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MICHAEL GALLANT

long biography



Michael Gallant is a multi-faceted musician, composer, producer, and writer. As Senior Editor of Keyboard Magazine, he oversaw and directed print/online lessons and CD reviews; he also interviewed (and often jammed with) artists like Billy Joel, Justin Timberlake, Ben Folds, Tori Amos, Dave Brubeck, will.i.am, and Herbie Hancock, who remarked after a collaborative improvisation, “Man, you can play... You’re just as crazy as I am!”

As a musician and singer, Michael has performed at the White House, Kennedy Center, Fillmore, French Quarter Jazz Festival, Preservation Hall, and other venues. As a member of the minimalist indie rock trio The Simple Things, he earned critical praise for the band’s self-titled debut album. In the words of one reviewer: “5 starts out of 5 . . . For music purists, it doesn’t get better than this. *The Simple Things* is a gorgeous and deep debut.”

As a composer, Michael regularly creates scores for live theatre productions in Washington, DC and New York. *DC Theatre Reviews*

described his music for the *The Pillowman*, as produced by the Studio Theatre in Washington, DC: “Michael Gallant bathes the opening of the first and second act in some gorgeous, mood-setting original music; I would have bought the CD if it was on sale in the lobby.” In 2011, Michael scored music for the world’s first interactive iPad graphic novel, entitled *Operation Ajax*, which tells the story of Stephen Kinzer’s book *All The Shah’s Men* in animated comic-book format.

An award-winning classical pianist as a child, Michael began his professional performing career at age 13 and gigged regularly with jazz combos and big bands in the Washington, DC area. He studied anthropology, music composition, and music technology at Columbia University and the University of Melbourne in Australia, before earning his BA from Columbia.

Michael currently works as founder and CEO of Gallant Music, a content and music creation firm based out of New York City. He has worked on projects for the U.S. Department of State, the National Endowment for the Arts, JetBlue, the Boston Globe, The Bob Moog Memorial Foundation, Hal Leonard Corporation, and others.

For more, visit gallantmusic.com and auricalmusic.com, or email press@auricalmusic.com.

(photo by Beth Barton/Burnt Toast Productions)