

Victor Valle (b.1999)

Award-winning Pittsburgh-based Composer Victor Valle aims to connect the stories of others to help them feel less alone. He grew up to the sounds of rural South Texas accompanied by his abuelo singing mariachi to the family. With his background as a saxophonist and pianist, Victor has constantly put his heart into his music to connect the lives of the people around the world. Victor's music is intertwined with a post-minimalist story-telling aesthetic and has best been described as "vivaciously exploratory."

After receiving a Bachelor of Music in Music Composition and minor in musical theater from the University of Texas at Arlington, Victor pursued a Master Degree in Music Composition at Carnegie Mellon University while studying under Nancy Galbraith.

Most recently, Victor's piece "*the first brushstroke on a blank canvas*" was a finalist for the Pittsburgh Composer's Project and premiered this past spring. A few other awards include the Lloyd-Carr Talioferra Award for "*Isolated Joy*" and the Harry G. Archer Orchestra Competition award for "*and the fool leaped.*" His most recent premieres include: "*and the fool leaped*" (orchestra, CMU Philharmonic), "*crezco*" (saxophone with piano acc., Will Meckley), and "sad bird suite" (solo piano, himself). He is currently working on works for saxophone choir to be premiered at the Texas Music Educators Convention as well as a Saxophone Octet to be premiered at the University of North Texas.

Alongside his passion for composing, Victor loves to spend his free time hiking, spending time with family, and exploring new coffee shops to support his caffeine addiction.