Nathan Cornelius, composer

Nathan Cornelius searches for the hidden beauty in sounds both fresh and familiar. By taking listeners with him on his journey through sonic landscapes, he seeks to open their ears to new colors, textures, and ultimately, new ways of hearing. His compositions have been premiered by the Lamont Symphony Orchestra, the Playground Ensemble, Modern Hue, guitarist Laura Husbands, and musical saw virtuosa Caroline McCaskey. He is also the co-founder of Nebula Ensemble, a group dedicated to creating and performing new chamber music throughout Colorado.

From his base in Denver, Cornelius pursues a multifaceted career in composition, performance, and teaching. He is a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Denver’s Lamont School of Music, where he is pursuing a master’s degree in composition and guitar performance. He also maintains a private guitar studio in the Denver area. Cornelius is deeply interested in the connections between music and the visual arts as they embody the values of a civilization, and he hopes to compose music that both reflects his Christian faith and expands the imagination of the culture. He blogs about new music and his compositional philosophy at deformingprisms.wordpress.com. When not absorbed in his musical ventures, Cornelius enjoys exploring the landscapes of the Rockies through nature photography and mountain climbing, as well as creating award-winning ceramics which he displays at etsy.com/shop/sfzceramics.

Recordings of Representative Compositions

The Magical Highway of the Midwest: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0bRHSnzjLw

This Inconstant Stay: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_qQnaveh6M4

Berg und Tal: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4rZoF-2Z9vs

More examples can be found at my YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCicZ-DDG7JhVuWv29UWO3fg