

Music in the Schools

BIO—JEFFREY KOWALKOWSKI

Composer/pianist Jeffrey Kowalkowski received his doctorate in composition from Northwestern University in 1996. He is active as a free-lance keyboardist and band-leader performing classical, jazz, and rock music, with a specialty in “avant-garde” and “new music.” Jeff has been on the faculty at DePaul University since 1996 and at Northeastern Illinois University since 2001. He teaches courses in music composition and theory, as well as orchestration and form and analysis. Recent commissions for original compositions include a Meet the Composer/Met-Life Creative Connections grant for a duo percussion concerto, and also a sound-installation produced by the Experimental Sound Studio (ESS) and the Chicago Park District at the Lincoln Park Conservatory. Recent work as a keyboardist includes synthesizer and sound-effects for Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus, and piano with the Exploding Star Orchestra (Delmark). He co-organizes the *New Music at the Green Mill* concert series which was founded in 1988.

MUSIC in the SCHOOLS PROGRAMS

SOLO: My solo piano concerts include works from all periods of Western classical music history, jazz, improvisation, and my own music. During the concert I will discuss the compositional techniques that students should listen for, and demonstrate a wide variety of styles.

DUO: With percussion/vocalist Eric Roth. We will perform mostly our own music, with some pop covers and some synthesized/computer music. This DUO concert leans toward the “experimental” side and focuses on the use of percussion with electronics and computers.

TRIO: This is a classical *piano trio* (violin, cello, piano) that will play Beethoven, Brahms, Shostakovich and my own compositions for this instrumentation. Between movements I will discuss formal aspects of the works being played.

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