

TARIK O'REGAN BIOGRAPHIES (OCTOBER 2017)

SHORT (150 words); LONG (500 words)

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Tarik O'Regan (born: London, 1978) has written music for a wide variety of ensembles and organizations; these include the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Australian Chamber Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir, Sydney Dance Company, Chamber Choir Ireland, BBC Proms at the Royal Albert Hall, and the Royal Opera House, London.

Currently he is working on a full-scale opera about the life of Lorenzo Da Ponte, commissioned by Houston Grand Opera for 2019. Highlights of the 2017/18 season include the Amsterdam revival of *Mata Hari*, an evening-length ballet commissioned by the Dutch National Ballet, and performances by the Orchestra of the Opéra de Rouen, Lausanne Chamber Orchestra, and the Alexander String Quartet.

O'Regan's work, recognized with two GRAMMY® nominations and two British Composer Awards, has been recorded on over 30 albums and is published exclusively by Novello & Co. Ltd, part of the Music Sales Group.

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Currently he is working on a full-scale opera about the life of Lorenzo Da Ponte, commissioned by Houston Grand Opera for 2019. Thomas Hampson will play the role of Lorenzo Da Ponte and Luca Pisaroni will be Young Lorenzo Da Ponte; the libretto is by John Caird. Highlights of the 2017/18 season include the Amsterdam revival of *Mata Hari*, an evening-length ballet commissioned by the Dutch National Ballet, and performances by the Orchestra of the Opéra de Rouen, Lausanne Chamber Orchestra, and the Alexander String Quartet. This season also marks the first of a three-year appointment as Composer in Residence with the Pacific Chorale.

O'Regan's music is described as "exquisite and delicate" (The Washington Post); "beautifully-imagined, holding the audience rapt" (The Financial Times); "sublime: a piece that you didn't want to end" (The Times, London); and generating "previously unheard sound worlds with astonishing effect" (The Philadelphia Inquirer).

Recorded on over 30 albums, and published exclusively by Novello & Co. Ltd, part of the Music Sales Group, his work has been recognized with two GRAMMY® nominations (including Best Classical Album), and both New York Times and Philadelphia Inquirer Best Classical Releases of the Year for *Threshold of Night*; the NEA Artistic Excellence Award, and a South Bank Sky Arts Award nomination for *Heart of Darkness*; a Gramophone Award nomination for *Scattered Rhymes*; two British Composer Awards; and by Time Out London (Top Five Concerts of the Year), WQXR/Q2 (CD of the Week) and WNYC (Pick of the Week).

"One of the leading British composers of his generation" (Gramophone) who is writing "music of startling beauty" (The Observer), Tarik O'Regan was born in London in 1978. He grew up predominantly in Croydon, South London, spending some of his childhood in Morocco, where his mother was born, and in Algeria. Following the completion of his undergraduate studies at Pembroke College, Oxford, and private study with Jeremy Dale Roberts, he began serving as the classical recordings reviewer for The Observer newspaper, a position he held for four years. During part of this time he also worked for investment bank JPMorgan Chase. O'Regan then continued his postgraduate studies in composition under the direction of both Robin Holloway at Cambridge University, where he was appointed Composer in Residence at Corpus Christi College, and Robert Saxton.

O'Regan has been appointed to the Fulbright Chester Schirmer Fellowship at Columbia University; a Radcliffe Institute Fellowship at Harvard; and positions at Trinity and Corpus Christi Colleges in Cambridge, the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and Yale. Currently he serves on the composition faculty of Rutgers University, and is Senior Advisor to the Center for Ballet and the Arts at New York University. A frequent television and radio broadcaster, O'Regan has written and presented two documentaries for BBC Radio 4: *Composing LA* (2012) and *Composing New York* (2010). He was elected to an Honorary Fellowship of Pembroke College, Oxford in 2017.