

About the Author

Sam Ecoff is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin in Eau Claire where he studied music theory and composition. Sam also studied Recording Arts at Full Sail Center for the Recording Arts. Sam saw his first synthesizer at age 8 (a Moog IIIp!) and was completely entranced. The spell hasn't been broken yet. (Sam offers a simple explanation for his love of synthesizers: "Simpleminded folk like me are just naturally attracted to the blinking lights, buttons and knobs. The more knobs, buttons, and blinking lights it has, the better.... especially the blinking lights. I really like those....")

When Sam's days are not being consumed writing new books, he composes music for radio and television commercials using his synthesizers. Although he has a great love of vintage instruments, his studio is stocked with many of the latest synthesizers and samplers, both hardware and virtual.

Sam's great passion in life is teaching young people about all kinds of music, particularly about synthesizers and music technology. In addition to teaching applied piano, music theory, and composition, Sam also teaches a wide range of music technology courses at a private conservatory in southeastern Wisconsin where he has taught since 1997. Sam has been teaching music lessons privately since 1987.

On the rare occasions he is away from his studio, Sam enjoys Eastern philosophy, Tae Kwon Do, ballroom dancing, and long walks out of doors with

his wife Kara and his dog Emilie.

He tells us that the best part of writing books like this one is getting to share his enthusiasm and excitement about music technology with many young people, while the worst part is definitely the page layout. "You don't know how many sentences

I had to rewrite (like this one) just to make everything fit neatly on the page!" He laughingly exclaims. "Nothing too terribly important ever gets left out, though," he assures us.

When asked for a quote, he provided two: "96 simultaneous channels of synthesizers is really *not* enough," and "No, I don't think it is an unreasonable goal to attempt to collect one of every synthesizer ever made. What do you think I am going to do in retirement? I am going to open a museum and let the kids in to play them!"

Sam would like to thank all of the students who gladly served as test subjects for this book and Mr. Vinny Millevolte who kindly shared his insights, ideas, and knowledge and reviewed this and other books to insure the highest level of technical accuracy throughout.

While *Basic Music Technology I* is Sam's second book, he has many others in the works. Look for *Basic Music Technology II*, *The Digital Audio Primer*, and *The MIDI Primer* in the near future. You can learn more about Sam Ecoff and take a virtual tour of Secret Society Productions on line at <http://www.execpc.com/~secoff>.

