

## ERIC HUCKINS, horn Biography



Photo: Ryan Brandenburg  
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A winner of Astral's 2018 National Auditions, Eric Huckins is a New York-based horn player, educator, and arranger. Passionately striving to connect with audiences in creative musical mediums, he regularly incorporates commissioning, improvisation, and his own compositions into his various musical and social projects. A new music enthusiast, he has commissioned and premiered over 50 works for solo horn and horn in chamber settings, including works by Pulitzer Prize winner Aaron Jay Kernis, Princeton Professor Emeritus Paul Lansky, and Rome Prize winner Sean Friar.

The principal horn of Symphony in C, Mr. Huckins has also appeared with The Philadelphia Orchestra, the American Ballet Theater, the S.E.M. Ensemble, and in OstravaDays2019 in the Czech Republic, and has performed as guest principal horn with the Netanya Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra. He has also performed with the early music ensembles Clarion Music Society and Teatro Nuovo Orchestra.

A passionate chamber musician, Mr. Huckins has been a founding member of several ensembles including the Philadelphia-based brass sextet, The Brass Project, and Tangent Winds, which received the Bronze Medal at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. He has been featured as a chamber musician at such festivals as Music from Angel Fire and the Cape Cod Chamber Music Festival. In 2015 and 2018, he held the Brass Quintet Fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival. He has also appeared with The American Brass Quintet.

Mr. Huckins is a Co-Founder of the Long Island Chamber Music Festival. A community builder, he is also Co-Founder and Artistic Coordinator of The Arts at Blessed Sacrament, an arts series based in New York City that features the work of young artists in chamber music, orchestral concerts, dance, and art installations. In 2015, he revived the band program at South Philadelphia High School through his Community Artist Project at the Curtis Institute of Music. As an educator, he has held Gluck and Music Advancement Program fellowships through The Juilliard School. He has been in residence at Navajo Technical University with The Heartbeat Project, working with students from kindergarten through 12th grade on composition and improvisation. While on the reservation, he developed a passion for traditional Navajo music. He also enjoys arranging early American folk songs.

Mr. Huckins holds a Bachelor's degree from Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied with Jennifer Montone and Jeffrey Lang, and a Master's degree from The Juilliard School, under Julie Landsman. He has also studied historical performance extensively with R.J. Kelley.

*For presenters, please include: "Eric Huckins appears courtesy of Astral Artists."*

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