

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Scott A. Piper, assistant professor of music, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Academic Degrees:

D.M.A.	2012	University of Michigan (voice performance)
M.M.	1995	University of Michigan (voice performance)
B.M.	1993	Truman State University (voice performance)

Professional Record:

2012 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Voice, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan
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Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Piper's rich and resonant voice, and his reputation as an interpreter of opera's romantic leading roles helps him to recruit an excellent cadre of students. His students perform at the highest levels in performance opportunities and have done exceedingly well in competitions and in various performances. Striving for excellence in both the studio and classroom, Professor Piper's inventive and individualized teaching methodologies have been highly successful. Student evaluations are consistently high and many students comment on his technique and mastery of the music. Two prestigious and international organizations invited Professor Piper to direct their voice programs—one in Italy and the other in Taiwan; both have been exceedingly popular and well received. More locally, Professor Piper designed and developed his own unique and popular course, the African-American Art Song, which draws upon the history, culture and the development of the genre. Professor Piper is generous with his artistry and time, regularly performing for school and university events, football games, and special events throughout the community.

Professional Activities: Professor Piper's artistry has been heard throughout the Americas, Europe, and Asia. He has appeared with Houston Grand Opera, Dayton Opera, Madison Opera, Minnesota Opera, Opera Pacific, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Michigan Opera Theater, New York City Opera, the International Music Festival of Macau, Vancouver Opera (British Columbia), Compañía Lírica Nacional de Costa Rica, the New People's Theater of Moscow (Russia), and the Anna Livia International Opera Festival in Dublin Ireland. In Italy, he has appeared in Rome, Catanzaro, Modena, Ravenna, and at Teatro di Verdi in Busseto. As a concert soloist, Professor Piper has appeared with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, the Illinois Symphony Orchestra, the Plymouth Symphony, the Flint Symphony, the Handel Choir of Baltimore, the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, the Madison Symphony, the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra, the Shreveport Symphony, the Canton Symphony Orchestra, Tunghai University (Taiwan), Pays de la Loire Orchestre National in Nantes, France, and at the prestigious Wiesbaden Staatstheater in Wiesbaden, Germany. Professor Piper is credited with



performing one world premiere performance, four American premiere performances, and one West Coast premiere. His performances have been broadcast on international and national television, and through national radio. His recording credits include seven CD/DVDs, the latest in 2015, *Reflections* as a guest soloist under the baton of our own Professor Michael Haithcock with the UM Symphony Band. Professor Piper has received awards from the University of Michigan Friends of the Opera, the National Society of Arts and Letters, the William C. Byrd Foundation, the Gerda Lissner Foundation, the Ken Boxley Foundation, the Licia Albanese-Puccini Competition, the George London Foundation, and received the Jim and Janice Botsford Study Grant. He is an active member of the American Guild of Musical Artists.

Service: Professor Piper's level of service is commendable at all levels at the university. For his department, he serves as the doctoral advisor and is also secretary for the Department of Voice. At the school level, he has provided meaningful contributions on numerous faculty search committees, membership on the Faculty Council for Graduate Studies, and membership on the Porgy and Bess Committee in connection with the Gershwin Initiative. Since 2013, he has been a member of the university's SACUA/Academic Affairs Advisory Committee.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "As an artist, Professor Piper has enjoyed a good career and he continues to share the talents and skills he has honed. With performances in Germany, France, and, Israel, it is easy to admire the many, fine opportunities Scott has had on the operatic stage at any level."

Reviewer B: "His reputation is that of a very fine tenor who does some of the most difficult tenor operatic repertoire. Professor Piper's activities as a singer are outstanding, as are his awards and honors. What Professor Piper brings from his singing career, rooted with many national awards, apprenticeships, recordings, broadcasts, recent summer initiatives and leadership, residency in Taiwan, fluency in numerous languages, and goals as an excellent voice teacher, is outstanding."

Reviewer C: "Professor Piper's portfolio demonstrates significant quality and quantity, with activity in several professional areas. He clearly embraces his role as an artist/scholar. Professor Piper's singing is at an exceptionally high level among his peers in the field. Professor Piper has demonstrated that he is a productive faculty member with standing in the field at both the national and international levels. His work shows much potential for growth in the coming years, and he has shown himself to be the kind of person who seeks continual professional development."

Reviewer D: "Professor Piper's impact within the field is significant. Available recordings reveal a superior voice and superior artistry with the requisite technique that would provide strong role modeling for student singers. In addition to his impressive performing credentials, his accomplishments as a teacher of singing are impressive. The success of his students in competitions, as well as in the teaching and performing professions is significant."

Reviewer E: "He clearly is tuned in to development in the field of teaching voice. Professor Piper is an energetic and committed teacher, an accomplished singer, and has contributed service to the department."



Reviewer F: "I am very impressed with Scott's work. He seems like a very informed and committed teacher, who has organized a clear and concise process for his students. I appreciate his dedication to the learning process and his clear expectations for his students to become active partners in their learning. Not only is he still an active performer, but he also brings a rare and informed presence to his teaching."

Reviewer G: "Professor Piper has been a sought-after clinician and adjudicator. He creatively brought all his world experience to China in what looked to be an incredible series of workshops/masterclasses and lessons for students of varying levels of skills. I believe that his continued scholarly and artistic pursuits will place him among the leaders of the stellar faculty at the School of Music, Theatre & Dance at the University of Michigan, for many years to come."

Reviewer H: "It is evident that he has many admirable accomplishments on many levels. Not only is he an outstanding performing artist but he is an educator, a director and an arts administrator. The extensive list of Professor Piper's accomplishments proves his worth to your academic community."

Reviewer I: "Professor Piper is a widely-known and acclaimed tenor. His discography, particularly prior to joining your faculty, is comparable to the highest levels of singers in academia. Professor Piper holds extremely high standing in relation to others in his peer group."

Internal Review: School-wide, Professor Piper is recognized as a positive, generous and thoughtful colleague. His colleagues consider him to be an outstanding pedagogue and he is a champion for our students' development and advancement. The Executive Committee acknowledged his list of superb professional accomplishments while maintaining a strong and progressive studio. His international career continues to blossom and these prestigious performances contribute both to our school's reputation and a high level of student interest in joining Professor Piper's studio.

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Piper is a formidable, innovative, and highly successful recruiter of talented students. He is a thoughtful and trusted colleague who also has a flair for administrative work. Professor Piper's professional record is impressive and is recognized on a national and international level. With the support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee, it is a great pleasure to recommend Scott A. Piper for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

*Melody L. Racine*

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Melody L. Racine  
Interim Dean  
School of Music, Theatre & Dance

May 2018