"Hot and Sweaty takes its name from the literary work Hot and Sweaty Rex by Eric Garcia. What attracted me about Garcia's work was how he seamlessly blends styles of genres together. It was my goal to achieve musically what Garcia achieves through his prose. Without being a programmatic work, this is a piece of music that captures much of the vitality and imagination of Garcia's world."

-Michael Bratt

Michael Bratt (born 1979, Cleveland, Ohio) attended Kent State University, Berklee College of Music, and Cleveland State University, earning the Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees. He completed the Doctor of Musical Arts at the Cleveland Institute of Music. He studied with many award-winning composers such as Keith Fitch, Margaret Brouwer, Andrew Rindfleisch, Greg D'Alessio, John Ferrito and Eric Ziolek. He also took master classes with Pulitzer Prize winning composers Bernard Rands, Michael Colgrass, Melinda Wagner, and Donald Martino.

Bratt's work is diverse and includes music for orchestra, chamber groups, solo instruments, and electronic media. His music has been premiered throughout the United States and internationally in cities such as Stockholm and Vienna. Nationally recognized groups including the Cleveland Chamber Symphony, Zeitgeist, and the Bugallo-Williams Piano Duo have premiered his compositions. His music has also been featured on public radio's *Around Noon* with Dee Perry and on the WVIZ television show *Applause*.

Bratt has received numerous honors including selection at the Foro Internacional De Música Neuva Manuel Enríquez 2013, Composer/Fellow for the Canton Symphony Orchestra 2008-2009, regional finalist for the 2008 SCI Student Composer Commission, winner of the 2007 Verdehr Trio Composition Contest, honorable mention at the 2007 Minnesota Orchestra Institute, and the 2005 Bain Murray Composition Award. He has received commissions from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland Public Theatre, and Cleveland Shakespeare Festival.

An advocate and supporter of modern music, Bratt is the co-founder and Executive Director of FiveOne Experimental Orchestra, a Cleveland-based new music ensemble. He has also collaborated with award-winning composers Mark Nowakowski and Jeremy Allen in founding Multimode Filter, an electronic composer ensemble dedicated to producing cutting edge electronic music and sound design for concert halls, audio book, video games, and film.

Bratt has taught at the Cleveland Institute of Music, Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, and at the Northeast Ohio branch of Indiana Wesleyan University.

Additional information is available at www.composerbratt.wix.com.