

JESSICA R. ROEMISCHER
Pianist, Composer and Transformational Advisor

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

More and more, “the way we have always done things” is becoming inadequate. Management is being called upon to generate environments that are attractive and enjoyable. It is in *everyone’s* interest to promote creativity and productivity in each team player. At the same time, the resources needed to make changes can be limited. As a transformational advisor and inspiring musician, I work closely with you, your team, and your organization to create an optimum workplace or learning environment. *Music is the basis of my highly effective methodologies.* Because of its inspiring impact across-the-board, my music-based approach is a potent tool as you look to the future.

Summary of Qualifications

Studies have shown that fear and depression pose enormous cost to businesses and organizations. People *want* to be happy at work. They want to be feel good, whole, productive, inspired and valued. The result is *win-win*: creativity and productivity in each team player buoys the entire system. As a transformational advisor and inspiring musician in the 21st century, I will bring a distinctive combination of educational and practical skills to my work with you and your organization.

- Visionary—sees far-reaching potential and possibilities. *My life is dedicated to getting you there!*
- Devoted teacher and advisor with a thirty-year record of dedicated service to groups and individuals, with quantifiable results.
- Consummate pianist and composer who creates transcendent musical experiences.
- Highly innovative thinker and problem-solver, has developed proven and effective transformational methodologies.
- Excellent communicator with people of widely diverse ages, cultures and backgrounds, including those with disabilities.
- Intuitively and incisively responds to each situation to generate the optimum result - *the opposite of a “cookie-cutter” approach.*
- Highly skilled at building trust, collaboration, and partnership.
- Abiding faith in our innate human capacities that is palpable to all whom I encounter. *This faith brings out the best in others.*
- Powerfully articulate and compelling public speaker/presenter, with an ability to speak extemporaneously and to respond spontaneously to the audience.
- Experienced in a high-demand, high-output environment.
- Steadfast regard for excellence, with the dedication to deliver it.

Professional Experience

These diverse experiences, each taken to a high level of achievement and recognition, comprise the unique skill set I offer as a transformational advisor, inspiring musician and composer.

1976-present - Pianist and Composer

Accomplished performer and composer who combines the great Western pianistic tradition of the past three centuries with rock, jazz and traditional idioms to create original compositions and unique interpretations.

Notable experiences and achievements:

Under the guidance of pianist and teacher Miriam Roemischer (mother), pedagogical lineage links directly to Frederic Chopin and Ludwig van Beethoven. This tutelage instilled in me the finest musical aesthetic—one which I impart to all whom I encounter through my performing, teaching and advising.

Piano studies with Marilyn Sophos (1967-77) and subsequent entrance into advanced competitions in the New York Metropolitan area, allowed me to develop confidence and strength under pressure. Ultimately, the goal was to create, in the most vulnerable and authentic way, music of great beauty.

- *Awards: Westchester (NY) Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition, Westchester Conservatory Concerto Competition, 1st Place, Hudson Valley Music Teachers' Award & others*

Performances on four continents and throughout the United States over the past thirty-five years has allowed me to witness the power of music on those who experience it. What I observe in people's responses—no matter their culture, age, or background--has given me an unshakable conviction that music is an essential part of human nature. When it is performed sublimely, it generates a transcendental experience that frees the human spirit.

Being a musician and composed of consummate skill means that I have developed a subtle means of communication with others. It has honed both my verbal and non-verbal expression.

Performances in concerto competitions have given me the opportunity to collaborate musically. This has helped me develop the skills of dialogue, listening and interaction through music.

In inspired performances, I experienced profound communion with the audience, the music, and something beyond the music. This has given me a first-hand sense of, and thus an abiding faith in, an intangible and infinitely positive quality—what one might call the “spiritual.”

Full-length CD “Haven,” July, 2011 release on Amazon, iTunes, etc.

[See CD announcement](#)

1982-present - Piano Pedagogue/Teacher

Conducted individual and group music lessons on three continents. Developed an innovative approach to piano duet improvisation, The Piano Duet Paradigm™ that has emerged as a transformational modality, yielding striking results with individuals of all ages, cultures and backgrounds, including those with profound disabilities.

Notable experiences and achievements:

As Director of Music at Riverbrook Residence for Women, Stockbridge, MA (2007-present), worked with Board of Directors, Executive Director and staff on innovative musical performances, gaining wide recognition for Riverbrook, New England's oldest residence for women with developmental disabilities. This experience enabled me to create ways for people to access their innate creative capacities, regardless of physical, psychological or cognitive limitations. *My work at Riverbrook has revolutionized my sense of what is possible for ANY and all individuals. I realize now that the ability to express beauty through music is inherent in us all and unfettered by any limitation.*

I developed multi-media performances that allowed the women to share their music with a wide audience. Their extraordinary piano improvisations literally redefined the commonly-held notion of what it means to be “disabled” for those who saw them. Performances included several for Governor Deval Patrick, as well as those supported by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Caroline and James Taylor, and the Berkshire, MA community. See my [Music/Special Needs Webpage](#)

Featured articles, interviews, presentations, including Global Dialogue Center's [“Differences in Duet,”](#) *Exceptional Parent Magazine* article; *Integral Leadership Review*, CTSB-TV, Awakened TV interviews and more, enabled me to express in written form and verbally, the innovative methods I use in order to make them accessible to a broad audience. [Articles/Interviews Webpage](#)

Teaching the Applied Music Faculty, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont (1989-99), I worked with dozens of college students, developing my approach to piano improvisation. In my work at Middlebury, I began to use music as a means for self-expression, healing, and to tap otherwise unexpressed aspects of their lives. The students often said that their piano sessions were among their most meaningful college experiences.

2002-present - Transformational Advisor and Consultant

Conducts dynamic, interactive lectures and workshops in a wide variety of settings throughout the United States and internationally--in educational and organizational environments, at cultural centers, and as part of conferences. Events combine solo piano/keyboard performance, improvised duets with the audience, meditation, dialogue, illustrative videos. See [Workshops Webpage](#); [Consulting Webpage](#)

2002-present - Transformational Advisor and Consultant (continued)

Notable experiences and achievements:

Interactive workshops and performances at:

Artists' Series, Trinity Episcopal Church, New Orleans, LA; Manning Clark House, Canberra, Australia; Network for Peace Through Dialogue, Marymount College, NYC; Berkshire Business and Professional Women, Lenox, MA; Bay Area Integral, Berkeley, CA; Spiral Dynamics/National Values Center 10th Annual Conference, Dallas TX, and many more.

Uses music duet improvisation (The Piano Duet Paradigm™) to generate a dynamic field of trust and exploration. *I recognized that when an individual enters a safe environment, he or she begins to express himself freely in new and creative ways, activating latent potential.*

I tailor the program in response to the specific needs of the individuals and groups. Developed the ability to assess or “read” a situation and respond to the individuals present, realizing that EVERY situation is different and requires a uniquely appropriate response.

2002-07- Professional Writer and Editor

Developed the ability to write astute commentary on issues as diverse as morality in a postmodern world, theories of cultural evolution, the future of the world's religious traditions and women's liberation. Articles published in five languages.

Notable experiences and achievements:

Authored “The Never-Ending Upward Quest,” widely considered the finest introduction to the developmental theory of Spiral Dynamics. *This article profoundly influenced my perspective on individual and cultural development, enabling me to illuminate the challenges individuals and groups face, by placing them in a broad evolutionary context.* [Read here](#)

Conducted exclusive interviews with foremost thinkers, visionaries, religious leaders, scholars and cultural icons, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Carlos Santana, the late Father Thomas Berry, Helen Fisher, Dr. Edgar Mitchell, Eve Ensler, Huston Smith, Karen Armstrong, and more. Developed the skill of inquiry and dialogue, together with the ability to listen fully and incisively. [Interview with Archbishop Tutu](#)

1988-95 - Architectural Historian and Arts Educator

Notable experiences and achievements:

National Register nominations prepared for the Towns of Moriah, Essex, Westport, Warrensburg and Ausable, New York, and the United States Department of Defense at Plattsburgh, NY Air Force Base. These large-scale projects allowed me to develop significant writing, researching, organizational and interpersonal skills.

- *New York State Historic Preservation Award, 1995*

1988-95 - Architectural Historian and Arts Educator (continued)

Developed an innovative, multi-disciplinary arts and architecture-in-education enrichment program implemented throughout the Adirondack Region of New York State. Students gained a new appreciation for their history, their environment and their everyday lives. My interactive lessons with them helped me develop group teaching and communication skills to engage the students in creative, cross-disciplinary activities.

- *Nomination, New York State Governor's Award for Arts Education, 1996*

1983-1988 - Artist-in-residence/Lecturer/Photography Instructor

Artist-in-residence/lecturer at secondary and tertiary institutions throughout Melbourne, Australia. Supported by Victoria Council on the Arts to create a major photographic essay of community life in a diverse, inner city Melbourne neighborhood.

Notable experiences and achievements:

Artist-in-Residence/lecturer at Presbyterian Ladies College; Photography Studies College, Rusden Institute, Phillips Institute of Technology, and others.

- *First photographic artist to receive Victoria Council on the Arts Artist-in-Community Grant, 1983; Photography featured in major Australian newspapers - The Melbourne Age, The Sun (Sydney), and others*

1982 - Assistant to Master Photographer, the late Frederick Sommer

Notable experiences and achievements:

Compiled and edited Sommer's writings, included in major retrospective by Center for Creative Photography, Tucson. Interpreted on piano Sommer's renowned "musical scores." My work with Frederick Sommer gave me insight into the unique life of a master artist—his work, his way of seeing. He helped me understand the importance of aesthetics—*of beauty*.

[See Frederick Sommer Foundation](#)

EDUCATION:

Bachelor's Degree in Art History and Visual Arts

1982 - Princeton University, *magna cum laude*

Concentration in photography, phenomenology and philosophy of science

- Francis LeMoyne Page Visual Arts Award

Graduate of Dobbs Ferry High School

1977 - Dobbs Ferry, NY

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