

NICOLAS BIANCO

Bibliographic note

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Nicolas Bianco is a composer and bassist, artistic director of Diva...gations company and music educationalist.

Born in 1963, he probably takes after his grand-father, the great baritone René Bianco, his enchantment with the Opera, musical show and all the artistic disciplines they gather. He has been involved for a long time in an interdisciplinary praxis, while developing a personal approach based on stylistic interbreeding.

Studies and training

After studying the piano at the National Conservatory of music (CNR) of Lyon, he joined the writing classe of Antoine Duhamel at the National Music School (ENM) of Villeurbanne. Meanwhile, he plays into various bands, discovering several musical styles, practicing various instruments (piano, guitar, basse, drum, etc).

In 1981, he joined the singing class of Mady Mesplé at the CNR of Lyon, while following a curriculum at the Lyon Fine-Arts School.

In 1991, he returns to the ENM in Villeurbanne in order to pursue his research work, following a jazz writing and bass playing curriculum.

The musician - performer

Between 1998 and 1990 he is part of the Lyon National Opera Chorus and also sings in the Paul Decavata Chorus.

Since 2001 he is the artistic director and conductor of the Oullins' Harmonique Ensemble.

As a musician, he performs with various national and international artists and bands, such as Laurent Blumenthal, Flavio Boltro, Riccardo Del Fra, François and Louis Moutin, Mina Agossi, La Camerata du Rhône, Vincent Delerm and Amélie les crayons. Since 2012 he toured with Elise Caron and Roberto Negro with *Loving suite for Birdy so*.

Instigator of numerous artistic projects, he has recorded a dozen of albums, most of them are personal compositions.

In 2005 with other musicians he created *Label Equipe*, an artistic collective whose calling is to promote instrumental music and whose ambition is to work on the links between scholar music and popular music. This collective plays in various places in France.

He worked several times with the stage director Jean Larconerie as a composer and bassist for musical shows: *Off Broadway*, *Broadway Melody*, *Strike up the band* and with Bernard Rozet as a bassist and tuba player for *La Dame de chez Maxim* in 2011.

The composer

In 1982, at the *Théâtre des Huit Saveurs* in Lyon, he created *La Nuit d'Exvagus*, a musical tale for which he wrote the libretto, composed some of the music and created the set design. Thus began the practice which will be his as an artistic director: leading projects from writing to composition and staging.

In 1998, he is the winner of the international contest of musical composition of Prince Rainier de Monaco Conservatory.

Being musical director of the Harmonic Ensemble of Oullins, he is implementing his writing experience, composing in a tailored way for its musicians.

Since 2007, he works on a regular basis for the Lyon National Opera:

He wrote two small operas for the outreaching project *Kaleidoscope* (2007-2008)

He wrote with Richard Dubelski the music for the Opera *Des Odyssées* created at the Lyon Opera House in June 2010

In 2012, for the Dance Biennale of Lyon, he created at the Lyon Opera House the music of the Ballet *L'Opéra nell'Opera* (choreographer Julie Desprairies)

He wrote three pieces for the Lyon National Opera based on great works of the opera repertoire: *Traviata Songbook* (2009), a big band version of *Porgy and Bess* (2010), a show on Mozart opera work (2011)

He is musician-composer in residence since 2011 with the outreach and educational department of the Lyon National Opera and artistic director of pluri-annual artistic and educational projects.

In April 2013, he wrote the libretto and composed the music of the show *Les oiseaux n'ont pas de copyright*, staged by Sarkis Tcheulkmedjian.

He is currently working on two projects with the company Diva...gations, which will be performed in the Lyon Opera House and other venues in the Rhône-Alpes Region this season: *Urban Opera*, a Ballet depicting the birth of the Opera genre and *Opera Tralala*, a tale based on the Orpheus myth, for young audiences.

The teacher

In 1989, he created the Chapoly Musical Studio in Lyon suburbs, which participative learning rests on collective musical practice. In this project, he emphasizes the creativity, writing for his students small musical forms inspired by their imagination. The school, gathering as far as ten teachers, has been accredited as a "popular education" establishment by the French Minister of Youth and registered in the Regional Plan for artistic teaching. He has been the director of this school until 2009.

Recognized nationally for his educational expertise, he is a trainer at the Cefedem, at the Youth French Orchestra and for the Jazz in Vienna Academy.