

Everett Hopfner is not a harmonium player. However, if you need a harmonium player, you're in luck: he'll probably say yes. An enthusiastic explorer of the piano (or whichever keyboard instrument happens to be nearest), Everett's performances exude joy and intention, qualities he translates to his roles as teacher, administrator, advocate, and life-long learner.

Everett's reputation as a generous, thoughtful, and brilliantly skilled player continues to grow. His openness and penchant for musical risk-taking has led to many collaborations with composers and artistic peers. Delighted audiences have found him strumming piano strings surrounded by whale skeletons in Frankfurt's Senckenberg Museum, tinkling away at the *jeu de timbres* on tour with the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie, performing on cathedral steps under the stars as a collaborative pianist for Casalmaggiore International Music Festival in Italy, touring across Canada as a winner of the Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition, and illuminated by a pulsating light installation alongside the Assiniboine River as part of Winnipeg's Nuit Blanche.

As a private piano teacher and sessional instructor at Brandon University, he facilitates meaningful experiences by asking questions, embracing challenges, and developing goal-oriented, student-centred learning processes. Everett lives for the "lightbulb moments", instants where his students find clarity or realize a musical wish. As Director of the Eckhardt-Gramatté Conservatory of Music, he aims to build adaptive structures that think differently, breaking down the barriers to musical participation and understanding still enduring in traditional educational models. Everett serves on the boards of Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals and the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association, and is in high demand for workshops, masterclasses, adjudication, and summer festivals.