

# CV

Rebecka Sofia Ahvenniemi, b. 1982  
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## Education:

- 2015-\***: Research scholarship in composition, The Grieg Academy, University of Bergen  
**2013-2017**: Doctoral student, philosophical aesthetics, University of Helsinki  
Sept 2015–Dec 2015: Columbia University; supervisor: Lydia Goehr  
2014-2015: University of Bergen; supervisor: Arnfinn Bø-Rygg  
2013-\* University of Helsinki; supervisor: Arto Haapala  
**2013**: Completed Master's degree in composition of music, The Grieg Academy, University of Bergen  
**2010**: Completed Bachelor's degree in composition of music, The Grieg Academy, University of Bergen  
**2010**: Completed Master's degree in philosophy, University of Bergen  
April 2009 – September 2009: Freie Universitet Berlin; Studies in German  
**2007**: Completed Bachelor's degree in cultural sciences, specializing in philosophy, University of Bergen  
September 2002 – May 2004: University of Helsinki; Studies in philosophy, aesthetics, Latin and French

## Teachers/ Supervisors/ Seminars and master classes with (music):

Morten Eide Pedersen, Christian Wolff, Helmut Lachenmann, Michael Finissy, Karen Tanaka, Bent Sørensen, Mathias Spahlinger, Kaija Saariaho, Magne Hegdal, Anna Lindahl, Henrik Hellstenius, Natasha Barrett

## Supervisors (philosophy):

Arto Haapala, Lydia Goehr, Arnfinn Bø-Rygg, Hans-Marius Hansteen, Vibeke Tellmann

## Commissions and scholarships (music):

- 2017**: Ensemble Avgarde – Det norske komponistfond  
**2016**: Scholarship from TONO  
**2016**: “Vestlandskollasje”, commission from Electric Audio Unit – Kulturrådet  
**2016**: “Vocalice for Oboe and Voice” - Komponistenes vederlagsfond  
**2015**: “The Pillow Book”, commission from Collegium Musicum – Kulturrådet  
**2015**: “Utopia500”, composing the sound scape for a 3D-video-installation – Kulturrådet  
**2015**: Meltzer, travel scholarship to Columbia University for three months  
**2015**: Scholarship from TONO  
**2015**: Folks music for vocal, hardingfela and flute, commission from Ny Musikk Komponistgruppe – Det norske komponistfond  
**2014**: “Encounters” for two voices and two percussionists, commission from Ny Musikk Bergen – Kulturrådet  
**2014**: “Mouseion”, commission from BEK – Det norske komponistfond  
**2014**: “Banalala”, a sound file composition, commission from Ny Musikk Oslo, Only Connect festival

- 2013: “Olipa kerran eräs jumala”, avantgarde heavy metal, commission from Ny Musikk's Komponistgruppe – Kulturrådet
- 2013: “Muse’s Puzzle” for Concert band, commission from Sjøforsvarets musikkorps – Kulturrådet
- 2013: “Det osynliga barnet” for voice, percussion and tape – Komponistenes vederlagsfond
- 2012: “Triangulation” for percussion, guitar and prepared piano, commission from Ny Musikk's Komponistgruppe – Det norske komponistfond
- 2012: UD/ MIC, travel scholarship, Nu:nord in Canada, Montreal
- 2012: Meltzer, travel scholarship, Nu:nord in Canada, Montreal
- 2012: “Delicate Maneuvers” for bass clarinet and cello – Komponistenes vederlagsfond
- 2011: “O viridissima virga” for two female voices – Komponistenes vederlagsfond

### Published writings:

- Ahvenniemi, R.S.: “Bergensskolen. Den stille og drøftende musikken.” In: Ballade, 22.4.2016, <http://www.ballade.no/sak/bergensskolen-den-stille-og-droftende-musikken/> [17.5.2016]
- Ahvenniemi, R.S.: “Composition in Essay Form. In Memory of Morten Eide Pedersen.” In: Studia Musicologica Norvegica, 1-2015, pp. 127-141
- Ahvenniemi, R.S.: “Le vin herbé – En flaskepost fra 1941”. In: Scenekunst, 25.2.2014, <http://www.scenekunst.no/pub/scenekunst/review/?aid=4912> [19.3.2015]
- Ahvenniemi, R. S.: “Språk, stemme og kropp. Et essay om språkfilosofi og vokalmusikk, og hva som kan skje i møtet mellom dem”. In: Lydskrift, Sept-2013, <http://lydskrift.no/source/rebecka-sofia-ahvenniemi> [19.3.2015]
- Ahvenniemi, R.S.: “Sannhet som kunst: Om å lese Heidegger og Adorno”. In: Norsk Filosofisk Tidsskrift, 3-2011, pp. 225-237
- Ahvenniemi, R. S.: “Sannhet som kunst: En presentasjon av sannhetsbegrepene til Martin Heidegger og Theodor W. Adorno”. I: Årbok 2010. Bergensnettverket for kvinner i filosofi, 2011, pp. 29-44
- Ahvenniemi, R. S.: “Hva er et tre? – Om Theodor W. Adorno, språk og natur”. In: Replik, vol. 30, 2010, pp. 19-27

### Presentations at conferences and seminars:

- “**Composing Like a Woman? On Music, Gender, and Democracy**”  
 (1.4.2017) Norwegian Society of Composers, seminar, Oslo  
 (24.2.2017) Conference: Kvinder i spill, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- “**Compositions and Fractures. Leaving Traces in Material, Technique and Thought.**”  
 (1.11.2016) Composers' seminar, Atlantic Center for the Arts, Florida  
 (20.11.2015) Graduate students -seminar in philosophy, Columbia University  
 (30.10.2015) Conference: The Beautiful and the Sublime, University of Aberdeen
- “**Compositional Method**”  
 (4.11.2015) Composers' seminar, The Department of Music, Columbia University
- “**Komposisjon og sårbarhet**”  
 (16.10.2015) Morten Eide Pedersen -seminar, The Grieg Academy, University of Bergen,  
 (22.8.2015) Seminar for the women composers, Norwegian Society of Composers
- “**Composition in Essay Form**”  
 (30.5.2015) Conference: Aesthetics, Contemporaneity, Art, Nordic Society of Aesthetics, Aarhus University
- “**Compositional Practice**”  
 (7.-16.8.2014) Conference: Nu:Nord, Ny Musikk's Komponistgruppe, Oslo and London  
 (2.-9.7.2012) Conference: Nu:Nord, Ny Musikk's Komponistgruppe, Montreal, Canada  
 (26.-30.7.2011) Conference: 1<sup>st</sup> Norwegian-Canadian New Music Conference, Oslo

**“Language, Voice and Body. On the Affinity between Philosophy of Language and Vocal Music.”** (6.6.2014) Conference: Art, the Aesthetic and Aesthetic Experience, Nordic Society of Aesthetics, University of Helsinki

**“Språk, stemme og kropp. Om språkfilosofi og vokalmusikk, og hva som kan skje i møtet mellom dem”**

(1.3.2014) Conference: Filosofien og grensen II, Bergensnettverket for kvinner i filosofi co. Netværk for kvinder i filosofi, Roskilde Universitet

**“Stemmen, pusten og instrumentet. På jakt etter et musikalsk uttrykk mellom språk og kroppslig gestikk”**

(8.2.2013) Master presentation, The Grieg Academy, University of Bergen

**“Komponering av vokalmusikk. Språk og kunnskapsteori sett i lys av kunstnerisk praksis.”**

(5.12.2012) Conference: “Filosofien og grensen I”, Bergensnettverket for kvinner i filosofi, Department of Philosophy, University of Bergen

**“Komponering av vokalmusikk. Perspektiver på språk og samfunn i kritisk teori i lys av kunstnerisk praksis.”**

(29.5.2012) Seminar: “Kunstverket i kritisk teori”, Forskningsgruppe for filosofi, språk og kunst; Department of Philosophy, University of Bergen co. Festspillene i Bergen

**“How to Write a Philosophical Text?”**

(9.9.2011) Conference: Om møtepunkter mellom filosofi, språk og kunstnerisk utviklingsarbeid, Forskningsgruppen for filosofi, språk og kunst; Department of Philosophy, University of Bergen

**“Sannhet som kunst”**

(16.2.2010) Seminar: Bergens nettverket for kvinner i filosofi

### **Board membership:**

**2015-\*** Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra

**2013-\*** Norsk Komponistforening (Norwegian Society of Composers)

**2012-2013:** Ny Musikk's Komponistgruppe (Composers of New Music)

### **Work experience (only the most relevant):**

**2015-\***: University teacher at the Grieg Academy, University of Bergen: “Contemporary compositional techniques for performing musicians”

**2015-\***: University teacher at the Grieg Academy, supervisor for students in composition and lectures for students in composition

**2011-2014:** Producer and general manager of the concert series AVGARDE, Bergen

**2010-2014:** University teacher at the University of Bergen, teaching the courses Academic writing and Examen Philosophicum

**Autumn 2009, autumn 2010:** Research assistant in Music therapy, University of Bergen

**Autumn 2007, spring 2009:** Substitute teacher in philosophy at two high schools in Finland: Kaurialan- og Lyseon lukio

### **Special courses and artistic residencies**

**20.10.-5.11.2016:** Artistic residency, composition, Atlantic Center for the Arts, Florida, Master artist: Natasha Barrett

**8.-12.12.2015:** 5-day-workshop in stand-up comedy, American Comedy Institute; Supervisor: Stephen Rosenfield, NYC; Performance at Gotham Comedy Club, 12.12.15

**5.-10.7.2010:** 6-day course in creative writing; Supervisor: Markku Karpio, Oriveden Opisto, Finland

**27.6.-2.7.2011:** 6-day course in poetry writing; Supervisor: Jyrki Kiiskinen, Oriveden Opisto, Finland

**8.7.-13.7.2013:** 6-day course in writing prose; Supervisor: Taija Tuominen, Oriveden Opisto, Finland

**Language skills:**

English: Excellent

Finnish: Mother tongue

French: Basic

Norwegian: Excellent

Swedish: Mother tongue

German: Good

(The languages are presented alphabetically. The scale: Mother tongue – Excellent – Good – Basic)

## **Musical compositions:**

### **Solo pieces:**

**An Ode to a Tree** (2016) for Bb clarinet and electronics [5']

WP: 28/7-2016, Mostly Mozart Festival, Lincoln Center, Joshua Rubin (ICE)

**Organic Encounters** (commission NMK) (2012) for Groven's pure-tuned organ and tape [6'30"']

WP: 1/12-2012, Orgelhuset, Oslo; Ole Karsten Sundlisæther

**A Song for the Viola** (commission NMK) (2011) for violin and tape [3']

WP: 29/7-2011, Tøyen kontor, Oslo; Mira Benjamin

**Vihreä tanssi** (2009) for piano [4.5']

WP: 29/5-2009, Griegakademiet, GSS, Bergen; Ingrid Elisabet Berg

**Lucia** (2008) for: piccolo and electronics [5']

WP: 13/12-2008, AVGARDE, USF Verftet, Sardinien, Bergen; Jan Tufteland

### **Large ensembles:**

**Muse's Puzzle** (commission SFMK) (2014) for wind orchestra [9']

WP: 26/9/2014; BrassWind, Bergen; Sjøforsvarets musikkorps

**Vårlige dikt fra Vestlandet** (2013) for wind orchestra [6']

WP: 14/3-2013 Koengen, Bergenhus festning, Bergen; Sjøforsvarets musikkorps

**Gioco Di Aria. Luftspill.** (2013) for wind orchestra and percussion [6']

WP: 26/1-2012 Korskirken, Bergen; Dragefjellet musikkorps

**Ikivihreä (Evergreen)** (2012) for wind orchestra [6']

WP: 22/3-2012 Bergen festning, Koengen, Bergen; FMKV

**iSong** (2012) for flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, two violins, viola and cello [4'30"']

WP: 17/2-2012, Griegakademiet, GSS, Bergen; Griegakademiet sinfonietta

**FruSSSna kviSStar** (2011) for wind orchestra [7']

WP: 7/4-2011, Bergen festning, Koengen, Bergen; FMKV

**Waves between Waves** (2010) for sinfonietta [5']

WP: 13/10-2010, AVGARDE, USF Verftet, Sardinien, Bergen; Griegakademiet sinfonietta

**Canto della foresta** (2010) for wind orchestra [5.5']

WP: 17/3-2010, Bergen festning, Koengen, Bergen; FMKV

**A Siren Song from the Black Forest** (2009) for sinfonietta [3']

WP: 14/11-2009, AVGARDE, USF Verftet, Sardinien, Bergen; Griegakademiet sinfonietta

**An Overwhelming Game** (2006) for wind orchestra

WP: 17/11-2006, Koengen, Bergen festning, Bergen; FMKV

### **Vocal music:**

**Dadaroque** (commission NMK) (2016) for soprano or mezzo soprano [5']

WP: 11/8-2016; Ny Musikk Bergen, Landmark, Bergen; Melis Jaatinen

**Leikitään kotia** (commission NMK) (2013-2014) for two vocal voices and cello [5']

WP: 10/8-2014; Nu:nord, Oslo; Silje Aker Johnsen, Torun Stavseng, Rebecka Sofia Ahvenniemi

**Olipa kerran eräs jumala** – avantgarde heavy metal (commission NMK) (2014) for vocal, two guitars, bass and percussion [5'30"]\

WP: 22/3-2014; Borealis, Lydgalleriet/ Østre, Bergen

**Mari&Tim** (2013) for flute vocal, snorkel, water and electronics [9']\

WP: 13/9-2013; Egertorget, Oslo; Jan Tufteland og Rebecka Ahvenniemi

**Pada** (2013) for cello, sopran and dance [6']\

WP: 11/8-2013; Sound of MU, Oslo; Torun Sæter Stavseng, Silje Aker Johnsen

**Det osynliga barnet** (2013) for voice, percussion and tape [10']\

WP: 14/6-2013 Prøvesalen, Griegakademiet, Bergen; Hilde Annine Hasselberg, Øyvind Skarbø

**Herz beim Spinnrade** (2013) for vocal and prepared piano [7']\

WP: 28/2-2013 Borealis, Gunnar Sævigssal, Griegakademiet, Bergen; Hilde Annine Hasselberg, Martin Vinje

**Nyckeln till alla hämligheter** (2011) for soprano, piccolo, alto flute and electronics [5']\

WP:19/11-2011AVGARDE, USF Verftet, Sardinien, Bergen; Rebecka Ahvenniemi and Sarah Johnson

**O viridissima virga** (commission NMK) (2011) for soprano and mezzo soprano [7'30"]\

WP: 29/10-2011, Emanuel Vigeland mausoleum, Oslo; Kristin Bolstad and Camilla Ediassen

**Allerlifligste** (2011) for soprano, viola and electronics [7']\

WP: 26/8-2011, Johanneskirken, Bergen; Ingeborg Aadland and Sebastian Lowe

**Sa(de)** (2010) video installation, sound and picture, Rebecka Ahvenniemi co. Are Hauffen [9']\

WP: 8/12-2010, Griegakademiet, Prøvesalen, Bergen

**Canto del notturno** (2010) for soprano, piano and electronics [5']\

WP: 7/3-2010, Springboard Borealis, Hotel Augustin, Bergen; Ingeborg Aadland and Guro Haugen

**Frost och drömmar** (2010) for: soprano, alto, 2 pianists and electronics [6']\

WP: 13/11-2009, AVGARDE, USF Verftet, Sardinien, Bergen, Ingeborg Aadland, Kari Nielsen, Solfrid Aalvik and Guro Haugen

**Sa(de)** (2008) for mezzo soprano, piano and electronics [9']\

WP: 8/3-2008, AVGARDE, USF Verftet, Sardinien, Bergen; Elise Gillebo og Ingrid Elisabet Berg

**O viridissima virga** (2007) for choir (SSAATB)\

WP: 4/2-2007, Domkirken, Bergen; 18 members of Bergen philharmonic choir

**Min barndoms träd** (2001) for soprano and piano\

WP: Nov-2001, Sibelius birth home, Hämeenlinna (Finland); Rebecka Sofia Ahvenniemi and Julia Reinikainen

### **Mixed ensemble/ chamber music:**

**Vocalice for Oboe and Voice** (2016) for oboe and voice [5']

WP: 7/6-2016 Bergen Festspillene, Grieghallen foajen; Jonna Staas and Rebecka Ahvenniemi

**The Weave** (Comission Ny Musikks Komponistgruppe) (2015) for voice hardingfele and flute [7']

WP: 4/12-2015 Østre, Bergen; Runhild Heggem, Kine Iselilje Gyldenskog, Silje Solberg

**Furnishing. A Nordic House.** (commission AVGARDE) (2015) graphic score for any ensemble

WP: 14/3/2015 AVGARDE/ Borealis, Østre, Bergen; Ole André Farstad, Ricardo Odriozola, Jostein

Stalheim, Eline Sundal, Petter Asbjørnsen, Sofya Dudaeva and Manuel Hofstätter

**The Death of a Christmas Tree** (2014) graphic score for any ensemble

WP: 14/12-2014 Ny Musikk Oslo; Tøyen Fil and Klafferi

**Encounters** (commission Ny Musikk Bergen) (2014) for two female voices and to percussionists [55']

WP: 8/11-2014 Østre, Bergen; Hilde Annine Hasselberg, Natalie Sandtorv, Øyvind Skarbø, Manuel Hofstätter

**Tacit-Citat-ion** (2013) for string quintet [6'30"]\

WP: 12/4-2013 Gunnar Sævigssal, Griegakademiet, Bergen; BIT20

**Triangulation** (commission NMK) (2013) for percussion, guitar and prep. piano [14']\

WP: 18/1-2012 Interkulturelt museum, Oslo; Aksiom

**Eight Seasons** (commission NMK) (2012) for string quartet [12']\

WP: 12/9-2012 Parkteatret, Oslo; Quatuor Bozzini

**Delicate Maneuvers** (commission NMK)(2012) for bass clarinet and cello [6'30"]\

WP: 9/7-2012 Montreal, Canada; Mark Bradley and Andrea Stewart

**Homo ludens 2** (commission NMK) (2012) for two trumpets, horn, trombone and tuba [7']\

WP: 3/2-2012, Ilios festival, Kulturhuset, Harstad

**Homo ludens** (commission AVGARDE) (2011) for percussion, trombone, bass clar. and tuba [5']\

WP: 15/10-2011, Logen teateret, Bergen; Bottom End Quartet

**Fanfare** (2010) for two trumpets, trombone and sn. drum [5']\

WP: 27/8-2010, doctor promotion in Håkonshallen (UiB), Bergen

**Silans** (2007) for flute, triangle, bassoon and jew's harp\

WP: 8/12-2007, AVGARDE, USF Verftet, Bergen; Sofya Dudaeva, Craig Farr, Anthony Ringdal and Audun Bruflot

### **Electronic pieces and film music:**

**Winds** (2016), for ambisonics, WP: 3/11-16 Atlantic Center for the Arts, Florida

**Diorama Utopia** (2016), music for a VR-film, WP: 9/9-16 Luftballett, Høyskolen i Bergen

**Cagelessness** (2015), video composition, WP: 13/6-15 Multimedial festival, Örebro, Sweden

**Mouseion** (commission BEK) (2015) for ambisonics, WP: 12/3-15 Borealis, Østre, Bergen

**Banalala** (commission Ny Musikk Oslo) (2014) for tape [7'15"]\

WP: 5/2014; Only Connect, Oslo; Voice: Hilde Annine Hasselberg