

Erin McGaughan Basics

current 6/19, see also extended CV

Standard Program Bio

Erin McGaughan is a performance coach, worship director, arts network manager, and singer/songwriter of nationally recognized music. Her background covers theatre, business presentation, slides and visuals, dance, and especially music, from solid classical to gritty roots styles. "I'm not snobby about genre." Erin is the Worship Arts director at Seattle Unity, and also maintains a teaching and consulting practice, serving private students as well as clients including Unity NW Region, Women Presidents Organization, Centers for Spiritual Living, TEDx Rainier (now TEDx Seattle) among others. She's a rabidly proud mom and damn fine wife, according to credible sources.

www.erinmcgaughan.com

Education

Public elementary, Catholic middle school, Mormon-backed girls' high school - Maryland/DC region.
BA (music emphasis) Sarah Lawrence '89; MFA in acting, U of WA, '95
Lots of study abroad – (London, Oxford Univ, Nairobi)
Constant continuing ed in arts, admin, performance presentation and organizational development

Work

Currently: active voice and presentation coach, studio/event vocalist, and worship arts consultant.
Music Director for Rev. [Karen Lindvig](#), [Seattle Unity](#) – 2004-present
Assistant music director for [Eric O'del](#) – [CSL Seattle](#) 1998-2001
Choir conductor for [Beverly Daugherty](#) - [Unity of Bellevue](#) 2001 – 2004
AEA union actor, 35+ shows, teaching at UW - 1989-99

Family

Husband Jonathan Hochberg, sons Ben, 18 and Sam, 15

Favorite Causes

Lefty Politics: swingleft.org/

LGBTQ+ Rights: genderjusticeleague.org/, thetrevorproject.org/

Women's and Reproductive Rights: globalfundforwomen.org , plannedparenthood.org/

Poverty help - poverty-action.org/

Gun Safety - csgv.org/

Random skills, interests, secret mutant powers

Cooking dinner for large crowds

Choral conducting (member ACDA and Am Musicology Soc.)

History and Philosophy of Science, Behavioral Ecology (Oxford U)

Horse sports, flute, tap, baton twirling, volleyball, roller coasters, a bionic hip, dialects, British sci-fi, feminist comedy (shut up), terrible urban fantasy noir, Hildegard Von Bingen, classical art song.

Erin McGaughan Narrative bio, with quotes

"Jesus that was so F&#!-ing beautiful. I mean. #S@&%!"*

If you've met Erin McGaughan, you already know plenty. She's a performance coach, worship director, and singer/songwriter of nationally recognized music. But she's not exactly the sensitive artist type.

Born in Texas and raised in the mid-Atlantic, Erin moved to the Pacific Northwest in 1989. There, she became a highly sought-after soloist in the Seattle New Thought scene, known for her soulful and super charged live performances across a wide range of musical styles. She's the rare singer who's as at ease with classical as with pop and gospel. She says it's about diversity:

"For somebody as pink and pointy as me, I got a real thing about diversity - spiritual, social, artistic."

That could stem from a diverse education including public and parochial schools, many trips abroad, Sarah Lawrence College studying writing and music (BA), Wadham College, Oxford University for music, anthropology and the philosophy of science (Assoc. Fellow), Nairobi Kenya for wildlife ecology, and the University of Washington (MFA in Acting). She and her husband both made their names as union stage actors in Seattle years ago before starting their family.

"Theatre taught me to look stupid and survive it."

"I learned to risk my pride, so I could grow," she says. "That pride, that fragility... all that just slows things down." It was in theatre that she met Eric O'Del, who hired her to sing at the Center for Spiritual Living. "What a gift - he started me on a really productive path." Erin worked as his assistant there before spreading out into coaching, choral conducting (member ACDA), songwriting and recording.

She is currently on staff as Worship Arts Director at [Seattle Unity](#), ("perfect job, the best staff") in addition to teaching, directing, writing, and soloing at other venues. At SU, she has grown into a leader in New Thought arts management, leading networks like DIOS, with 200+ artists who serve in local spiritual venues, and Worship Arts Washington, which provides service video and resources from a range of interfaith sources. Erin also maintains her private studio, working with singers, actors, songwriters and presenters.

"Teaching is about perspective-taking. What do they see, what do they need, what are they ready to learn -- right now?"

More than anything, Erin is family centered. She says, "Parenting burned off a lot of illusions about what's important and what's just really F&#!-ing not." Now, every endeavor leads back to the love of her husband and two sons. "My sons often find me embarrassing, but I tell them **All the best things in life are embarrassing.**"