

Philippe Hurel
- Biography -
(september 2008)



» Philippe Hurel, was born in 1955. French composer of mostly orchestral and chamber works that have been performed throughout Europe and elsewhere. Philippe Hurel studied musicology at the Université de Toulouse from 1974-79 and composition with Betsy Jolas and Ivo Malec at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris from 1980-83. He also had private studies in musical computer science with Tristan Murail in Paris in 1983. His honors include the Pensionnaire à la Villa Médicis à Rome (1986-88), the Förderpreis der Siemens-Stiftung in Munich 1995, for Six miniatures en trompe l'œil, the Prix des Compositeurs from SACEM (2002), and the Prix de la Meilleure Création de l'Année from SACEM 2003, for Aura. Mr. Hurel is also active in other positions. He worked as a music researcher at IRCAM in 1985-86 and 1988-89. He taught composition at IRCAM from 1997-2001. He also served as composer-in-residence to both the Arsenal de Metz and the Philharmonie de Lorraine from 2000-02. With Pierre André Valade he founded the new music ensemble Court-circuit in 1990 and has since served as its artistic director. Since 2013 he teaches composition at the Conservatoire national supérieur de musique et de danse de Lyon.

His music has been performed by numerous orchestras and ensembles and by conductors such as by Pierre Boulez, David Robertson, Ludovic Morlot, Tito Ceccherini, Jonathan Nott, Esa Pekka Salonen, Kent Nagano, Pierre-André Valade, François Xavier Roth, Christian Eggen, Lorraine Vaillancourt, Reinbert de Leeuw, Bernard Kontarsky...

After his opera Les pigeons d'argile (libretto by Tanguy Viel) premiered at the Capitole de Toulouse, his cycle Traits for violin and cello has been premiered the same year in Paris by Alexandra Greffin-Klein et Alexis Descharmes. In 2015 his orchestral cycle Tour à tour has been premiered at Radio France/Festival Manifeste/Ircam by the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio-France conducted by Jean Deroyer. Pas à pas, commissioned by Ernst von Siemens music Foundation has been premiered the same year at the Biennale di Venezia by Ensemble Recherche.

In 2015-16 he has composed Global corrosion for Ensemble Nikel - Premiere in Tel Aviv in december 2016 - and So nah, so fern for Ensemble Spectra which will be premiered in 2017. He is actually composing a piece for Arditti Quartet which will be premiered at Wittener Tage für Neue Kammermusik. After that he will compose

a piece for Quatuor Diotima (commission by Diotima , Théâtre d'Orleans, ProQuartet,) and for Philharmonisches Orchester des Staatstheaters Cottbus.