

SELINA MARTIN Curriculum Vitae

Education

Honours B.A., Drama Program, University of Toronto, 1986 - 1991

Music Education

Primarily a self-taught composer, musician, arranger and lyricist with several exceptions listed below:

- Recording software/studio engineering tutorials - Michael Phillip Wojewoda 2009, 2014.
- "Resampled Workshop" - weekend intensive electronic music production workshop 2012.
- Keyboards and analog studio techniques tutorials - Bob Wiseman 1999.
- musical saw - Gene Hardy
- vocal training - Stella Walker
- guitar finger picking - Nick Yaksich
- private piano instruction - Susan Gallagher

Awards

Canada Council for the Arts - Arts Across Canada 2024

Canada Council for the Arts - Explore and Create, Concept to Realization 2021

FACTOR - Demo Award 2000. Songwriter Workshop Grant 2012. Artist Development 2021

Toronto Arts Council - Album Recording Grant, 2013

Ontario Arts Council - Album Recording Grant, 2009

Instruments

Guitar (acoustic & electric), voice, bass guitar, piano, accordion, synthesizers, Theremin, musical saw, vibraphone, various percussion, tuned wine glasses, ukulele, found objects.

Teaching History

- 2024 - Songwriting Boot Camp, Penticton - instructor
- 2016 - Adult Songwriting Course, University of Toronto - instructor
- 2014/15 - University of Toronto Adult songwriting course/ George Brown College songwriting course - guest lecturer

Selected Music History

- 2022 - release of 5th independent solo recording, *Time Spent Swimming*. Released internationally to critical acclaim: "a master work", "fascinating", "one of the strongest albums of 2022", "five stars", "thrilling", "in the same league as Bjork and PJ Harvey".
- 2015 - release of 4th independent solo recording, *i've been picking caruso's brain; i think i have the information we need to make a new world*. The album is released in Europe and Canada receiving accolades on both sides of the Atlantic: "a masterful work", "provocative", "genius", "brilliant", "superb in every sense of the word", "#1 album of the year".
- 2012, 2011, and 2010 *Torn From The Pages* (Globe & Mail Authors' Festival) - Commissioned to compose and perform songs inspired by/derived from Canadian novels.
- 2011 - composing/recording project with experimental electronic collective FFoB to compose a series of new works combining conventional songwriting with improvisational electronic modes of creation. FFoB (The Faceless Forces of Bigness) are Juno Award-winning producer Michael Phillip Wojewoda, renowned guitarist and electronic composer Kurt Swinghammer, NOW's "Producer of the Year" Chris Stringer, and moving image designer Justin Stephenson).
- 2010 - release of 3rd independent solo recording, *Disaster Fantasies*, a fierce collection of genre defying tunes variously described by music writers as "smart", "vivid", "brave", "masterful", "reckless", and "must hear".
- 2009 - co-composer of film score with Dave Bidini, Martin Tielli (Rheostatics), & Fred Frith for *Act Of God* - a documentary film by Jennifer Baichwall (*Manufactured Landscapes*).
- 2009 - co-producer of double album *The Ghost of Danny Gross*, by Martin Tielli.
- 2008 - 2009 - touring and recording multi-instrumentalist (guitars, musical saw, percussive sticks, voice, chains, other found sounds) with Martin Tielli.
- 2006 - arranger and performer on musical saw and wine glasses of songs by Claude Debussy for "The Laments"; a classical quintet with Jordan O'Connor (upright bass), Julia Hambleton (clarinet), Annelise Noronha (accordion) and Donna Linklater (soprano voice).
- 2005 - release of 2nd full-length studio album *Life Drawing Without Instruction*.
- 2003 - improviser on tuned wine glasses with experimental electronic band The Faceless Forces of Bigness (FFoB).
- 1998 - release of 1st full-length album *Space Woman*.

- 1995 – 1999 – multi-instrumentalist with Bob Wiseman (formerly Blue Rodeo) on tour and recordings (theremin, accordion, guitars, keyboards, tuned wine glasses, voice).

Discography

- Selina Martin, *Time Spent Swimming* (Outside Music Distribution 2022)
- Selina Martin, *i've been picking caruso's brain; i think i have the information we need to make a new world* (Outside Music Distribution, 2015)
- Compilation – *Have Not Been the Same* (Zunior, 2011)
- Selina Martin, *Disaster Fantasies* (Outside Music Distribution, 2010)
- The Five Hole Band, *Music from "Five Hole: Tales of Hockey Erotica"* (Zunior, 2009)
- Selina Martin, *Life Drawing Without Instruction* (Outside Music Distribution, 2005)
- Selina Martin, *Space Woman* (Festival Distribution, 1998)

Selected Accompaniment/Production Discography

- Amelia Curran (Spectators) (Six Shooter Records, 2013)
- Bidiniband, *In The Rock Hall* (Pheromone Recordings, 2011)
- Martin Tielli, *The Ghost of Danny Gross, Parts 1 and 2*. (co-produced by Selina Martin and Martin Tielli) (Six Shooter Records, 2009)
- Justin Rutledge, *The Devil on a Bench in Stanley Park* (Six Shooter Records, 2006)
- Veda Hille, *Return of the Killdeer* (Ape Records (UK), 2005)
- N.Q. Arbuckle, *The Last Supper in a Cheap Town* (Six Shooter Records, 2005)
- Rheostatics, *2067* (True North Records, 2004)
- Martin Tielli, *Operation Infinite Joy* (Six Shooter Records, 2003)
- Martin Tielli, *We didn't even suspect that he was the poppy salesman* (Six Shooter, 2000)
- Bob Wiseman, *More Work Songs from the Planet of the Apes* (Grow or Die Music, 1999)

Composer and performer for theatre (selections)

- *A Blow in the Face* – Lisa Ryder / Bald Ego Theatre (composer/performer)
- *Do You Want What I Have Got? A Craigslist Cantata* – Veda Hille/Bill Richardson
- *Five Hole; Tales of Hockey Erotica* – One Yellow Rabbit (composer/performer)
- *Hedwig and the Angry Inch, Dali, Godzilla* – Crows Theatre (composer/performer)
- *Three Penny Epic Cabaret, Sleepers Awake, City / Slouch Hat, Panting of the Victors, Orpheus, And He Lost His Head, Café Naked* – Bald Ego Theatre (composer/performer)

Composer and performer for film & TV

- *One Week*, Mulmer's One Week Inc., Michael McGowan
- *Act of God*, Mercury Films, Jennifer Baichwall & Nick dePencier
- *Five Hole*, the animated short film, Anlanda, Cam Christiansen
- *Twitch City*, CBC TV/Accent Ent., Bruce McDonald
- *S.F. Seeks*, El Ryder Productions/Wish Productions
- *Once a Thief*, John Woo
- *Twisted Sheets*, Chris Deacon
- *The Best Years*, Best Years 2 Productions Inc.

Selected Music Tours

- Canada duo tour March April 2024
- Germany, Italy duo tour May 2023
- Canada duo tour March April 2023
- Europe trio tour July 2022
- France trio tour fall 2022
- UK and Europe solo + band tour, Oct - Dec 2019
- Western Canada solo tour, July-Aug 2019
- Poland tour Selina Martin band, June 2019
- Ontario tour Selina Martin band, March 2019
- Europe solo tour with Tom Holliston, Oct - Dec 2018
- Western Canada solo tour and Toronto band show - June 2018
- Europe solo tour, March 2018
- Western Canada solo tour, Dec 2017
- France solo tour, Oct - Nov 2017
- Ontario tour Selina Martin band, Oct - Nov 2016
- Canada Album launch tour Selina Martin band , March 2016
- Europe Album launch tour, Nov 2015
- Alberta & British Columbia solo tour, 2014
- Quebec/Maritimes - Selina Martin Triplets tour, 2011
- Ontario/Quebec - *Disaster Fantasies* album launch tour, 2010
- Ontario/Quebec - Martin Tielli tour, 2008
- Italy - Selina Martin solo tour, 2007 & 2008
- Bluebird North National Tour, 2007
- Eastern Canada - Selina Martin band, 2006 & 2005
- Western Canada - Selina Martin band, 2006 & 1999
- Canada, US & Europe - Bob Wiseman band with Selina Martin 1995-1999

Selected Music Festival Appearances

- 2024 - Ignite the Arts - Penticton BC
- 2023 - Ignite the Arts - Penticton BC, Karman Festival - Augsburg DE,
Fête de la musique - Biot FR, Fête Saint-Julien - Biot FR
- 2022 - Boskovice Festival CZ
- 2019 - ArtsWells, Wells BC. Islands Fest - Duncan BC.
- 2017 - ArtsWells, Wells BC.
- 2013 - Interstellar Rodeo, Edmonton
- 2012 - Hillside Festival, Guelph, ArtsWells Festival, BC, Waterfront Festival, Toronto
- 2011 - Halifax Urban Folk Festival, Raise the Roof Women's Music Festival,
- 2006 - Evolve Festival, Antigonish
- 2005 - Tim Posgate's Festival of Autumnal Happiness, Toronto Island
- 2002 - Dog Day Afternoon, Guelph
- 2001 - Ottawa Folk Festival
- 2000 - Hillside Festival, New York Underground Poetry and Music Festival,
- 1999 - Edmonton Folk Festival
- 1998 - New Music West, Calgary Folk Festival, North by North East
- 1997 - Vancouver Folk Festival

Selected Press

"This is a master work by an artist at the peak of her potential" - Roots Music Canada

"Musically and lyrically this album offers so much.. *Time Spent Swimming* is fascinating. It is hard to categorize, and this is a compliment." - Spill Magazine, CAN

"sounds like a never-released collaboration between Peter Gabriel and Bjork" - Fidelity, DE

"convention-defying fusion of pop and art rock" - France 24

"*Time Spent Swimming* shoots into the stratosphere" - Exclaim!, CAN

"*Time Spent Swimming* goes deep, and I'm falling more and more in love with it after every listen." - Airplane on the Highway, CAN

"Thrilling" - Actua News, FR

"five-stars ... I found time between gigs to write this review because the record is so good" - West End Phoenix, CAN

"Martin knows how to impress." - Les Oreilles Curieuses, FR

"... bubbling over with ideas, walking right between such 'sound world travelers' as LAURIE ANDERSON, ANNE CLARK and BRIAN ENO, but also flirting with a KATE BUSH or AMANDA PALMER and BJÖRK as well as the TALKING HEADS." - Musikreviews.de

Album of the Year - NBT Music Radio, Köln, Germany

"...brilliant... We can't recommend this album to you enough. Superb in every sense of the word" - Starship Overflow Radio, UK

"... genius ... Reference artists could be Talking Heads and PJ Harvey, but probably this lady is better called 'unique'" - Rootstime, BE

"new, exciting, provocative, uninhibited, sometimes ferocious, sometimes tranquil, never boring" - Zero Magazine, SWE

"a very remarkable piece of work" - Written in Music, The Netherlands

"profound, original, and beautiful" - Keys & Chords, Belgium

NNNN "Martin pulls off something Kate Bushingly theatrical and epic" - NOW Toronto

***** 5/5 Stars - the Music Express, CAN

"Selina Martin - aural visionary" - 100.3 SoundFM, CAN

"a masterful work that showcases Martin's magical talent for writing simultaneously from the heart, brain and gut." - Exclaim!, CAN

"One of the 10 best albums of the year" (Disaster Fantasies) - Ottawa Citizen, CAN

"Disaster Fantasies is one of the Globe's picks for the Polaris Prize" - Globe & Mail, CAN

**** 4/4 stars - "Selina Martin has the voice of a thrift shop angel and the eye of an eagle circling over its prey" - Globe & Mail

"*Throw Me In The Water*, *Breathe In*, and *Always On My Mind* all candidates for the song of the year." - Michael Barclay (Macleans, Radio Free Canuckistan)

CBC Radio 3 Track of the Day - "Public Safety Management" / "One of the most intriguing songwriters in Toronto" - Vish Khanna

**** "*Life Drawing Without Instruction* is a compelling collection, showcasing Martin's musicianship, vocal talent, and songwriting." - Vue Magazine

"Martin revels in the unexpected on her tough, tender, and frequently astounding sophomore effort" - Ottawa Xpress

Globe & Mail ESSENTIAL TRACKS: *The Hottest Day* and *The Spirit of Radio*