

**Brian Ciach** (pronounced “SIGH-ack“, born 1977) is a composer, new music pianist, and educator in the San Francisco Bay Area, whose music has been described as "remarkably inventive" (Bloomington *Herald Times*) and "beautifully scored" (*New Music Box*). Among his works are a *Vegetable Requiem* for hand-made vegetable ocarinas, four piano sonatas with unique forms making use of intrepid extended techniques, and *Collective Uncommon*, a set of orchestra studies inspired by the Mütter Museum—a medical oddities museum in Philadelphia—which calls for food instruments and talking dolls. Brian holds a Doctor of Music in composition from Indiana University, and two master’s degrees in composition and piano performance, as well as a bachelor’s degree in piano performance from Temple University. He is a Lecturer of music theory and composition at San Jose State University, and the Assistant Director and Instructor of piano, music theory, and composition at the Hunter School of Music in San Jose, California. His music has been performed by the Minnesota Orchestra, Alarm Will Sound, Cisum Percussion, Trio Siciliano, Charles Abramovic, and many others. Brian has won awards from the Theodore Presser Foundation, the American Liszt Society, and he is a two-time winner of The American Prize. His compositions are published by Potenza Music. <http://sigh-ackmusic.org>