

Biography

Luke Cissell (**si-suhl**) writes and records music in a distinctive style that is by turns arrestingly melodic, beguilingly layered, and eminently human, developed out of his roots as a versatile musician at the intersection of classical, bluegrass, and post-rock traditions. Cissell performs nearly every part on each of his [seven albums](#) of original music.

Born in Louisville, Kentucky, Cissell began playing music at a young age—he was a bluegrass fiddling champion at the age of eight and performed Mozart’s third violin concerto on his first honors recital soon thereafter. He earned a degree in history from Princeton University before establishing himself as a professional musician and composer in New York City, where he cut his teeth as a session player for a wide variety of artists from Ingrid Michaelson to Philip Glass while performing at many of the city’s most well-known venues including Carnegie Hall, CBGB, John Zorn’s The Stone, Bargemusic, Radio City Music Hall, and Lincoln Center.

Cissell is a 2018-19 New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Teaching Artist at Manhattan’s P.S. 108 School of Authors in East Harlem.