



Alin GHERMAN

composer

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Belgium

Alin GHERMAN was born in 1981 in Cluj-Napoca in Transylvania, Romania. At the age of 11 he moved to Belgium and began piano and percussion studies.

He completed a „Licence”/Master degree at the Conservatoire Royal de Musique de Bruxelles with Daniel CAPELLETTI. At the same time he also received several „Premier Prix” specialization degrees for piano performance, chamber music and solfeggio. As part of an Erasmus exchange he also studied in Poland at the Akademia Muzyczna w Krakowie with Zbigniew BARGIELSKI, Marek CHOŁONIEWSKI (electr. studio SME) and Rafał DELEKTA (conducting).

Further on, as a recipient of a Swiss federal scholarship, he pursued his studies in the field of “*Théâtre musical*” with Georges APERGHIS, Xavier DAYER, Eric GAUDIBERT, Daniel OTT and Pierre SUBLET at the Hochschule der Künste Bern (HKB) from 2006 to 2008. Afterwards, he pursued with a personal research project “*Video Clips of Contemporary Music*” as part of the new Master in Composition at the HKB with a minor in « *Dirigieren Blasmusik* » (prof. Ludwig WICKI) and “*Composition for Film, theatre and media*” (prof. Domenico FERRARI) at the Zürcher Hochschule der Künste (ZhdK).

He attended masterclasses in Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Poland, Romania and Switzerland with Julian ANDERSON, Dan DEDIU, Jonathan HARVEY, Toshio HOSOKAWA, Michael JARRELL, Claude LEDOUX, Yan MARESZ, Olga Neuwirth, Helmut OEHRING, Gérard PESSON, Erik PETERS, Doina ROTARU, François SARHAN, Marco STROPPA, Peter SWINNEN, Lasse TORESSEN and Luc Van Hove. He also participated in the multimedia experimental ateliers “x-med-k” of Nadine/FoAM (Brussels), SYPEmeda international stage for young performing and media artists (Minsk, Belarus), Operomanija camp (Juodkrante, Lithuania) and the Operatic actions project in Aarhus and Mons 2015.

He was awarded the YCP Prize of the Beijing Modern Music Festival 2011, the Composition Prize at the International Competition Icon Arts Breaza (Romania), the *Emile Agniez* prize of the Conservatoire Royal de Bruxelles, the *Prix de la Création – Festival du Condroz* (Belgium) and the 2nd prize at the Roads to romanticism International Competition in Bucharest. The Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg (Germany) honoured him with a honourable acknowledgement in 2011. He was a presented composer at the ISCM Musicarama Hong Kong festival and the Romanian Pavilion at the EXPO Milano in 2015.

Commissions and requests include the Tonhalle Zürich, Pro Helvetia, European Contemporary Orchestra, Festival d’orgues des Minimes - Bruxelles, CRMB Bruxelles, Ensemble Alternances (Suisse), Ensemble Musiques Nouvelles (Belgium), SIMN Festival Bucharest, Concours International de Musique de Genève, AUT Operatic actions (Denmark) and many other musicians and artists from theatre and video fields.

He was commissioned by the Schweizerisches Sozialarchiv Zürich to compose the 57 minutes soundtrack for the historical Swiss silent movie “*Ein Werktag*” (1931) which was invited by the Winterthur International Short Film Festival 2009 to be performed Live. Published on DVD by Chronos Verlag Zürich. He directed and co-produced several music videos of his own works. Collaborations include Le Flair Lausanne, Voltafilm Luzern, Sidéral Film Genève and Fiftyfifty Zürich. Published by Editions Papillon, Genève.

Following his encounter with Native American ceremonial music traditions and the sacred currents of Kirtan chanting, his path unfolds as a living offering—music becoming a vessel for inner transformation. As a yogi, he now serves through the creation of prayerful musical forms and ritual soundscapes, holding space for the expansion of awareness and the gentle awakening of the inner Light.

Artistic Diplomas

at the *Hochschule der Künste Bern (HKB)*, Switzerland

- « Master in Music Composition / Theory », Prof. Xavier DAYER, Eric GAUDIBERT, 2010
 - *minor « Composition for Film, Theatre and Media » at the Zürcher Hochschule der Künste, Prof. Domenico FERRARI, André BELLMONT
 - *minor « Blasmusik Direktion » at the Hochschule der Künste Bern, Prof. Ludwig WICKI
- « Diplôme spécial de virtuosité », composition pour le « Théâtre musical », Prof. Georges APERGHIS, Xavier DAYER, Pierre SUBLET, Daniel OTT and Angela BÜRGER, 2008
(« Diplôme spécial de virtuosité » diploma equals approx. a Master degree)

at the *Conservatoire Royal de Musique de Bruxelles (CRMB)*, Belgium

- « Licence avec grande distinction » in composition, Prof. Daniel CAPELLETTI, 2006
(« Licence » diploma equals approx. a Master degree)
- « Premier prix » of chamber music, Prof. Muhiddin DEMIRIZ, 2005
- « Diplôme » of composition, Prof. Daniel CAPELLETTI, 2003
- « Premier prix » of piano, Prof. Dominique CORNIL, assist. Yoko KIKUCHI and Sergeï LESCHENKO, 2003
- « Certificat des Formes » in composition, Prof. Daniel CAPELLETTI, 2002
- « Premier prix » of Solfeggio, Prof. Marie-Pierre QUINIQUE, 2001
(« Premier prix » diploma equals approx. a bachelor degree)

Prizes

- “Lobende Anerkennung” (Honourable acknowledgement) by the Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg (Germany) for the pieces “*Metal spirits 1+2*”, 2011.
- “Young Composer’s Project (YCP) prize” of the Beijing Modern Music Festival, Beijing 2011, China.
- “2d prize” of the International Composition Competition “*Roads to Romanticism*” 2008 for the duo “*Vlan ! –petites annonces pour voix et piano*”, Bucharest, Romania.
- « Erasmus prize » awarded by the Professors Union of the *Conservatoire Royal de Musique de Bruxelles*, 2006
- Composition prize of Icon Arts Breaza (Romania) International Composition Competition for the trio « *O poveste* », 2005
- « Prix Emile AGNIEZ » awarded by the Conservatoire Royal de Musique de Bruxelles for the trio « *Poésie perdue* » based on Paul VALÉRY poetry, 2003
- “Prix de la Création” of the *Festival Musical of Condroz* (Ciney – Belgium) for “*Le samouraï et la geisha*” as well as the “Albert SCHLÖGEL Prize” for its interpretation, 2000

Commissions

- « *A Sky of Light* », *miniature of chamber Opera* for a specific chamber ensemble as part of the “Operatic Actions coOPERATION between AUT (DK), Musiques Nouvelles (BE) & Operamanija (LT), Residency and workshops in Aarhus (DK) and Vilnius (LT), commissioned by the partners of the projects, Aarhus, Denmark. 2014. Based on excerpts of poetry by Mihai Eminescu.
- « *Variations* » for (warr-)guitar, piano & percussion as part of the *Matt/Morgan Workshop* at the HKB (Bern). Preparation and studio recording with Morgan AGREN (Se), Michel WINTSCH (Ch) and Benoît PICCAND (Ch) at the Tonstudio of the Hochschule der Künste Bern (Switzerland), commissioned by Benoît PICCAND, Switzerland. 2013
- « *Aventures et miracles* » for 33 soloists of the European Contemporary Orchestra, commissioned by Ensemble Musiques Nouvelles & Le Manège Mons, Belgium. 2012
- « *Le Papillon par un matin trouble* » septet for the Ensemble *Musiques Nouvelles* as part of the “*Tactus forum 2011*”. This piece has been written with the support of the Ministry of the French Community of Belgium. 2011
- “*Metal spirits 1,2,3*” “*Vibrations*” & “*Elongations*” for a special percussion performance + 3 documentary music videos, 1 abstract and 1 video installation commissioned by Simon FORSTER with the support of *Fonds Culturel Suisse, Voltafilm, Hochschule der Künste Bern and Zürcher Hochschule der Künste*. 2009
- « *Ein Werktag* » - new music for the 57 min. Historical Swiss silent movie (Praesens Film Zürich, 1931). Commissioned by the *Schweizerisches Sozialarchiv Zürich*. Published on DVD by Chronos Verlag Zürich. Screening and Live performance: *Int. Winterthur short film Festival*, 2009.
- « *Purple ritual* » - compulsory piece for multi-percussion- commissioned by the Geneva International Competition for Percussions, 2009. Published by Editions Papillon, Genève.
- « *Donna Odokia* » for the Tonhalle Society and the Swiss Cultural Foundation Pro Helvetia, February 2008
- « *Trotinettstück* » for the bassoon player Hansruedi STOLL (2 bassoons or 1 bassoon and 1 contrabassoon), 2007
- « *Minimes : apocalypse* » (for 2 organs, 2 percussionists, bass trombones, 2 recitants and 2 dancers) for the *Festival d'orgues des Minimes 2004* (Brussels)
- « *Grains, fleur et son envol* » for the clarinet player Mathieu ROSKAM (Bb Clarinet, percussions, piano and contrabass), 2004
- « *Vlan ! – petites annonces pour voix et piano* », compulsory piece for the singing exam of the C.R.M.B., 2004
- « *Divertimento* » for the Swiss trio « Alternances » (flute, viola and harp), 2003

Scholarships

- Scholarship granted by the *Fondation Nicati-de Luze* (Switzerland) to follow the Master in Composition programme with a minor in Film, theatre and media music at the *Hochschule der Künste* and the *Zürcher Hochschule der Künste*, December 2008 and February 2010.
- Scholarship towards tuition fees granted by the *Hochschule der Künste*, Bern, March 2008, October 2008, October 2009, March 2010
- Scholarship proposed by Ratiu Family Foundation, London, 2009.

2006 to 2008.

- Scholarship granted by *Acanthes* (France) to follow the Masterclasses of Contemporary Music of Metz, 2006 and 2007.
- Scholarship (Bourse d'Etudes) from the *Communauté française de Belgique*, 2000-2006.

followed Masterclasses & Workshops

- « *OPEROMANIJA* »'s summer residency for collaborative work around Opera in Juodkrante (Lithuania), 2014.
- « *SYPEmeda* » International stage for Young performing and media artists at the National Theatre of Belarusian Dramaturgy, Minsk, Belarus. Participation in two projects + common collective project « *Babel* ». Music for the theatre piece « *Presence Effect :Nameless* » (after Samuel BECKETT), directed by Andrei SAUCHANKA. Jam sessions in trio together with Lukas HUBER and Nicolas SCHMITZ for the dance performance « *Individual in Masses* » directed by Elena ZAYATS.
- « *Tactus* » Young composers' forum in Brussels & Mons, Brussels Philharmonic, dir. Michel TABACHNIK Ensemble Musiques Nouvelles, dir. Jean-Paul DESSY. Lecturers Julian ANDERSON, Claude LEDOUX, Bruno MANTOVANI, Augusta READ THOMAS, Erkki-Sven TÜÜR, Luc VAN HOVE & Peter SWINNEN. 2011
- *Young Composers' workshop with Orchestre de chambre de Lausanne* organized by the Swiss Musicians' Association (ASM) à Lausanne, Salle Paderewski. Conductor : Jost MEIER, Lecturer : Georg Friedrich HAAS. 2009
- *Académie de Musique Contemporaine « Acanthes »* in Metz, Orchestre National de Lorraine, dir. Jacques MERCIER, lect. Marco STROPPIA, Yan MARESZ and Michael JARRELL, 2007
- Workshop "*Commentaires*" with Georges APERGHIS and Françoise RIVALLAND, *KlangKunstBühne – Universität der Künste - H.K.B.*, Berlin 2007
- *Académie de Musique Contemporaine « Acanthes »* in Metz, *Orchestre National de Lorraine*, dir. Sylvio Gualda, lect. Toshio HOSOKAWA, Olga Neuwirth, Gérard Pesson, 2006
- Masterclass with François SARHAN (France) at the *Akademia Muzyczna w Krakowie* (Poland), 2005
- *Icon Arts Breaza International Contemporary Arts Summer Classes ROMANIA*, Prof. Doina ROTARU (Ro), Erik PETERS (Se) and Marian BORKOWSKI (Pl), 2005
- *Cursurile de Muzica Contemporana Breaza ROMANIA*, Professors from the *Universitatea de Muzica "George ENESCU" Bucuresti* : Dan DEDIU, Doina ROTARU, Octavian NEMESCU, 2004
- several "x-med-k" workshops at *Nadine/FoAM* Brussel, new technologies, audio/video software, responsive environments : « *cushion project* », 2004
- Invited to the composers' workshop- by the *Hochschule für musik « Franz Liszt »* in Weimar (Germany), 2004
- Composition Master classes in Cesky Krumlov (Czech R.) with Helmut OEHRING (Germany) Lasse TORESSEN (Norway) and Marek KOPELENT (Czech R.), 2003

special curriculum courses followed

- Voice lessons with Hans Peter BLOCHWITZ at the Hochschule der Künste, Bern, from February 2007 until June 2008
- Conducting lessons with Dominique ROGGEN at the Hochschule der Künste, Bern, from February 2007 until June 2008
- « *Body training for the stage* » with Caroline SCHOLZ, 2 years in Bern and Berlin
- Stage training « *Bases scéniques* » with Angela BÜRGER, 2006-2008, Bern
- Workshop with Ensemble ASCOLTA (De, Stuttgart), April 2008, Bern
- Y toolbox courses organized by the Hochschule der Künste, Bern,
 - Acrobatic techniques : Prof. Enrico TETAMANTI
 - Mikrotonal project : Malcolm BRAFF
- Film music active forum with Felix TISSI (director) and Pedro HALDEMANN (composer) during the Solothurn Filmtage, 2009, Solothurn (Switzerland)
- Max/MSP workshop with Oliver FRIEDLI, Spring semester 2009

Extra special achievements

- Construction of 11 Chimes ; 2 Stone chimes (set A & B), 4 Metal chimes (set A & B -made of cans, one made of microtonal tuned tubes and one made of old & new spoons and forks), 2 Glass chimes (set A & B, each with 3 autonomous registers), 3 (hard) Wood chimes (set A –mixed registers, set B „The Queen” with 4 registers, and set C - Monoregister). One set of each was acquired by Centre International de Percussion Genève (CIP).

As a performer

- Solo part of the Master in the „Dykai” Body & Mind connections, a performance self created and performed together with Ruta Zalioji (Ruta VITKAUSKAITE) -the Musician and Grike (Marija GRIKEVICIUTE) GRIKEVICIUTE - the Assistant during the OPEROMANIJA's Summer Residency 2014 - Operomanijos vasaros koncertai 2014, Lithuania.
- Solo music and scenic performance on the theatre piece “*Chilia timpului*” during the *Festival Medieval – Sighisoara* (Romania) 2006. Artistic direction : Mariana PACHIS.
- Solo parts in a collective performance in the Maurizio KAGEL's opera „*Staatstheater*”, Bern, Biel/Bienne, Berlin, 2007. Artistic direction : Pierre SUBLET and Angela BÜRGER.
- Piano performances and studies until 2005, including solo recitals, collective and chamber music concerts, traditional repertoire and personal compositions.
- Participation in an electronic groove music group in Bern, supervision Benoît PICCAND. Demo files for various projects in China. 2010
- Conception and performance of „*Dykai*” Body & mind connections massage. With ruta Zalioji & Grite, Juodkrante (Lithuania), 2014

Pressbook

- The Belgian, Romanian and Moldavian radios and televisions devote him a few emissions (TVR, PROtv, Radio România cultural, Radio Cluj, Radio Constanta, Radio Moldova).
- Printed articles in various Newspapers; Neue Zürcher Zeitung, România libera, Românul liber, ...
- Mentions in the France musique radio emission „Silence” (1/4) : à la limite du son, October 2014.

Discography

- CD „A la croisée des chemins”, Oeuvres de la classe de composition, Haute Ecole des Arts de Berne, 2010. In this collective release were included the audio recordings of „*Klavierstück*”, „*folclor*” and the music video „*Haute tension*”. Available for purchase on www.hkb.bfh.ch
- DVD „Purple ritual” au Concours de Genève - Percussions 2009- l'interprétation des 15 candidats sélectionnés pour l'étape Récital 1. Available for purchase on www.sideralfilm.com excerpts: youtube.com
- „Stellen wir diese Waffe in unseren Dienst”, film und Arbeitbewegung in der Schweiz, In this collective DVD and book is included the silent movie „Ein Werktag” (Praesens Film AG Zürich, 1931) with the new soundtrack (2009) by Alin GHERMAN. Published by Chronos Verlag, Zürich, 2009. www.chronos-verlag.ch

Professional references

- **Jean-Paul DESSY**, Artistic director and conductor of “*Musiques Nouvelles*” ensemble, specialized in contemporary music. E-mail : jpdessy@skynet.be Phone: +32 (475) 80 67 25 Address: Le Manège Mons : Rue des Soeurs Noires 4/A, 7000 Mons
- **Xavier DAYER**, composer, professor at the Bern University of the Arts & President of the SUIISA (Swiss Authors society), E-mail : xavier.dayer@hkb.bfh.ch Phone : +41 (7 87)6 47 00 2 H.K.B. Papiermühlestrasse 13a CH-3014 Bern Switzerland
