

Galloway Walks to His Own Tune

Sarah Moss

Dordt University, sarah.moss@dordt.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/voice>



Part of the [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Higher Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Moss, Sarah () "Galloway Walks to His Own Tune," *The Voice*: Vol. 69: Iss. 2, Article 11.

Available at: <https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/voice/vol69/iss2/11>

This News is brought to you for free and open access by the University Publications at Dordt Digital Collections. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Voice by an authorized editor of Dordt Digital Collections. For more information, please contact ingrid.mulder@dordt.edu.

Moss: Galloway Walks to His Own Tune



"Many of the relationships I developed with my professors shaped who I am now and will continue to be important and valuable for the rest of my life," says Aaron Galloway.

GALLOWAY WALKS TO HIS OWN TUNE

This year, Instructor of Health and Human Performance Kyle Van Wyk ('10) launched Core 288 "Sport and Exercise in Society and Culture." Students study sport, exercise, and physical activity within the contexts of society and culture, investigating and analyzing contemporary views and a Reformed perspective. The semester-long course culminates in a two-week trip to Scotland, where students experience Highland Games events, curling, hiking in the Highlands, touring a Glasgow club soccer stadium, walking the home of golf at St. Andrews, and more.

"A major motivation for me was to create an opportunity for students who might find it difficult to be away from campus for an entire semester due to other commitments," says Van Wyk. "One of my biggest regrets in college was not doing a study abroad program; I was involved in athletics and couldn't get away from campus for an entire semester."

Why spend time off-campus?

"I think it's so vital that I tell all my advisees and others to think hard about studying abroad," says Matthews. "It's crucial to live elsewhere and experience different cultural practices and lifeways. That way, you know what yours are and why you do what you do, with the ability to revise or change your own place."

"I have heard it said that students saw their Netherlands trip as a once-in-a-lifetime experience," reflects van Beek. "One student wrote in her final course paper, 'This trip to Europe was a life-changing experience. Since going on this trip, I feel like I can go out and do anything.' Each time I go, I come back enriched myself. It's amazing how much one can learn from cross-cultural experiences with different groups of people."

Studying abroad broadens students' perspectives, adds Van Wyk. "If students are anything like me, not only do they learn about new places and people, they learn a thing or two about themselves."

SARAH MOSS ('10)

Associate Professor of Music Dr. Carrie Groenewold ('06) has been impressed with Aaron Galloway since he took her classes on music theory and ear training.

"Aaron is a naturally gifted musician and quiet leader," she says. "A composer at heart, he continually found new ways to employ harmonic progressions and chord structures into his course work."



Groenewold

As Groenewold and others made plans for the class of 2024 commencement ceremony, she immediately thought of Galloway.

"I knew that Aaron's compositional talent could be used well in an organ processional, and his gifts deserved to be heard in a public setting such as commencement."

Groenewold reached out to Galloway about the idea of writing a processional for the commencement ceremony. "I thought it sounded fun and decided to give it a try," says Galloway, a senior from Pella, Iowa.

He took inspiration from organ music he heard while attending Dordt, including

works from Felix Mendelssohn, Johannes Brahms, and Richard Wagner. He also managed to weave in the melody of Dordt's alma mater.

As Galloway processed into the the B.J. Haan Auditorium with his fellow graduates, he could hear "Processional for Organ" played on Dordt's Cassavant organ by Groenewold. "Taking part in a commencement ceremony that features one's own music does not happen often," he says. "It was a nice culmination of my years at Dordt studying music."

Groenewold, for her part, felt privileged to play Galloway's music. "Adding to the festivity of the day, the processional celebrated Aaron's compositional accomplishments and gave his music exposure to a large Dordt audience. I am excited to see how God will use Aaron's gifts for His glory!"

After moving to western Wisconsin this summer, Galloway plans to continue to keep performing music. And "Processional for Organ" will not be his last composition. "I already have a few new projects in the works," he adds.

SARAH MOSS ('10)