

Robert T. Buonaspina "Short Form" Bio (English) — 2022  
~330 Words

**Robert T. Buonaspina** is a New-York-City-based composer, arranger, producer/music director, conductor/bandleader, multi-instrumentalist, and educator. In 2020, Robert received his Master's degree in Jazz Composition from **Manhattan School of Music**, where he was a student of **Jim McNeely** and **Phil Markowitz**. In 2021, Robert was appointed **Adjunct Professor** of Jazz & Commercial Arranging/Composition at **Hofstra University**, and, as of 2020, Robert works as full-time **Director of Music** of **St. Pancras Roman Catholic Church** in Glendale, Queens. As of Fall 2022, Robert also works as organist and Assistant Director of Music at **St. Sebastian Roman Catholic Church** (Woodside, Queens).

As a **composer and arranger**, Robert has had the honor of having his work performed around the world: with ensembles recently ranging from the **JazzKombinat** jazz orchestra in Hamburg, Germany — all the way to the **Cathedral of St. John the Divine** or even the **Empire State Building** for **New York Fashion Week**. In January 2021, Robert was the recipient of the **International Society of Jazz Arrangers and Composers (ISJAC) Chuck Owen Prize in Jazz Composition**, where his work for jazz ensemble, **"Smile Pretty,"** was performed and professionally recorded by the **WDR Big Band** in Cologne, Germany. In any and all deviations of his work as a composer/arranger, Robert has been fortunate to achieve collaborations with heavy hitters across the scene: including Grammy-winning producer **Larry Klein**, **Chico Pinheiro**, **Candice Hoyes**, **Joel Ross**, **Veronica Swift**, **Steven Feifke**, **DePue Brothers Band**, and the **RWS Entertainment Group**.

Also an avid **pianist** and **violinist**, Robert has been fortunate to work with and under key jazz, musical theatre, and pop figures in New York — sharing the stage with names like **Lalah Hathaway**, **Vince Mendoza**, **Nick Tangorra**, **Ralph Lalama**, **John McDaniel**, **Melissa Errico**, **Alice Ripley**, and the **Steven Feifke Big Band**. Whether on piano or on viola, Robert has performed at seminal venues throughout New York such as **Lincoln Center**, **Feinstein's/54 Below**, **The Django** (at the **Roxy Hotel**), and the **Riverside Church**.