

Didier ROTELLA

COMPOSER - PIANIST

email
didier.rotella@gmail.com
address
19 boulevard Colbert,
92330 Sceaux, France
phone
+33 6 07 64 50 42
website
www.didierrotella.com

PhD in composition (PSL SACRe - ENS / CNSMDP)
Professor (C.A.) at Clamart conservatory
Casa de Velazquez (Artist-in-residency 2017-18)
Villa Médicis (Laureate program 2015)
1st prize of the International Jurgenson competition 2011
Chevillon-Bonnaud Prize of the Orléans Piano Competition 2014
1st prize of the F. Donatoni Competition and 2nd of the Sorodha Competition 2016
Jury of composition competitions (CNSMD of Lyon, CRR of Montpellier, Nancy...)



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Commissions & Premieres	Ensembles Ars Nova, Links, MusikFabrik, Hanatsu Miroir, Paramirabo, Regards, Proxima Centauri, Arkayî Trio and NEXT ensemble, City of Dresden; Ensemble Orchestral Contemporain, Neue VocalSolisten, Tana Quartet, Divertimento Ensemble, Galaxie-Y & Françoise Thinat, Diotima Quartet, Ensemble Intercontemporain; Orchestre des Lauréats of the CNSMDP conducted by P. Davin (2014) and R. Déjardin (2012); Andrew Zhou, Chae-Um Kim, Ryoko Aoki, Ludivine Moreau, Bertrand Laude, Tanguy de Williencourt, Saskia Lethiec and many other soloists; Ensemble Multilatérale, Ensemble Saxetera; Jeune Chœur de Paris; Didier Rotella (piano)... In 2014, premiered an opera based on a libretto by L. Gaudé at Opéra Bastille with the singers of the Atelier Lyrique and CNSMDP.
Publishers	Billaudot, Lemoine, Imponta UG, BabelScores.
Residencies	Composer-in-residence at Casa de Velazquez, 2017/2018; Artist-in-Residence at the Académie de France in Madrid. Resident for three months at Villa Medici (2015, "Laureate" program) - French Academy in Rome. Eole Studio (Toulouse) in 2015, Château de Lourmarin in 2009 and 2010 (pianist and composer) - Académie des Beaux-Arts de Paris. Guest artist at many structures and high music schools (Séoul / Bordeaux / Montreal / Strasbourg / Paris / Créteil / Persan / Moscow...)
Festivals	MAD (Bordeaux) 2026, ElectroSession (Saint-Palais-sur-Mer 2025), Royan 2024, Présences 2022, EnsembleS 2022, Impulse 2021, Royaumont 2020, Manifeste 2018, Viva Villa 2018, Manifeste 2013, Festival d'Aix-en-Provence (2012); Kyoto International Music Student Festival (2012); Festival de Pontino (2010)...
Recordings (compositions)	2025 : <i>Filigranes</i> , by Trio Arkaï, label INITIALE (work : « <i>Jeux en Filigranes</i> » (2024)) 2025 : <i>Zone Grise</i> , by ensembles Links & Proxima Centauri, label KAIROS (monographic release) 2021 : <i>Présences Lointaines vol.2</i> , by Andrew Zhou, piano (work : « <i>Etude en blanc n°2 - Elégie</i> » (2021)) 2018 : <i>Compositeurs de la Casa de Velazquez - 2018</i> , label de l'Académie de France en Espagne (works : « <i>Prologue de la Dame Rouge</i> » (2018) - « <i>Strophe 3, Sur le Fil</i> » (2016) - « <i>D'Un Soleil Arachnide</i> » (2015))
Jury	As composer : Lyon CNSMDL / Montpellier CRR / Nancy CRR / & other schools in France As pianist : Paris Conservatory (14th arrondissement) / Créteil CRR / Clamart CRD / & other schools in France
Concerts as soloist pianist	Recitals in France (Paris region and beyond, festivals) and internationally (Italy, Spain, Russia, Germany), often combining premieres with works from the classical repertoire. Performed the complete works for solo piano by Michael Lévinas in 2019 (Paris). Soloist with orchestra in Prokofiev's 3rd Piano Concerto (Salle Cortot, Paris, 2007) / Rachmaninoff's 3rd Piano Concerto (Espace S. Bernhardt, Goussainville, 2018).
Pianist with ensembles or chamber music	Pianist with the Ensemble Multilatérale (2024 & 2025), Orchestre des Lauréats of the CNSMDP, Divertimento Ensemble (Milan), ensembles Regards and Proxima Centauri, as well as in chamber music with Aya Kono, Elodie Gaudet, Bogdan Sydorenko, Marie-Cécile Biron, Jean-Manuel Candenot...
Teaching experience	Since 2022 : Piano Teacher (PEA) and Composer Teacher at Clamart Conservatory. <u>Professor in the higher education program dedicated to creation and new languages</u> 2011 / 2022: Piano and Chamber Music Teacher (PEA) at Goussainville Conservatory (95) (full-time). 2010 / 2012: Composition Teacher at Châtillon Conservatory (CRI) and various substitute teaching in different music school in Paris. 2005 / 2006: Workshop at CRR of Aubervilliers-La Courneuve: "Introduction to Improvisation, Composition, and Contemporary Piano Repertoire."
Conferences/Publications	« Grey Zone : Writing for the piano today, the pursuit of clarity. » (PhD thesis of PSL-SACRe Doctorate, ENS-CNSMDP, 2025) International meeting : « Le piano contemporain, un instrument au défi du XXIème siècle » IReMus, Voutezac 2023 Roundtable on the works of Wichnegradski (2014). "The Evolution of Henri Dutilleux's Pianistic Language: From <i>Figures de Resonance</i> to the 3 <i>Preludes</i> ," for the Henri Dutilleux's 90th anniversary (2006) - Edition in « Le Cristal et la nuée » by la Cité de la Musique, Paris 2007.
EDUCATION	2022/2025 PhD in Composition - Paris Sciences et Lettres (PSL) SACRe CNSMDP/ENS, Research directors : Martin Laliberté & Frédéric Durieux. 2023/2024 CNSMDP - Improvisation générative (superior course) with Alexandros Markeas & Vincent Lè Quang 2015/2016 Composition Program at IRCAM (supervised by Hector Parrà, Marco Luini, Grégoire Lorieux, Mikail Malt, Eric Daubresse...) 2013/2015 Ecole Normale Alfred Cortot: Perfectionnement cursus (piano) with Anne QUEFFELEC, Françoise THINAT. 2009/2014 CNSMDP (Paris Conservatory): Master degree in Composition (2014) with Frédéric DURIEUX, Orchestration (D. COHEN), Alexander Technic's (G-V AKNIN), New Technologies for composition (L. NAON, Y. MARESZ, T. MAYS). 2007/2009 CRR Paris : DEM in Composition (highest honors), DEM in Orchestration (highest honors), Music History (Corinne SCHNEIDER). CNSMD Lyon : Composition - Ecriture (Loïc MAILLE, Gérard GEAY). 2002/2008 Ecole Normale Alfred Cortot: High Diploma in Piano with André GOROG and Chamber Music with M.P. SOMA. 2004/2006 CNSMDP Paris: Analysis (Alain LOUVIER, highest honors), Renaissance Writing (O. TRACHIER), Gregorian Choral Conducting (L-M. VIGNE). CEFEDM of Île-de-France: Teaching diploma in Piano (2006). 2002/2006 CRR Boulogne-Billancourt: DEM in Ecriture & Harmony (highest honors); 2nd prize in Composition (Pierre GROUVEL). Paris 4 Sorbonne / Conservatoire de TARBES (CRD): DEM in Piano (highest honors), DEM in Analysis (highest honors), DEM in Ecriture (highest honors), Diplomas in Accompaniment, Violin, Music Theory, Master's Degree, and DEUG in Musicology.
Masterclasses/Academies	Académie Voix Nouvelles Royaumont (2020), Impulse Graz (2021), Masterclasses with Brian Ferneyhough (2014), Barbara Hannigan, Magnus Lindberg, James Dillon, Yan Maresz, Kaija Saariaho (2013), Jan Müller-Wieland (2011), Georges Pludermacher (2008), André Gorog, Marie-Paule Siruguet (2002), Géry Moutier (2001, 2003), Prisca Benoit (2000).
Awards and Scholarships	Selected for the Grand Prix des Lycéens 2023 (for <i>Mogari</i>). CNM Bourse Auteurs-Compositeurs 2022 SACEM Scholarship (2016) / French Academy in Madrid Scholarship (2017/2018). Laureate of the ZALEWSKY Foundation (2004-2008) - Piano. Meyer Foundation Scholarship (2013) and Marthe Depelsenaire Prize (2013/2014) - Composition. Salabert Foundation Prize 2014 / Villa Medici Laureate 2015.

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Competitions

1st Prize, Franco Donatoni International Competition (2016);
2nd Prize, Sorodha International Competition (2016).
1st Prize, 6th Jurgenson International Composition Competition (Moscow) - 'Ensemble' category (2011).
André Chevilhon - Yvonne Bonnaud Prize, 11th Orléans International Piano Competition (2014).
Special Mention, London Ear International Composition Competition (2013) for *Strophe 2*.
Selected for the Boulogne-Billancourt International Music Interpretation Competition (2013).
C.A. of Full professor Piano Teaching (2009).
3rd Prize, Zodiac Composition Competition (2020), and laureate of several piano competitions (France, Italy, Morocco...).
Laureate of the Concours Général des Lycées (2000) - Music.

Languages

English: Fluent / Spanish: Basic / Italian: Basic.

**Computer music
and softwares**

Finale, Ableton Live, Max MSP, Protocols, Open Music, many Music Production Softwares, Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Premiere, Photoshop, Final cut pro, Reaper, Research tools as Zotero and platforms as Cairn, Jstor...

Biography

Composer and pianist, Didier Rotella studied at IRCAM, the CNSMD of Paris and Lyon, the Ecole Normale de Paris, with A. Gorog, F. Thinat, A. Queffélec, G. Pludermacher, G. Moutier for the piano and E. Canat de Chizy, A. Louvier, Y. Maresz, L. Naon, F. Durieux or H. Parrà for the composition. He also received advice from F. Filidei, N. Baba, D. Kourliandski, E. Reiter, F. Bedrossian, A. Posadas, M. André...

The notion of energy is essential in his works, in his research on the instrumental or vocal gesture, or in the management of sound densities, sometimes abundant, sometimes purified until the pure vibration. Its aesthetic transposes traditional tension-relaxation in the timbre, going from the harshest plays to the smoothest frequencies, in an often de-temperate speech. In his electronic works, this approach was pushed to an extreme until the concrete transformation of the instruments creating hybrids. He wrote a large corpus of vocal works including two operas (one under writing process, in partnership with Links ensemble).

He composed for numerous famous ensembles such as InterContemporain, Musikfabrik, Links, Proxima centauri, Regards, HanatsuMiroir, Paramirabo, Multilaterale, Divertimento, NeueVocal Solisten, CNSMDP Orchestra, string quartets Diotima, Tana...

His work has earned him several distinctions: 1st prize in the Jurgenson competition, 2nd Prize of the Sorodha competition, winner of the Franco Donatoni competition and the Fondation de France. In 2014, he won the Chevillond-Bonneau Prize for the Orleans Piano competition and the Salabert Foundation Prize. He was laureate of the Villa Medici and artist-in-residency at Casa de Velázquez. His works are published by Billaudot, Lemoine, Impronta, and on the Babelscores website.

Teacher at the Clamart conservatory (Piano, Interpretation of the 21st century repertoire, and Composition) he performs as a soloist or in chamber music and provides many creations, alone or within sets of contemporary music (ensembles Regards, Proxima centauri, Multilatérale, Divertimento...). Involved at all levels of creation, he often gets involved both as a pianist and composer, as with the Ars Nova ensemble with which he will be in residence for the 2024-2025 season.

Selected for the 2023 High school Prize for composers, he joined in 2022 the PhD Program SACRe of Paris Sciences & Letters University as a composer-doctorate of the Paris CNSMD, a program that allows him to develop an innovative hybrid device, the Meta-piano. / www.didierrotella.com

EDUCATION

2022-2025. Phd in Composition - Doctorat Paris Sciences et Lettres (PSL) SACRe (CNSMDP / ENS)

2020 : Academy Voix Nouvelles, Fondation Royaumont, with Francesco Filidéi, Noriko Baba, Eva Reiter...

2015 - 2016. IRCAM, Cursus program on Composition and Computer Music.

2013 - 2015. Ecole Normale Alfred Cortot, post-graduate in Piano with Anne Queffelec and Françoise Thinat.

2009 - 2014. Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris (CNSMDP), Master's degree in Composition (with Frédéric Durieux).

2009. Certificat d'Aptitude (C.A.), Piano.

2007 - 2009. Conservatoire de Paris (CRR), DEM : Composition (with Edith Canat de Chizy), Orchestration (with Alain Louvier), Musical History (with Corinne Schneider).

2007 - 2008. Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Lyon (CNSM), Ecriture (with Loic Maillé et Gérard Geay).

2002 - 2008. Ecole Normale Alfred Cortot, graduate in Piano and Chamber music (with André Gorog).

2004 - 2006. Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris (CNSMDP), Prix d'Analyse (with Alain Louvier).

2002 - 2006. Conservatoire de Boulogne-Billancourt (CRR), DEM : Ecriture & Composition (with Pierre Grouvel)

AWARDS & GRANTS (only composition)

2022. Selected for the Prix des Lycéens des Compositeurs 2023 (F.)
2016. Franco Donatoni Composition Prize, Divertimento Ensemble, Milano (I).
2016. Sorodha Composition Competition for string quartet, second Prize, Anvers (B).
2016. SACEM fellowship, Paris (F).
2014. Salabert Foundation Award, Paris (F).
2014. Composition Prize André Chevallion - Yvonne Bonnaud, International piano competition, Orléans (F).
2013. London Ear, special mention, London (E).
2013. Meyer Foundation, fellowship, Paris (F).
2013. Fondation Marthe Depelsenaire - Fondation de France, laureate.
2011. International Jurgenson Competition for Young Composers, First Prize, Moscow (R).

RESIDENCIES (only composition)

2017 - 2018. Casa de Velázquez (artist member), Académie de France à Madrid (S).
2015. Villa Médicis (laureate), Académie de France à Rome (I).
2015. Studio Eole, Toulouse (F).
2009 & 2010. Château de Lourmarin, Académie des Beaux-Arts (F).

COMMISSIONS & CONCERTS (only composition – non-exhaustive selection)

2024 : Sacem commission for Ensemble LINKS (*Fragrances*)
2023-26 : Ars Nova : Festival Royan 2024, Festival ElectroSession 2025, Festival MAD 2026...
2022 : Fonds de Dotation Galaxie-Y for « Pantomimes »
2021 : Aide à l'écriture du Ministère de la Culture (ex Commande d'État) for the piano concerto *Ravages*, Commission for Radio France Festival Presences, working with different ensembles like Paramirabo, Hanatsu Miroir, Proxima Centauri, and single musicians...
2020 : Commissions by ensembles Regards, Proxima Centauri... working with ensemble MusikFabrik and Noh singer Ryoko Aoki...
2019 : Festival Musique à l'encre Fraîche, Florian Dombois (Dresden city commission)... Concerts as both pianist and composer with ensembles Regards (Paris) and Proxima Centauri (Bordeaux) until today
2018 : Commission by IRCAM and Festival Manifeste, 1 year working in residency at IRCAM, working with ensemble LINKS, Ensemble Orchestral Contemporain, with Brigitte Athéa on his new opera...
2017 : Commissions by Divertimento Ensemble, Neue Vocal Solisten, works played by Tana Quartet, Ludivine Moreau...
Until 2016 : commissions and concerts by Diotima Quartet, Ensemble Intercontemporain, Ensemble Multilatérale, Opéra Bastille (Atelier Lyrique), Maîtrise des Hauts de Seine, Orchestra of the laureates of the CNSMDP, Saskia Lethiec, Tanguy de Williencourt, DAI contemporain of the CNSMDP, Ensemble Modern (Moscow)...

FESTIVALS

played in Festival Royan 2024, Festivals *Présences* 2022, *Impulse* 2021, *Royaumont* 2020, *Manifeste* 2018, *Viva Villa* 2018, *Manifeste* 2013, *Festival d'Aix-en-Provence* 2012 (Académie "Opéra en Création"), *Kyoto International Music Student Festival* (2012); *Festival de Pontino* (2010)... Next project : *Festival ElectroSession 2025, Festival MAD 2026*