



# HARLAN HODGES

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Edition

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PIANIST/COMPOSER  
MULTI-GENRE KEYBOARDIST

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## BIOGRAPHY

Harlan Hodges was born and raised in Texas by a family whose life centered around music. Through the guidance of his parents, his earliest years provided a wealth of exposure to modern musical life in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. This in turn provoked both a fascination and appreciation of many diverse styles, and a draw to take part in them. Whether it was the traditional lyricism of a Symphonic Poem or the modern power of Rock n' Roll, life was always filled with an atmosphere that promoted a deep and profound love of musical art.

He began playing the piano at the age of five, and in only a few years began performing in the classical world through the local University and wherever else opportunities presented themselves. During high school, he continued to study music privately and began developing as a composer. Being drawn to the beautiful melodies in the music of the great Romantic composers, he fell in love particularly with the work of pianist and composer Frederic Chopin. This marked the beginning of a fully dedicated study to the styles and practices of the Great Classics.

With a focus both in Composition and Piano, he attended the Texas Tech University School of Music where he studied under world-renowned pianist William Westney. While great emphasis was placed upon technique and mastery of the instrument, the tutelage was centered upon the artistry of the musician and the spirit of the individual. These teachings not only propelled the ever-increasing desire to absorb the great Masterworks but they fueled the young pianist to absorb the traditions of American music. Not only had the experiences of childhood shown the way toward the Classics, but his academic studies had also become the gateway to the world of Jazz.

Participating in a wide variety of ensembles and original groups, Harlan Hodges has been producing and premiering classical and jazz works throughout the West Texas area since 2004, and it has since brought him to many places as wide-reaching as Cortona, Italy at the Cortona Music Festival in 2006.

After a long period of intensive compositional and academic studies, the now twenty-three year old pianist took leave from Lubbock, Texas to pursue the full time study and profession of Musical Composition and Jazz. He currently lives and works out of the Houston, TX area. •



### On Stage

LuLu<sup>2</sup>  
Rozz Zamarano  
The Free Radicals  
Paul English  
Josh Halverson  
Colt Compton Quartet  
Sparks Fly Upward

### On Record

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## HARLAN HODGES TRIO!

The origins of the Harlan Hodges Trio began from a series of collaborative experiments between pianist and composer Harlan Hodges and drummer Ryan Garza in early 2009. These captivating performances highlighted both musicians' innate ability to interact dynamically with one another by drawing from their very diverse musical backgrounds. Working under the name LuLu Duo, this self-sufficient rhythm section began incorporating unique and unconventional combinations of guest instrumentalists and expanded in 2010 to become the Harlan Hodges Trio.

With lush harmonic compositions by Hodges and intriguing arrangements of jazz classics and popular music the Harlan Hodges Trio has stacked the cards to become one of the most prominent jazz groups to emerge from the Central Texas area. Guided by the experience and creativity of Hodges, the trio features some of the hottest young talent around. With each member emerging from the top of their respective academic programs, the trio shows a promising contribution to the future of jazz music.

On their maiden voyage as an original group, the Harlan Hodges Trio is now booking dates to promote the recording and release of their first full-length album along with a record of solo piano compositions by bandleader Harlan Hodges in early 2011. •