

# PORTUGAL

## NUNO DA ROCHA

(n. 1986)



(© Pedro Sadio)

### **O que será do rio *without John Cage?* (2012)**

**for baroque orchestra - played by Divino Sospiro, cond. Massimo Mazzeo - (9'02'')**

2 baroque oboes, baroque bassoon, 2 natural horns, harpsichord, lute, 6 violins, 2 violas, 2 violoncellos, 1 contrabass.

*O que será do rio without John Cage?* is an album from the past (in the present) about my memory, the memory of the musicians, the music of Pedro António Avondano (1714-1782) and the importance of Cage in my life (2012 - centenary of his birth).

*I look at this album as a set of contiguous pictures, similar to the ability of memory producing images.*

*Some of them are mine, others are from the musicians of this orchestra that improvise on the memory of Avondano music. – Nuno da Rocha*

#### Biography

Nuno da Rocha was born in 1986 in Portugal, and studied Composition with Vasco Mendonça, Carlos Marecos, Luís Tinoco, Carlos Caires and António Pinho Vargas.

During the summer of 2009 he participated in the '19th internationale sommerakademie09' in Austria, where he worked with the composer Nigel Osborne, the maestro Michael Wendeborg and the widely recognized contemporary musical group 'klangforum wien'.

In February 2010, he took part of the '16th young composers meeting' in Apeldoorn (Netherlands) with the 'de ereprijs' orchestra. This meeting was directed by Louis

Andriessen, Richard Ayres, Martijn Padding, Jan van de Putte, Micheal Smetanin and Helena Tulve.

In February 2011, he wrote the music for the exposition 'A kills B – imagery action, Ifigenia and Isaac' presented in the Center for Modern Art of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.

By commission of Antena 2/RTP, he wrote "**Quatro Últimas Canções, quatro personagens a partir do romance de Vasco Graça Moura**" as the mandatory piece for the contest 'Prémio Jovens Músicos 2012' in the category of Vocal performance.

He won the 3rd prize of the Antena2/RTP Composition Contest 2012 with the piece "**O que será do rio without John Cage?**" for baroque orchestra.

He was one of the selected composers to the TENSIO Young Composers Workshop 2014 – Mechelen (Belgium) – 16-18 May'14. During two sessions, he worked on (fragments of) a choral score - **If ye Forget / We're here** – with the *Danish Radio Vokalensemble*, composer/conductor James Wood and composer Leo Samama. After this stage he was selected for the next round in Riga (Latvia), October 2014, and he was one of the three finalists of the TENSIO Young Composers Award in Copenhagen (Denmark), November 2014.

He was selected to the ENOA Workshop "Composing for Voice" with Magnus Lindberg and Barbara Hannigan. On September 2014, there was the final concert with the premiere of "**I could not think of thee as piecèd rot**" for Soprano and Orchestra. Lindberg conducted the Gulbenkian Orchestra and the soprano Inês Simões.

In June-July 2015, he will be part of the ENOA Workshop "Opera Creation - Reflection" with Fabio Vacchi (Aix-en-Provence, France). For this project, Nuno will receive a scholarship from Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.

Nuno da Rocha is the Young Composer in Residence 2015 at *Casa da Música* (Porto, Portugal).

Biography provided by the composer and current to 2015

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