

Vince Peterson

Conductor, Composer, and Keyboardist

Experience

Choral

- Founder and Artistic Director of Choral Chameleon** 2008 - Present
- Set artistic vision and goals
 - Audition and maintain group of 12 paid singers
 - Give 3-4 series concerts per season plus performances for hire in high profile venues
 - Create education outreach initiative for college and high school students
 - Work with board of directors on fundraising and strategic planning
 - Develop artistic advisory relationships
 - Applied for non-profit status with the IRS; press coverage (see press)
- Artistic Director of Empire City Men's Chorus** 2014 - Present
- Set artistic vision and goals
 - Audition and maintain group of 30-50 volunteer singers
 - Give 3-4 series concerts per season
 - Develop artistic advisory relationships
- Interim Director of Choirs at Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music** 2009 - 2011
- Directed large Chorale (80-100 voices), Chamber Choir (16-32 voices), and opera choruses
 - Gave 6-8 concerts per season; joint performances with college orchestra
 - Taught in the areas of Core Music (non-majors), Ear Training, Theory, Music Education in Secondary Schools, Choral Methods, Voice, Conducting
 - Observed student teachers at public school placements
 - Received student press reviews (see Press)
 - Revised and updated Ear Training curriculum and convened Ear Training faculty
- Assistant Conductor of Cantori New York** 2009 - 2010
Mark Shapiro, Director
- Assistant Conductor and Principal Accompanist of Golden Gate Men's Chorus (San Francisco)** 2003 - 2005
Joseph Jennings, Director

Teaching

- Music Director at Regis High School (New York City)** Fall 2015 - Present
- Teaching areas: Music Theory, History, and Psychology; French Language; Vocal Groups and Bands
 - Director of both school Chorus and Band programs: 2 choral groups and 7 bands
 - Overseer of all liturgical music, co-preparer of liturgies, music advisor to Campus Minister and Principal
 - Music Director for all musical theater productions
- Adjunct Assistant Professor of Music at Brooklyn College (CUNY)** Fall 2009 - Spring 2013
- Teaching areas: Ear Training (Levels 1-4, complete sequence), Music Theory (Levels 1 and 2 of 3), Core (non-majors)
 - Observer and Advisor of NY State Teaching Certificate students in public school teaching placements, both primary and secondary schools (approximately 3-4 students per school year)
 - Associate in choral music activities: accompanist / continuo player as needed; assist with choral sectional rehearsals
- Sub-Instructor / Interim Director of Choral Activities at Brooklyn College (CUNY)** Fall 2009 - Spring 2011
- Director of two choirs: 80-100 voice Symphonic Chorale and 16-32 voice auditioned Chamber Choir
 - Teaching areas: as above, plus graduate music education courses in choral pedagogy and classroom methods
 - Guest conductor of conservatory orchestra and director of opera chorus; instrumental chamber music coach
- Music Director at Loyola School (New York City)** Fall 2007 - Spring 2009
- Teaching areas: Music History, Music Theory (Beginner through AP Exam Preparation),
 - Jazz, Pop music, French 1 and 2
 - Director of school choir and instrumental chamber music program
 - Overseer of all liturgical music, co-preparer of liturgies, and music advisor to Campus Minister and Headmaster
 - Music Director for all theater productions
 - Wrote and developed, with Headmaster, a flexible yet scaffolded music curriculum

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Teaching, continued

Music Director at Convent of the Sacred Heart High School (San Francisco) Spring 2002 - Spring 2004

- Teaching areas: Music Theory (Beginner through AP Exam Preparation), Music Appreciation, French 2
- Director of school choir and chamber choir (all women) and Co-Ed Choir with brother school, Stuart Hall High School
- Overseer of all liturgical music, co-preparer of liturgies, and music advisor to Campus Minister and Headmaster
- Music Director for all theater productions

Church

Director of Music at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Brooklyn, NY) 2011 - 2017

- Music Advisor to Rector
- Organist and Choirmaster for an entirely volunteer-based program including both adult choir (18-20 regular members) and children's treble choir (10-12 regular members)
- Curated church concert series
- Oversaw music budget, reporting to vestry

Minister of Music at Union Church of Bay Ridge (Brooklyn, NY) 2007 - 2011

- Music Advisor to Pastor and Church Session (Council of Elders)
- Organist and Choir Director with 4 paid soloists
- Conductor of church orchestra (Academy of Union Church)
- Conducted student outreach with annual school concerts
- Curated church concert series
- Received numerous press reviews (see Press section)

Director of Music at St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church (San Francisco) 1996 - 2002

- Pianist / Organist and Choir Director for a volunteer adult choir of 20-25 voices (50+ voices for concerts) and a children's choir of 15-20 voices (ages 5 to 10)
- Founder of church concert series
- Music advisor to pastor and liturgy committee
- Played and sang hundreds of weddings and funerals

Organist at New Providence Baptist Church 2000 - 2001

Hammond B3; music all learned through oral tradition

Theater

Music Director - Parade - Regis High School (New York City) - 2018

Music Director - Godspell - Regis High School (New York City) - 2017

Music Director - Once On This Island - Regis High School (New York City) - 2016

Music Director - Scrooge - Regis High School - 2015

Consulting Music Director - On the Town - Event Players - 2013

Music Director - Tamar and the River, an Oratorio - Choral Chameleon/NY Theater Barn - 2013 - **World Premiere**

Music Director - The Light in the Piazza - The Beacon School, NYC - 2013

Consulting Music Director - Oklahoma - Event Players - 2012

Consulting Music Director - Little Shop of Horrors - Gallery Players (Brooklyn, NY) - 2011

Music Director - I Married Wyatt Earp (**Backer's Audition**) - New York Theater Barn - 2010

Music Director - Once On This Island - Loyola School (New York City) - 2009

Music Director - Little Shop of Horrors - Xavier High School (New York City) - 2007

Music Director - Into the Woods - Montclair Operetta Club (Montclair, NJ) - **Regional** - 2006

Music Director - Sittin on a Rainbow (Harold Arlen Revue) - Event Players (San Francisco) - **World Premiere** - 2006

Music Director - How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying - Xavier High School (New York City) - 2006

Music Director - Peter Pan - San Francisco Day School - 2005

Music Director - The Wiz - Pied Piper Players (San Francisco) - 2005

Music Director - Honk - Pied Piper Players (San Francisco) - 2004

Music Director - How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying - Event Players (San Francisco) - 2004

Music Director - Between Dirt and Sky - Event Players (San Francisco) - **World Premiere**

Music Director - The Last Five Years - **San Francisco Premiere** - 2004

Music Director - Once On This Island - Middle School Production (San Francisco) - 2002

Music Director - Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat - Pied Piper Players (San Francisco) - 2002

Music Director - Peter Pan - Bay Area Educational Theater Company (San Francisco) - 2001

Music Director - Anne of Green Gables - Bay Area Educational Theater Company (San Francisco) - 2000

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Education

Master of Music - Composition Mannes College of Music (New York City)	Spring, 2007
Master of Music - Choral Conducting Mannes College of Music (New York City) 2007 Music Teacher's League Award - Sole Recipient	Spring, 2007
Bachelor of Music - Composition San Francisco Conservatory of Music (San Francisco)	Spring, 2003
Certificat de Stage - Composition European American Musical Alliance at La Schola (Paris) High Mention in Counterpoint, Keyboard Harmony, and Score Reading	Summer, 2003
Certificat de Stage - Conducting European American Musical Alliance at L'École Normale (Paris)	Summer, 2008

Press

Vince Peterson Honored by Chorus America - July 19th, 2018

"Vince Peterson is a creator. In founding the groundbreaking New York City ensemble Choral Chameleon, he has cultivated a nurturing space that develops every dimension of the professional choral artist and acknowledges the multi-faceted careers of working singers. He designs immersive, multi-sensory concert experiences—sometimes on a stage, sometimes on multiple stages, sometimes on no stage at all. And in this way, Peterson has created the sense that a chorus can do—or be—practically anything.

"The dizzying breadth of projects that Peterson tackles with Choral Chameleon truly embodies the entrepreneurial and innovative drive of the award's namesake, Louis Botto. A fully-staged, multi-roomed production with puppetry. Food pairings designed to be eaten on cue to the music. A walking tour concert through Central Park. A piano concerto in which a chorus is the orchestra. These are just a few of the performances that set this ensemble apart.

"But make no mistake—Peterson's ethos couldn't be further from gimmick or fad. His true legacy lies in the sustained meaningful relationships he has engineered between singers, conductors, and composers—through Choral Chameleon's Summer Institute where composers have a laboratory to workshop their experimental compositions, and four year-long composer residencies in the ensemble's first decade.

"Even when considering his penchant for imagination, perhaps Peterson's most vital gift is his compassion. His art is fueled by his belief that our broken world demands genuine connection and life-changing moments to experience healing—and that the best solution, as the Choral Chameleon website states, is 'to put choral music in the last place you'd expect it.'

We've come to expect the unexpected from Vince Peterson—and we pay tribute to his singular vision with the 2018 Louis Botto Award."

[**View YouTube Documentary**](#)

Review of ECMC in QNews at Qonstage.com - Sherri Rase: May 26, 2018

"...an amazing concert of new music...ECMC knocked it out of the park!"

"The thrilling exploration of the heart held many colors, as Spring does, and what I enjoyed was the collaborative listening, so often absent in the world outside..."

"Vince Peterson's expert artistic and concert direction took us on a summer sojourn we will all long remember, ably supported by principal pianist Sean Forte."

"ECMC gives voice to will, blending, listening, creating beauty whose energy carried us out into the Spring night ready to take on the World!"

[**Full Article - Click Here**](#)

Article in OUR TOWN, the Local Newspaper of the Upper East Side, New York - Shoshy Ciment: March 22nd, 2018

"Choral Chameleon pushes the limits of musical experience for its singers and audiences. In its performances, the group has incorporated body movement, aspects of traditional Japanese puppet theater, shadow puppetry and food.... For Peterson, making meaningful art is his impetus to conduct. 'It is very much an act of humility,' said Peterson. 'It's not about me.'"

[**Full Article - Click Here**](#)

Press, continued

Vince Peterson named 2018 Chorus America Louis Botto Award Winner - April 4th, 2018

"In founding New York City's groundbreaking choral ensemble Choral Chameleon, Peterson has focused on creating new and innovative repertoire for chorus, and stretching the perception of what a choral ensemble can be. In ten years, Peterson and the organization have established the Choral Chameleon Summer Institute for composers and conductors,

inviting composers to take risks and receive supportive feedback while writing for the voice; offered four year-long composer residencies; and sought to continually redefine the concert experience through interdisciplinary and multi-sensory performances. In 2017, Choral Chameleon was named the first Vocal Ensemble-in-Residence at Brooklyn's innovative performance venue National Sawdust."

Full Article - [Click Here](#)

Vince Peterson named Pop Pick on [21CM.org](#) - October 2017

Review of Philip Glass's *Madrigal Opera* in The New York Times - Corinna da Fonesca-Wollheim: April 30th, 2017

"In the weightless reading by the violinist Johnny Gandelsman, the violist William Frampton and the vocal ensemble Choral Chameleon, the music unfolded in contemplative beauty, with the juxtaposition of the instruments' throaty individuality and the even-tempered coolness of the voices creating just enough tension to sustain interest."

Full Article - [Click Here](#)

Caroline Polachek on Choral Chameleon in The Log Journal of National Sawdust - February 23rd, 2017

"I needed a choir that would be able both to understand the mood of the music and to have the vocal control to be able to imitate the phasing that I'm doing with the synths. And these guys completely got it... Vince is so sensitive to tone, and he really knows his singers so well, which was really fascinating for me, because I was really thinking in terms of harmony – 'let's have this interval sustain this long' – and Vince was thinking in terms of 'let's shape it like this.' This is how much breath they're going to have, this is how much they can sustain, this is the color the singers can have versus another."

Full Article - [Click Here](#)

Chorus America Magazine: "The Voice" - February 2017

"The Emerging Art of Choral Theater"

Full Article - [Click Here](#)

San Francisco Chronicle - September 16th, 2012

"For sheer seductive allure, though, it would be hard to top Vince Peterson's choral arrangement of Tom Waits' song "Temptation," with a snaky, infectious beat, and sinuous solos by soprano Casey Breves and tenor Ben Jones."

Full Article - [Click Here](#)

Review of Choral Chameleon's concert "Lyre Book Lush" on Examiner.com - April 27th, 2012

"It is...a great credit to the musicians of Choral Chameleon and especially their director, Vince Peterson, that the group can so superbly and aptly tackle new works of varying aesthetic proclivities, perform each idiomatically, and yet not compromise its particular sound. Choral Chameleon was founded in 2008 by Mr. Peterson in order to showcase his interests both in the contemporary *a cappella* choral classical repertoire and in pop and music theater, and in the wealth of singers available in New York who are not only fluent in popular stylings, but also possess first-class musicianship."

Full Article - [Click Here](#)

Feature Article in Brooklyn College Excelsior - David Teitelbaum: November 28th, 2011

"Maestro Peterson is known for his insatiable curiosity and devotion to healthy exploration. It is this drive that leads him to create such spectacular performances that introduce the most eclectic but magnificent repertoire, expertly...His style is more that of a potter: shaping and molding sound, virtually with his hands, to make the delight that fills the hall come alive as if from nothing. It recalls the art of Furtwangler in how music is malleable rather than precise - the mastery of which is extremely difficult but equally rewarding."

Full Article - [Click Here](#)

Review of Choral Chameleon's concert "Tempus" on the ArtsBlog "I Care If You Listen" - November 26th, 2011

"The musical direction was handled confidently by Vince Peterson and the choir was overall quite polished. In particular, the sopranos as a group achieved a beautiful pure tone and their voices were balanced nicely with the others. Also, the choir should be commended for their excellent diction. The words were consistently crisp and intelligible... In a city with countless choirs and vocal groups, Choral Chameleon has indisputably etched out a comfortable niche and they are certainly a group to watch. Keep an eye out for their innovative programming, tight harmonies, and infectious enthusiasm."

Full Article - [Click Here](#)

Press, continued

DaytonMostMetro.com, Dayton, OH - July 5th, 2011

"Music Director Vince Peterson and Cellist Dan Delaney receive special recognition among the seasons best for their accompaniment of Hot Mess in Manhattan"

Full Article - [Click Here](#)

"The Excelsior" (Newspaper of Brooklyn College) - David Teitelbaum: May 2nd, 2011 (print only)

"[Peterson's] striking resemblance to - and similarly fiery passion of - a young Vladimir Ashkenazy is not lost in the context of the generations that separate them...[he is] arguably one of the finest professors Brooklyn College has seen in a long time, especially among those in the conservatory... His achievements with the chorus have been monumental. Professor Peterson is a master of drilling a chorus. Indeed one of his signature features, he generously instills a can-do attitude in his students, no matter their level of proficiency."

NYCArtScene - April 11th, 2011

Article on Chanticleer's Performance of "Cells Planets"

Full Article - [Click Here](#)

San Francisco Classical Voice, September 16-27, 2010

<http://www.sfcv.org/preview/chanticleer/chanticleer-out-of-this-world>

The New York Times, May 29th, 2010

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/30/arts/music/30sfculture.html>

The New York Times, December 7th, 2008

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/12/07/nyregion/westchester/07musicwe.html>

Click Here for NY Times Slide Show with Audio Interview:

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2008/12/07/nyregion/westchester/20081207_Westchester_Music/index.html

The Brooklyn Eagle:

http://www.brooklyneagle.com/categories/category.php?category_id=4&id=36124

http://www.brooklyneagle.com/categories/category.php?category_id=31&id=23962

http://www.brooklyneagle.com/categories/category.php?category_id=31&id=20862

http://www.brooklyneagle.com/categories/category.php?category_id=18&id=17238

Discography

Someone New - Chanticleer - Released September, 2013 - Label: Chanticleer Records

Studio Recordings:

"Temptation" by Tom Waits, arr. Vince Peterson

"Somebody to Love" by Freddie Mercury, arr. Vince Peterson

The Siren's Call - Chanticleer - Released October, 2012 - Label: Chanticleer CLIC (clic009)

Live Recording: "Temptation" by Tom Waits, arr. Vince Peterson

Chanticleer by Request - Chanticleer - Released October, 2012 - Label: Chanticleer Records (CR2284)

Studio Recording: "Cells Planets" by Erika Lloyd, arr. Vince Peterson

Love Story - Chanticleer - Released October, 2011 - Label: Chanticleer CLIC (clic008)

Live Recording: "Somebody to Love" by Freddie Mercury, arr. Vince Peterson

Chanticleer Takes You Out of This World - Chanticleer - Released October 2010 - Label: Chanticleer CLIC (clic007)

Studio Recording: "Cells Planets" by Erika Lloyd, arr. Vince Peterson

Tidings of Comfort and Joy - Golden Gate Men's Chorus | Joseph Jennings, Director - Released 2006 - Label:

GGMC Records

Vince Peterson, Principal Accompanist

Catalogue of Compositions

Arrangements

- **My Buddy** (Doris Day et al) for SATB unaccompanied - *Commissioned by Chanticleer for September 2017*
- **Hallelujah** (Leonard Cohen) for SATB unaccompanied - *Commissioned by Chanticleer for September 2015*
- **Suzanne** (Leonard Cohen) for SATB unaccompanied - *Commissioned by Chanticleer for September 2015*
- **Beautiful City** (Stephen Schwartz) for SATB unaccompanied - *Premiering in April 2014*
- **Both Sides Now** (Joni Mitchell) for SATB unaccompanied - *Commissioned by Chanticleer - Premiered in September 2013*
- **Top of the World** (The Carpenters) for SATB unaccompanied - *for by Chameleonic - Premiered in October 2013*
- **ABC** (Jackson 5) for SATB unaccompanied with solo - *for Choral Chameleon - Premiered in October 2013*
- **Bring A Torch** (Traditional) for SATB and Organ - *Commissioned by Ars Musica - Premiered in December 2013*
- **America the Beautiful and The Star Spangled Banner** (Traditional) for SATB and solo cello - 2013 - *Commissioned by David Glickman for The National Association of Public Speakers and Premiered by Choral Chameleon and Stephanie Winters*
- **Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out** (Eric Clapton) for SATB unaccompanied with solo - 2013 - *Premiered by Chameleonic*
- **Bridge Over Troubled Water** (Simon+Garfunkel) for SATB unaccompanied - 2013 - *Premiered by Choral Chameleon*
- **Temptation** (Tom Waits) for SATB unaccompanied with solo - 2012 - *Commissioned and Recorded by Chanticleer*
- **Unwritten** (Natasha Bedingfield) for SATB unaccompanied - 2012 - *Commissioned by San Francisco School of the Arts*
- **Your Love Keeps Lifting Me Higher** (Jackie Wilson) for SATB unaccompanied - 2012 - *Premiered by Choral Chameleon*
- **I Wanna Be Where You Are** (Jackson 5) for SATB unaccompanied with solo - 2012 - *Premiered by Choral Chameleon*
- **Starting Here Starting Now** (Maltby and Shire) for SATB unaccompanied - 2012 - *Premiered by Choral Chameleon*
- **Time Pops Bubbles** (Lloyd and Whiteley / Little Grey Girlfriend) for SATB with percussion and solo - 2011 - *Premiered by Choral Chameleon and Erika Johnson*
- **Turn Turn Turn** (Pete Seeger) for SATB unaccompanied - 2011 - *Premiered by Choral Chameleon*
- **Somebody to Love** (Freddie Mercury) for SATB unaccompanied - 2011 - *Commissioned and Recorded by Chanticleer*
- **Cells Planets** (Erika Lloyd / Little Grey Girlfriend) for SATB unaccompanied with solo - 2010 - *Commissioned and Recorded by Chanticleer*
- **Love the One You're With** (Stephen Stills) for SATB with (optional) guitar - 2010 - *Premiered by Choral Chameleon and Dan Delaney*
- **Happy Phantom** (Tori Amos) for SATB with solo - 2009 - *Premiered by Choral Chameleon*
- **Rise Up Shepherd and Follow** (Traditional) for SATB with solo and (optional) piano - 2008 - *Premiered by Choral Chameleon*
- **Let's Fall in Love** (Harold Arlen) for SATB with lead sheet - 2007
- **Fool on the Hill** (Lennon and McCartney) for SATB with piano - 2006

Original Choral Works

- **Let's Go to Sleep** - for SATB or TTBB unaccompanied (Text: E. E. Cummings) - *Commissioned by Ace Hotel - January 2018*
- **Love's Philosophy** - for SATB unaccompanied (Text: Percy Shelley) - *Commissioned by Ensemble Companio - March 2015*
- **Three Joyce Songs** - for SATB with piano quintet - *Commissioned by Grace Chorale of Brooklyn - January 2015*
- **Litanies** for SATB, piano and strings (Text by Walt Whitman) - *Commissioned by Ars Musica - Premiered in March 2014*
- **Full Fathom Five** (Text by William Shakespeare) for SATB unaccompanied - 2011
- **Metropolis** (Text by Vince Peterson) for SATB with solo clarinet - *Commissioned by Cantori New York - 2008*
- **I Sing the Body Electric** (Text by Walt Whitman) for SATB with piano, brass quintet, contrabass, and percussion - 2007
- **Strings in the Earth** (Text by James Joyce) for SATB with piano - 2006
- **Confitemini Domino** for SATB unaccompanied - 2005
- **Song at Sunset** (Text by Walt Whitman) for SATB with piano - 2004
- **Agnus Dei** for SATB unaccompanied - 2003
- **House to House** for SATB unaccompanied - 2003
- **Ave Maria** for SSA or SATB unaccompanied - 2002

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Art Song

- **Lot is Saved** for soprano and piano (Text by Cooley Windsor) - *In progress*
- **Ashes of Soldiers** (Text by Walt Whitman) for baritone, trumpet, piano, and percussion - *2003 (revised in 2012)*
- **Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking** (Text by Walt Whitman) for soprano and piano - *2003*
- **Jubilate Deo** for soprano and solo violin - *2003*
- **Autumn Rain** (Text by Anonymous) for baritone and solo viola - *2002*

String Quartet

- **Second String Quartet in F Major** (in 3 movements) - *2007*
- **First String Quartet in A Minor: "Tease for Two"** - *2003*

Keyboard

- **Fantasy on Themes from Mister Rogers Neighborhood** for solo piano - *2013*
- **Fugue in A Minor** for solo organ - *2007*
- **Wind Ballet on Harold Arlen Themes** for piano, four hands - *2005*

Songbook / Musical Theater

- **Mega** - Full Length musical (with Joe Barros, Angela Latham, and Terry Allison) - *Workshop: Summer 2016*
- **Sticks and Stones** - Full length musical (with [Joe Barros](#)) - *First Workshop Production in April 2014*
- **Age of Anxiety** - EP - 6 tracks - *2012*
- **Sittin' on a Rainbow: A Harold Arlen Revue** (90 Minutes) - *2005*
- **Oh This Life!** - Full length album - 14 tracks - *2005*
- **Far Away Love** - EP - 5 tracks - *2003*