

MÉXICO

Miguel Rivera

Born October 15, 1986 in Mexico City. Completed his studies in his hometown under the tutelage of Victor Rasgado and Jose Julio Diaz Infante, earning the titles of Composition and Music Theory awarded by London College of Music. As part of his training he studied with masters such as Enrico Chapela and Tomás Barreiro.

His music has been played by the Latinoamericano Quartet, Arditti Quartet and CEPROMUSIC ensemble, among others.

Participates in the 4th. and 5th. International Composition Competition Antinín Dvorak in Prague, Czech Republic, where he is awarded for "Best Variations" and "Best Music Based on a Folk Theme" (both in 2013) for his piece *Arirang Variations. The White Abstract* work is part of the CD Tetraktys, engraved by El Cuarteto Latinoamericano under the label of Urtext.

Currently is pursuing a major in composition with maestro Giovanni Verrando at the Scuola Civica di Musica in Milan, Italy.

The White Abstract

The White Abstract is inspired by the painting *Number 31* created by the artist Jackson Pollock (1912-1956), who was benchmark of the American abstract expressionism of the mid-twentieth century.

To obtain the ideas and expression of *Number 31*, the white strokes of the painting were extracted applying a filtering process, and then, overlaying transparent sheets with staves, those white brushstrokes were translated to musical gestures. The close relationship between the musical material and the visual material is reflected by the result of this process; however, the personal and musical perception of the image is the primary content of this string quartet.

The piece recreates two of the most important techniques used by Jackson Pollock: the *dripping*, which consists of performing quick strokes with paint drips, and the *all-over*, which means to leave no space unfilled. These techniques are reflected in the notation used in the score with the intention of create a work of the abstract expressionism style, full of vitality and dynamism.