



## Matthew Mugmon: "The Stuff of Living Music: Aaron Copland and the American Legacy of Gustav Mahler"



<https://music.arizona.edu/people/directory/mugmon/>

**Dr. Matthew Mugmon**, who served as the New York Philharmonic Orchestra's Leonard Bernstein Scholar-in-Residence, received his Ph.D. in historical musicology from Harvard University in 2013 and joined the University of Arizona in 2014.

His research brings together two strands of recent interest in music history: the study of the transmission, reception, and circulation of music in interpersonal networks in dialogue, and the development of American musical modernism as a transnational phenomenon.

In 1925, Aaron Copland (1900–1990), then a young American modernist composer, declared that several compositions by Austrian romanticist Gustav Mahler (1860–1911) contained “the stuff of living music.”

Given Mahler’s reputation in the United States as old-fashioned and irrelevant to a growing “American” musical identity, Copland’s assertion of Mahler’s importance reveals the surprising debt he and his colleagues owed, but rarely acknowledged, to the distinguished music of the Austro-German musical tradition — a tradition that also included such revered figures as Beethoven, Schubert, Wagner, and Brahms.

### Colloquium Series Fall 2018

**Fri, September 16, 2018**

**12:15pm to 1:15pm**

**LSB 346**

