

EZEQUIEL MENALLED

SHORT BIOGRAPHY:

Ezequiel (Buenos Aires, 1980) is a versatile composer and conductor. In 2003 he founded the Dutch Ensemble Modelo62 and has been its musical and artistic director ever since. He received his Bachelor and Master Composition degree at the Royal Conservatoire of The Hague, where later he taught from 2008 until 2016. His music is performed around the world by various ensembles and soloists. Besides his works of abstract concert music, he often collaborates with other art forms' creators such as dance, film, photography and theater.

A quote about himself:

"I specialize in works that are conventionally notated, ranging from soloist to large ensemble, and purely acoustic or combined with electronics. In the last years I have experimented with different systems of notation that combines the traditional system with an active improvisatory decision-making from the player's side. Additionally, my music expanded into an interdisciplinary frame with other art forms such as photography, theatre, dance and opera."

DETAILED BIOGRAPHY

Education

From 1996 to 1999 he studied at the Centre for Advanced Studies in Contemporary Music in Buenos Aires and has taken lessons from Santiago Santero. From September 2002 resides in Den Haag (Netherlands).

In 2005, he obtained a Bachelor degree in composition from The Hague Royal Conservatoire and in 2007 a Master degree from the same institution studying with Clarence Barlow, Gilius van Bergeijk and Diderik Wagenaar.

In 2007-2008 followed the a one year course at the Sonology Institute of Den Haag, taking lessons of algorithmic composition with Paul Berg, and analogue studio techniques with Kees Tazelaar.

He has participated in August 2006 of the composition course "*Voix Nouvelles*" directed by Brian Ferneyhough, Michael Jarrell and Francois Paris at the *Foundation Royaumont* (France) thanks to the scholarship "*Ruim voor de jong Talent*", a grant for Master students of Amsterdam Conservatorium and Royal Conservatoire The Hague.

Since then he has taken private lessons with Michael Finnissy, Peter Adriaansz and Richard Barrett. Additionally he followed computer music lessons with Ángel Faraldo.

Prizes and distinctions

In 2000 Arditti Quartet selected his "*First diurnal for string quartet*" in the frame of a composition contest organized with the motive of their first visit to Argentina.

In April 2005 has got the Second Prize of the International Composition Competition organized by the Luxembourg Sinfonietta with his piece "...and death was all around..."

Also he was one of the four selected by Le Nouvel Ensemble Moderne (Montreal) to participate in the VIII International Forum for Composers, which took place between 13th and 25th of March of 2006 in Amsterdam. For this event he has composed "*El sistema*", for large ensemble.

In 2008 he has got awarded in the Argentinean composition competition Trinac 2008, also for his piece "*El sistema*".

In 2009 he was finalist of the Henriëtte Bosman Composition Prize. His piece "*Brújula*" was performed by the Nieuw Ensemble at the *Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ* (the Netherlands).

His composition "*La vida breve*" has been selected for De Toonzetters, a festival/contest that gather together the "10 best works of the previous season" in the Netherlands. Ensemble Modelo62 performed this work at the *Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ* in August 2010.

In May 2011 his piece "*music for string quartet*" was awarded with the 3rd prize in the National Composition Competition for Contemporary Music of the National Funds for the Arts (Argentina). The same work was also selected finalist of the contest Young Masters XXI, organized by Den Haag Kamermuziek Festival (Netherlands).

His piece "*NN*", written for Ensemble MAE, was selected as finalist of the Gaudeamus Music Week 2011.

In 2015 he received a Promotion for the Arts Prize from *Radio France Internationale – Radio Cultura Buenos Aires* for his opera *El limonero real*, produced by the Experimental Centre of Teatro Colón (Buenos Aires, Argentina). This piece was composed with the gracious financial support of the Fonds Podiumkunsten NL.

In 2016 he won an International Composition Competition organized by the German Neophon Ensemble, based in Berlin.

Also for his opera *El limonero real*, in 2017 he wins the Argentine National Composition Prize “Juan Carlos Paz” in the category *scenic works*.

As artist in residence

He has been selected for the first edition of the Program of Residences for Artists of Iberoamerica in Mexico, for the period September-December 2008.

He has been artist in residence at USF Verftet in Bergen, Norway, during the period October 2009-January 2009.

He participated in the International Music Institute Darmstadt (Germany) in the frame of the programme “*Ensemble 2010*”, conducting Ensemble Modelo62 (July 2010).

In 2018 he was selected to participate at Eco, a residency for composers organized by the National Theater Cervantes (Argentina). During this residency he created and presented “*El tiempo hecho añicos*” (shattered time), an interdisciplinary piece for cello, doublebass, electronics, text writer and visuals.

Other related activities

Since 2003 he is the founder and artistic director of Ensemble Modelo62, one of the top Dutch groups devoted to the promotion, creation and performance of the newest composed music. (www.modelo62.com)

He has composed the music for the film “*El desierto negro*” (2007), “*Samurai*” (2012) and “*Delfin*” (2019), the three of them written and directed by Argentinean filmmaker Gaspar Scheuer.

He composed the music for the theatre play “*Oraciones*” (2008), from the Colombian theatre-maker Ana María Vallejo.

He collaborated with Brazilian choreographer Vanclea Porath in her solo piece “*Pequenhas mortes*” (2010).

He made the sound design for the theatre works “*ZOOM*” (2012), “*YELLOW*” (2015) and “*Interior de un bote celeste*” (2018), by the Argentinean theatre-maker Luz Lassizuk.

He participated as composer and performer of the dance piece “*Petrichor*”, by former NDT dancer Celia Amade, in the frame of 2016’s edition of “*Here We Live and Now*”, at Korzo Theater (Den Haag).

Together with the theatre maker Nahuel Cano, they created the sonic theatre play “*Una Tierra Salvaje*” (2017), performed integrally by actors, and premiered at the International Festival of Buenos Aires (FIBA).

In 2019, he created the original soundtrack for “*Inner*”, by the Russian coreographers Maja and Liza Zhukova.

He created the sound installation “*Skjult Lyd*” (*hidden sound*), in which giant iron beams have been amplified and feed-backed at the parking lot of USF Verftet (Bergen, Norway) during the festival Nattjazz, in May 2010.

During the period 2007-2015 he was featured as teacher of the Composition Department of the Royal Conservatoire The Hague, both for the Composition Department and the Sonology Institute. Currently he holds a close relation with the institution as guest teacher.

He has worked with numerous ensembles such as Ensemble Klang, Ensemble MAE, New European Ensemble, Nieuw Ensemble (Netherlands); Le Nouvelle Ensemble Moderne (Canada); Emyrean Ensemble (US); Soundinitiative New Music Ensemble (France); European Contemporary Orchestra (Belgium/France/Netherlands); Vertixe Sonora Ensemble (Spain), Neophon Ensemble (Germany).

His music has been performed in Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Mexico, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, South Korea and the United States of America.

For more information please visit ezequielmenalled.net