

2008 Gindroz Prize **Winner** **Christian Kriegeskotte**



Christian Kriegeskotte, 2008: "Byzantine to Gothic and Baroque in the Spiritual Foundations of Eastern Europe"

Christian received his Bachelor's degree in 2003 from CMU and returned for his Masters degree in composition. He traveled to Greece and Eastern Europe on the Gindroz Prize in 2008. He studied both the Liturgy and the Architecture of Orthodox Churches in Athens, Istanbul, and cities in Romania and Hungary. He composed a musical equivalent of a sketchbook, which was performed in Pittsburgh in 2008 and 2009.

Since the completion of his travels, Christian has finished his degree and found increasing success as a composer. He credits the progress in his work and his development as a composer to his experiences in Eastern Europe as a Gindroz Scholar. Christian's future plans include further grant proposals to fund different types of cultural immersion.

A recent work, "Tycho's Machine", was commissioned and performed by Denis Colwel and the Carnegie Mellon Wind Ensemble in Carnegie Music Hall. Christian has received commissions and has had work performed by Robert Page and the Carnegie Mellon Philharmonic and Choirs, the Grammy winning ensemble "eighth blackbird," the Heinz Chapel Choir, the Ion Sound Project, Alia Musica Pittsburgh, baroque flutist Stephen Schulz, the United States Air Force Band's "Singing Sergeants," and the Schola Cantorum of St. Peter in the Loop (Chicago).

In October 2010 Christian received an ASCAP Plus Award for his activities as a composer.