

## Benjamin James D'Cunha

### *Education*

- 1996-Present Humber College of applied Arts & Technology: Toronto, & Open University  
Bachelor of Music degree: Jazz Studies in vocal performance
- Dean's list every semester
  - Areas of Study: Composition, Jazz Pedagogy, Improvisation, Solo Performance, Repertoire Development, Jazz History, Music Theory, Arranging, Ear Training, Small Band & Choir Ensembles
  - Two English correspondence courses needed to complete B.Mus.
- 1995-1996 Royal Conservatory of Music: Toronto  
Received training and successfully completed with honors
- Grade IV Counterpoint
  - Grade V Harmony & Counterpoint
- 1991-1993 Brebeuf College School: North York, Ontario  
Received Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)-Advanced Level
- 1982-1991 St. Michael's Choir School: Toronto
- Trained in Renaissance, Chamber, Gregorian Chant and Twentieth Century styles of music
  - Study also included: sight singing, choral singing, stage performance, and theory courses up to and including Grade IV Harmony

### *Work Experience*

- Sept. 2001-Present Nathaniel Dett Chorale
- Singing in the Bass Section for the Concert Season
- June. 2001-Nov. 2001 Gabriel Art Cafe
- Performing every Friday With Jazz Quintet
  - Leading group and composing music for performance
- Mar. 2001-Present Islington United Church
- Bass Section Leader
  - Perform Solos when needed
- Sept. 2000-June 2001 Tafelmusik Chamber Choir
- Singing in bass section for the concert season
- Aug. 2000-May 2001 Gatsby's Restaurant: 504 Church St., Toronto
- Performing with Bob Fenton on piano every Wednesday evening
- Sept. 1999-Present Private Instructor
- Teaching voice, composition, theory and piano
  - Providing instruction, evaluation, and guidance to students ranging from ages 4 – 50

- Jan. 1998-Mar. 2001      Choir Master, Our Lady of Fatima R.C. Church: Scarborough, Ontario
- Instructing and supervising 20-member volunteer choir
  - Conducting and arranging music for Sunday morning mass
- Jan -July 2000              Musical Director, Key to Life Entertainment: Toronto
- Booking and organizing the performances of five showcased bands for a ten-week summer Jazz series at G-Clef Jazz club and Gatsby's Restaurant
  - Selecting and hiring musicians and singers for shows in the Guinness Future of Jazz series, held at the North York Center for Performing Arts
  - Advising players, overseeing rehearsals and musical selection for above shows
- Oct. 1999- May 2000      Teacher's Assistant in 12-voice Jazz Choir Ensemble: Humber College: Toronto
- Running sectionals and conducting selected charts
  - Overseeing rehearsals in the absence of director
  - Providing feedback and input to undergraduate vocal ensembles
- 1998-1999                  Vocal Coach, Toronto Faculty of Music
- Instructing six member SATB jazz choir to sing choral arrangements and solo pieces with big band and rhythm section
  - Teaching theory, ear-training and all around performance skills
- 1997-1998                  Peer Tutor, Music (10 hours/week)  
Humber College of Applied Arts & Technology
- 1996-1997                  Instructor for Voice, Piano and Theory (20 hours/week)  
Arcadia Academy of Music: Woodbridge, Ont
- 1996-1997                  Vocal Director, Pendragon Youth Players: Toronto
- 1995-1996                  Lead Bass, St Bartholemew's Anglican Church Choir: Toronto
- Other work Experience
- Singing from first Tenor to bass in various a cappella groups
  - Singing at weddings and funerals for over fifteen years
  - Performing in café/bookstores, concert halls, and long-term care facilities across Canada and the U.S.

***Professional Development***

Private Teachers

- Bob Fenton: Jazz Pianist and York University Vocal Coach
- Trish Colter: Head of Humber College Vocal Jazz Program
- Lisa Martinelli: Toronto Area Jazz Singer and instructor
- Alexa Wing: Toronto Area Opera Singer

Workshops

- Banff Center for the Performing Arts: Banff, Alberta  
Vocal Jazz workshop with Jazz singers Shiela Jordan and Jay Clayton
- The Jazz Camp: Kincardine, Ont  
Vocal Jazz workshop with Montreal Based Jazz Singer Ranee Lee

***References:*** Available upon request

*Skills and Interests*

- Working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Encore music software, and Internet
- Hobbies include baseball, cycling, camping and boxing

*Compositions*

1996	The Evening Leavin' T.O.
1999	Spilt Coffee Blues Thunder's Truck Counting Down The Hours This Is Autumn To Me A Waltz For Holly
2000	Owners of The Planet Midnight Skies For Anna
2001	Kiss Me Once More