

John Roxburgh Press Kit Biographies

40-word biography

Currently a resident of Leesburg, VA, John is completing a Doctor of Musical Arts in Viola Performance at Shenandoah University. He seeks to inspire, connect, and foster community by sharing his love of music through performance, teaching, and collaboration.

100-word biography

John Roxburgh is a violist and music educator who seeks to inspire, connect, and bring joy through music. John is a captivating and expressive musician and performs in a wide variety of styles, genres, and settings. Engagements range from Principal Viola with the Loudoun Symphony Orchestra to chamber music recitals, solo outreach concerts, even performing with the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. John enjoys sharing his love for music through education—teaching applied string lessons, coaching ensembles, and sharing music history and theory in classrooms and lecture halls. He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts in Viola Performance at Shenandoah Conservatory.

500-word biography

John Roxburgh is a violist and music educator who seeks to inspire, connect, and bring joy through music. He is a captivating and expressive musician who performs in a wide variety of styles, genres, and settings.

John enjoys sharing his love for music through education, whether it be teaching individual students on violin and viola, coaching small and large ensembles, or lecturing in music history and theory in classrooms and lecture halls. His experience as a teaching assistant at Shenandoah Conservatory and Penn State University have allowed him to teach music history and applied viola at the collegiate level. John enjoys both the challenge of helping students find their own musical voice and finding ways to make music history relatable and accessible. He has spent many years teaching and coaching children and adolescents both violin and viola, chamber and large ensemble skills, and fundamental aural and theory skills.

John enjoys a wide variety of performance opportunities. He performed chamber music at the 39th International Viola Congress in Würzburg, Germany, and other festivals in New Zealand, Australia, and the USA. John has performed on stage with the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Mannheim Steamroller, and for a Beatles reenactment concert. He has performed as soloist with orchestras and even viola ensemble. John also occasionally finds time to play fiddle for Scottish Country Dancing, performing for dancers here in the USA, New Zealand, and even France. He supports new music, most recently performing works by Corigliano, Kats-Chernin and Alessandrini for Shenandoah Conservatory's EDGE Ensemble series, premiered works for chamber ensembles by Scott Slapin and William Kenlon, to name a few.

Orchestral playing has long been a passion for John. Currently, he holds the position of Principal Viola with the Loudoun Symphony Orchestra and subs with the Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra (VA). Recent engagements for principal viola include the Altoona (PA) and Williamsport (PA) Symphony Orchestras, and the Pennsylvania Chamber Orchestra. Highlights of his orchestral career include performing with the Eastern Music Festival Faculty Orchestra as a string fellow, and performing a semi-staged concert production of *Die Walküre* with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra.

Born in Dunedin, New Zealand, John started violin lessons at age 5 through the Suzuki Method, switching to the viola during high school. After high school, he moved to Wellington, New Zealand, to study viola with Donald Maurice at the New Zealand School of Music (BMus '11, PGDip Mus '12, MMA '14). Other influential teachers while at NZSM include Claudine Bigelow, Gillian Ansell, and Vyvyan Yendoll. In 2013, John moved to the USA to be with his future wife. After some travelling, they settled in State College, PA, for two years while John studied with Tim Deighton at the Pennsylvania State University (MM '16). Currently residing in Leesburg, VA, John is completing his Doctor of Musical Arts in Viola Performance with Doris Lederer at Shenandoah Conservatory. In his free time, John enjoys going for hikes in the beautiful Virginia countryside with his wife and dog.

John D. Roxburgh, violist

jroxburg16@su.edu

Education

Shenandoah Conservatory Doctor of Musical Arts in Viola Performance	2019, estimated
The Pennsylvania State University Master of Music in Viola Performance	2016
New Zealand School of Music Master of Musical Arts in Viola Performance	2013
Postgraduate Diploma of Music in Viola Performance	2011
Bachelor of Music in Viola Performance	2010

Teaching Experience

Doctoral Teaching Assistant Shenandoah Conservatory, Winchester, VA. Teaching assistant for Music History and Viola Studio. Teach lectures, applied viola lessons, and aid in creation of course syllabi.	2016–present
Private Viola Teacher Work with middle- and high-school aged youth to develop effective viola technique and enjoyable music-making. Prepare students for orchestral and solo auditions.	2014–present
Viola Faculty Altoona Symphony Orchestra, Altoona, PA, Summer High School String Camp. Coached viola section in orchestra music and chamber music, as well as performing chamber music and solo repertoire.	2014–2018
Graduate Teaching Assistant The Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA. Taught applied technique lessons to undergraduate majors, coached orchestra's viola section, performed chamber music outreach and recruiting concerts.	2014–2016
String Faculty Bach to Rock Music Academy, Bethesda, MD. Applied group and individual lessons for ages 5–18.	2013–2014
Keyboard, Aural, and Theory Tutor Young Musicians Program, New Zealand School of Music. Taught fundamental skills in keyboard, aural, and theory to children aged 10–18.	2011–2013
Conductor Virtuoso Strings Orchestra, Wellington, NZ. Conducted children ages 5–18, teaching basic skills for playing in larger ensembles.	2012–2013
Chamber Music Faculty Waitaki Summer Music Camp, Oamaru, NZ. Coach chamber groups ages 5–75.	Summer 2013

Orchestra

Loudoun Symphony Orchestra, VA Principal Viola	2018–2019
Assistant Principal Viola	2017–2018

Penn's Woods Music Festival, State College, PA Assistant Principal Viola Violist	2016–2019 2015
Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra, VA Substitute Viola	2018-2019
Pro Artè Chamber Orchestra of Greater Washington Substitute Principal Viola	2018
Altoona Symphony Orchestra, PA Principal Viola	2015–2017
Pennsylvania Centre Orchestra Principal Viola	2015–2016
Williamsport Symphony Orchestra, PA Principal Viola	2015–2016
Eastern Music Festival Faculty Orchestra String Scholar (Viola)	2013
New Zealand Symphony Orchestra Substitute Viola	2012–2013
Orchestra Wellington, New Zealand Viola	2010–2013
Dunedin Symphony Orchestra Viola	2007–2013

Solo

Soloist and Principal Viola, 'Chamber Orchestra Collage' Shenandoah Conservatory Works by Grieg and Nielson	2018
Outreach Concert, Altoona Area Junior High School Solo concert featuring Bach's <i>Chaconne</i>	2018
Orchestral Viola Solo, Loudoun Symphony Orchestra Viola solo, 'Rêverie du soir' from Saint-Saëns <i>Suite algérienne</i>	2017
Evermay Concert Series Soloist, Ryuji Ueno Foundation, Washington, DC Walton Viola Concerto	2017
DMA Performance Recital, Shenandoah Conservatory Works by Bach, Brahms, and Hindemith	2017
Works by Bach, Halvorsen, Schumann, and Walton	2016
Shenandoah Conservatory Soloists Competition Finalist, Bowen Viola Concerto	2017
Finalist and Honorable Mention, Walton Viola Concerto	2016

Lead Fiddle, <i>The Flying Kiwis</i> 30 th Anniversary Weekend Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Lyon Branch, France	2016
Penn State School of Music Concerto Competition Finalist and Honorable Mention, Hindemith <i>Der Schwanendreher</i>	2015
Violist , Vieuxtemps Viola Sonata MM Collaborative Piano Recital	2015
Class Musician Dunedin Summer School Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, New Zealand Branch	2015
Viola Soloist , Mozart <i>Sinfonia Concertante</i> Waitaki Summer Music Camp, Oamaru, NZ	2012
Viola Soloist , Telemann Concerto for Two Violas Conductor , Mozart <i>Sinfonia Concertante</i> Leeds, UK	2011
Viola Soloist , Alfred Hill Viola Concerto Hutt Valley Symphony Orchestra	2011

Chamber music (viola)

Public Lecture Recital , Shenandoah University Violist, Brahms Piano Quartet in C minor, op. 60	2018
Penn's Woods Music Festival , State College, PA Hummel Septet in D minor, op. 74	2018
Françaix Quartet for English Horn, Violin, Viola, and Cello	2017
Arensky String Quartet No. 2, op. 35	2016
Violist, Trans-Siberian Orchestra Bryce Jordan Center, State College, PA	2018
EDGE Ensemble Concert , Bright Box Theater, Winchester, VA Mackey <i>Juba</i>	2017
Corigliano <i>Soliloquy</i> for Clarinet Quintet	2016
Kats-Chernin <i>Village Idiot</i> , Alessandrini <i>Ommagio a Berio</i>	2016
Lunchtime Recital Palmer Museum of Art, Penn State University Mozart Oboe Quartet in F major, K. 370	2016
Recital , New York Viola Society Concert Soloist and Leader, Penn State Viola Ensemble	2015
Recital Australia and New Zealand Viola Society Viola Convention, Auckland, NZ Nodaïra <i>Transformation of Bach's Ciaconna for Four Violas</i>	2013

Recital 2011
39th International Viola Congress, Würzburg, Germany
Bach 'Brandenburg' Concerto No. 6

Academic

Presenter 2013
Australia and New Zealand Viola Society Viola Convention, Auckland, NZ
'An Ear for Quotation: New Perspectives on Symbolism in Shostakovich's Viola Sonata'

Author, MMA Exegesis 2013
New Zealand School of Music
'Approaches to the Performance of Musical and Extra-musical References in Shostakovich's Viola Sonata'

Co-Author 2012
Journal of the American Viola Society, Vol. 28, No. 1
'In Review: The XXXIX International Viola Congress'

Honors and Activities

Pi Kappa Lambda Honors Society, Member 2016–present

Penn State Viola Society
President 2015–2016
Vice-President 2014–2015

Viola Viva: Viola Ensemble of the NZSM
Organizer and Violist 2011–2012

Other Work Experience

Arts and Humanities Library, Penn State University
Reference Assistant 2015–2016

Starbucks, Bethesda, MD 2013–2014
Barista

New Zealand School of Music
Orchestra Stage Manager 2008–2011
Orchestra Music Librarian 2011
Administrative Assistant 2010–2011

References

Available upon request