

## Jack Hughes

Music Theory Faculty, Conservatory

Cleveland-based composer and music theorist Jack Hughes was born in Reston, Virginia, and his interest in composing was sparked by his public-school music program. He wrote his first real composition, a fugue for string quartet, after being inspired by a transcription of a Bach fugue he performed as a trumpet player in his middle school band. It won first place in a contest for young student composers sponsored by the Webster University Communitysic, where he was coached in composition and then CIM graduates and had additional pieces professionally performed and recorded.

Several years after those pivotal experiences, Hughes earned a Bachelor of Music degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he was a double major in theory and composition and studied in the studio of Keith Fitch. He earned his PhD in 2020 at the University of Chicago, where he studied with composers Augusta Read Thomas and Shulamit Ran and theorist Lawrence Zbikowski.

Hughes served as composer fellow for the Canton Symphony Orchestra in 2014 and San