

Dr, Robert W. Griffin  
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Dr. Robert W. Griffin is a writer, composer and performer currently residing in Vermont. Dr. Griffin has composed works for a number of musical organizations and churches, particularly the Batraxoi ensemble ([www.batraxoi.com](http://www.batraxoi.com)) that he co-founded in 1980. His compositions include chamber operas, cantatas, musical theater, instrumental works for solo instruments and various instrumental combinations, and works for keyboard solo and keyboard with voices or instruments. Many of his works are available through Beinn Ard Publishing ([www.beinnard.com](http://www.beinnard.com)).

Dr. Griffin studied music theory and composition with Claudio Spies, James Freeman and David Steinbrook at Swarthmore College. He studied piano and organ with Roger Tierney, organist of St. John the Evangelist Episcopal church in New Brunswick NJ and organ with Robert Smart, organist at Trinity Episcopal Church, Swarthmore PA,

Dr. Griffin has performed with many musical groups as vocalist and keyboardist, including as tenor soloist for Kammerchor Zürcher Oberland (Zürich, Switzerland), Onion River Chorus (Montpelier VT), Monadnock Chorus (Peterborough NH), Chorus Pro Musica (Boston MA) and Old South Church (Boston), and as harpsichordist for the Nashua Chamber Orchestra (NH). He was interim organist at Salem NH Congregational Church (1999) and served as alternate organist for the Mason NH Congregational Church (1980-2011). He currently serves as alternate organist for the First Congregational Church of Berlin, Vermont (2016-present). Dr. Griffin also performed with university choruses, vocal ensembles, orchestras and instrumental ensembles at Swarthmore College, Boston College and the University of Virginia.

Dr. Griffin retired in 2016 from his responsibilities as Chief Security Architect for RSA, the Security Division of EMC, where he had world-wide responsibility for RSA technical strategy. He holds a number of computer-science patents related to his work at RSA and other companies. He has also taught computer security as an adjunct professor at University College Dublin (Ireland) and as a guest lecturer at MIT, Lesley College, Babson College and University of Massachusetts.

## **EDUCATION**

1979 PhD in English Literature, University of Virginia  
1973 MA in English Literature, Boston College  
1972 BA in English Literature, Swarthmore College

## **PERFORMING ARTS PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS**

American Guild of Organists (Vermont Chapter) 2021 to present

ASCAP. 1980 to present.

## PERFORMING ARTS ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATIONS

*Shidaa West African Ensemble* ([www.shidaaprojects.org](http://www.shidaaprojects.org)) Board chairman 2020 to present.

*American Guild of Organists, Vermont chapter* ([www.vtago.org](http://www.vtago.org)). Member 2021-present.

*Onion River Chorus* ([www.onionriverchorus.org](http://www.onionriverchorus.org)). Member and soloist 2016-2023.

*Kammerchor Zurcher Oberland* ([www.kammerchor-zo.ch](http://www.kammerchor-zo.ch)). Member and soloist 2011-2016.

*Nashua Chamber Orchestra* ([www.nco.org](http://www.nco.org)). French horn, harpsichord. 2000-2011.

*Monadnock Chorus* ([www.monadnock-chorus.org](http://www.monadnock-chorus.org)). Member and soloist 1992-2011.

*Wapack Brass, Temple NH*. Co-founder and French horn 1990-1997.

*Batraxoi musical ensemble* ([www.batraxoi.com](http://www.batraxoi.com)). Co-founder and director, 1980 to present.

*Albemarle Consort, Charlottesville VA*. Co-founder and director 1975-1979.

*Chorus Pro Musica, Boston MA*. Member and soloist 1972-1975.

*Old South Church, Boston MA*. Chorister and soloist 1972-1975.

## **Chronology of Works by Robert W. Griffin**

### **Literary Works**

**The Song that Green Forest Sang.** Children's' stories by Robert W. Griffin, illustrated by Elizabeth Auer. Copyright 2015. Published 2015 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH.

**What is Never Lost.** Children's' stories by Robert W. Griffin, illustrated by Elizabeth Auer. Copyright 2015. Published 2015 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH.

**Mischka's Tale** by Robert W. Griffin. A fantasy novel in 4 volumes. Copyright 2010-2012. Published 2012 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH. (paperback / eBook)

**The Song of Simeon** by Robert W. Griffin, illustrations by Elizabeth Auer. Copyright 1988-2012. Published 2012 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH. Text taken from chamber opera of the same name, first performance in 1988, listed below.

**The Midwife of Bethlehem** by Robert W. Griffin, illustrations by Elizabeth Auer. Copyright 2010. Published 2011 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH. Text taken from chamber opera of the same name, first performance in 2010, listed below.

**A Cradle for the Child: Twelve Stories for Christmas** by Robert W. Griffin, illustrated by Deborah Prince Smith. Published 2010 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH. (Includes text of musical works performed in 2010 and earlier, listed below.)

**A Partial, Mortal Magic:** a play in 2 acts by Robert W. Griffin. Copyright 1996.

### **Musical Works**

**Psalm 19.** Cantata for solo violin, solo tenor, soprano solo, SATB chorus and organ. Music by Robert W. Griffin to text of Psalm 19 (NRSV). Commissioned 2022 by Rev. Alison A. Young and premiered at her installation at First Congregational Church of Berlin on Sept. 18, 2022.

**"Again I hear these waters"**. Fantasia for solo organ. Music by Robert W. Griffin composed for the American Guild of Organists competition. Completed 2022 (not yet premiered).

**Stabat Mater.** Cantata for soprano solo, SATB chorus and string ensemble. Texts by Lotta Suter and from traditional Latin "Stabat Mater". Music by Robert W. Griffin. Completed 2021 (not yet premiered).

**Like the First Morning.** Laudes for soprano solo, SATB chorus and string ensemble. Texts by Lotta Suter, music by Robert W. Griffin. Completed 2020 (not yet premiered).

**Magnificat in D.** Cantata for soprano solo, SATB chorus and chamber orchestra. Libretto by Lotta Suter, music by Robert W. Griffin. Completed 2019 (not yet premiered).

**Still Winter.** Anthem for women's chorus a capella. Text and music by Robert W. Griffin. Completed 2017 (not yet premiered).

**Weep with Those Who Weep: A Requiem.** For soprano solo, baritone solo, SATB chorus and chamber orchestra. Orchestra Score. Libretto by Lotta Suter, music by Robert W. Griffin. Copyright 2016. Published 2016 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH. First performance October 2016 at Longy School of Music (Cambridge MA).

**Winterlieder.** For soprano solo, tenor solo, SATB chorus and harp. Libretto by Lotta Suter, music by Robert W. Griffin. Commissioned by Kammerchor Zurcher Oberland January 2015 and premiered December 2015 by that organization under Kristof Hanniman.

**Suite for French Horn and Piano,** by Robert W. Griffin. Commissioned by Kammerchor Zurcher Oberland in November 2015 and premiered December 2015 by that organization under Kristof Hanniman.

**Ruwth: a chamber opera.** For soloists, SATB chorus and chamber orchestra. Libretto by Lotta Suter, music by Robert W. Griffin. Copyright 2014. Published 2015 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH. First performance October 2014.

**Sarai: a chamber opera.** For soloists, SATB chorus and chamber orchestra Libretto by Lotta Suter, music by Robert W. Griffin. Copyright 2013. Published 2013 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH. First Performance October 2013.

**Suffer the Little Children:** anthem for SAB and organ. Score. Text from Gospel according to Luke, music by Robert W. Griffin. Copyright 1988-2016. Published 2016 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH. First performance October 1988.

**Suite in G Minor for Solo Violin** by Robert W. Griffin. First performance January 2012.

**Yona: a chamber opera** based on the story of Jonah. For soloists, SATB chorus and chamber orchestra . Libretto by Lotta Suter, music by Robert W. Griffin. Published 2012 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH. First performance April 2011.

**Your Music sets my soul to dancing.** For SATB chorus and jazz trio. Words adapted by Robert W. Griffin from poem by Rumi, music by Robert W. Griffin. 2011

**A Cradle for the Child:** a story with music for Christmas. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. Text published in A Cradle for the Child, 2010. First performance December 2010.

**The Midwife of Bethlehem:** a chamber opera for Christmas. For soloists, SATB chorus, violin, cello, flute and guitar. Libretto and music by Robert W. Griffin. Published 2010 by Beinn Ard Publishing, Hollis NH. First performance December 2009.

**The Christmas Letter:** a story with music for Christmas. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. Text published in *A Cradle for the Child*, 2010. First performance December 2008.

**A Birth in the Family:** anthem for SATB, flute, violin, cello and harpsichord. Text from poems by Norma Farber, music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance December 2007.

**The Christmas Dance:** a story with music for Christmas. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. Text published in *A Cradle for the Child*, 2010. First performance December 2005.

**Hermoso Bouquet:** Spanish folk-song arranged for SATB, flute, violin and cello by Robert W. Griffin. First performance December 2002.

**Ose Shalom:** Jewish song arranged for tenor, flute, violin and cello by Robert W. Griffin. First performance December 2002.

**My Father's Son:** anthem for tenor and organ. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance June 2002.

**The Christmas Goose:** a story with music for Christmas. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. Text published in *A Cradle for the Child*, 2010. First performance December 2001.

**El Cant dels Ocells:** Catalan folk-song arranged for SATB, flute, violin and 2 cellos by Robert W. Griffin. First performance December 2001.

**We Clasp the Hands:** anthem for ST with organ accompaniment. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance March 2000.

**Aubade:** duet for violin and piano by Robert W. Griffin. First performance 2000.

**Still, Still:** Swiss lullaby arranged for SATB by Robert W. Griffin. First performance December 1999.

**A Clear Night, A New Song:** story with music for Christmas. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. Published in *A Cradle for the Child*, 2010. First performance December 1998.

**Shabbat Hamalka:** Jewish Sabbath song arranged for SATB and organ by Robert W. Griffin. First performance October 1998.

**So Well Remember:** duet for violin and piano by Robert W. Griffin. First performance 1998

**To Look with Eyes that Wonder:** SATB a cappella anthem. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance December 1997.

**A Bow to the Strings:** duet for cello and piano by Robert W. Griffin. First performance 1997.

**In the Wilderness:** a cantata for baritone solo, SATB chorus, cello and organ, based on texts from the Dead Sea Scrolls. Music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance October 1996.

**Three Songs for the Forest:** anthems for SATB a capella. Words by Wendell Berry, Gerard Manley Hopkins, Linda Robinson; music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance October 1996.

**The High Wood:** duet for oboe and piano by Robert W. Griffin. First performance October 1996.

**Fare Forward:** anthem for SAT and cello. Words and music by Robert Griffin. First performance June 1996.

**Old Home Days:** song for SATB a capella. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance May 1996.

**A Round for Bells,** SATB anthem by Robert W. Griffin written for inauguration of carillon by Paul Matisse. First performance April 1996.

**Sustain Us, O Love:** anthem for SATB, trumpet and organ. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance January 1996.

**The Mist on the Lake:** duet for flute and piano by Robert W. Griffin, First performance 1996.

**The Stranger at the Gate:** musical for Christmas. Book, lyrics and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance December 1995.

**Unto Thee, O Lord:** anthem for SATB, wind quintet and organ. Words from Psalms, music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance October 1995.

**The Strawberry Festival:** song for SATB a capella. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance May 1995.

**Ivory and Gold:** story with music for Christmas. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. Text published in *A Cradle for the Child*, 2010. First performance December 1994.

**Three Poems by Dickinson:** anthems for tenor, French horn and organ. Words by Emily Dickinson, music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance November 1993.

**The Ice Cream Social at Hancock:** song for SATB a capella. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance May 1993.

**The Stonecarver's Rose:** story with music for Christmas. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. Text published in *A Cradle for the Child*, 2010. First performance December 1992.

**Take me to the Mountain:** anthem for SATB a capella. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance May 1992.

**The Temple Fashion Show:** song for SATB a capella. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance February 1992.

**A Tale of Two Cities:** musical based on the novel by Charles Dickens. For soloists, SATB chorus and chamber orchestra. Book, lyrics and music by Robert W. Griffin. Copyright 1992. (Not performed)

**The Song of Joel:** a chamber opera for Easter, Part 3 of The Shepherds' Gifts. For soloists, SATB chorus and chamber orchestra. Libretto and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance June 1992.

**Come, Child of our Hearts:** anthem for SATB, two trumpets and organ. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance December 1991.

**The Song of Miriam:** a chamber opera for Holy Week, Part 2 of The Shepherds' Gifts. For soloists, SATB chorus and chamber orchestra . Libretto and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance June 1990.

**Leave Your Flocks:** anthem for SATB, 2 trumpets and organ. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance December 1990.

**Steadfast Stands the Lord:** anthem for SATB and organ. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance October 1990.

**Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpets:** anthem for SATB, two trumpets and organ. Words from Psalms, music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance March 1990.

**Hark how the Angel Chorus:** anthem for SATB, two trumpets and organ. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance December 1989.

**The Song of Simeon:** a chamber opera for Christmas, Part 1 of The Shepherds' Gifts. For soloists, SATB chorus and chamber orchestra . Libretto and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance December 1988.

**The Woods of Kilkenny:** anthem for SATB a capella. Words by Robert W. Griffin, music arranged from Irish folk-song by Robert W. Griffin. First performance April 1986.

**Long Sounds the Echo:** canon for SAB a capella. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance April 1983.

**Praise the Lord, all ye People:** canon for SAB a capella. Words from Psalms, music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance 1982.

**Set Me as a Seal Upon thy Heart:** duet for ST a capella. Words from Song of Songs, music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance 1980.

**Stillness:** anthem for SATB a capella. Words and music by Robert W. Griffin. First performance 1978.