchen Café with Vero Pérez

July 2024 Jazz, TX (San Antonio) show with Benny Benack III Quartet

June 2024 Jazz Aspen Snowmass Big Band directed by Christian McBride

February 2024 APEX Jazz Festival with UNT One O’Clock Lab Band®

November 2023 Murchison Performing Arts Center (with Helen Sung and the UNT One O’Clock Lab Band®)

October 2023 Denton Arts and Jazz Festival (with the UNT One O’Clock Lab Band®)

September 2023 Steve’s Wine Bar (with Nick Finzer Sextet)

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April 2023 Paul Voertman Concert Hall (with Laila Biali and the UNT Jazz Singers)

October 2022 Denton Arts and Jazz Festival (with the UNT Jazz Singers)

June 2021 Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium (with Michael Dease and Jane Monheit)

Selected Discography:

2026 Upcoming Album *The Unsung Sinatra* with Elijah Thiessen

2026 featured on upcoming album with DJ Rice Big Band

2025 featured on UNT Jazz Singers Album [Too Darn Hot](#)

2024 featured on UNT One O’Clock Lab Band® Album [Lab 2024](#)

2024 Duet EP [Two Percent](#) with Dani Toralla

2024 Single [Close to You](#) ft. Caity Gyorgy

2023 Single [Espressivo](#) ft. Benny Benack III

2022 Album [First Impressions](#) (multigenre solo album of all original music, self-recorded, mixed, and mastered)

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