

MIQUEL BERNAT

Born in Valencia (Spain), Miquel Bernat received his musical education at the conservatories of Valencia, Madrid, Brussels and Rotterdam, and at the Aspen Summer Music Festival (USA). He was granted the "Premio Extraordinario Fin de Carrera" at the Conservatory of Madrid, the Special Prize for Percussion at the Dutch Gaudeamus Competition in 1993, and the 2nd prize at the Aspen Nakamichi Competition.

Being a musician of great versatility, he has played with the Orquesta Ciutat de Barcelona and with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, as well as in the contemporary music ensembles "Ictus", "Ictus Piano and Percussion Quartet", Trio Allures", "Duo Contemporain", among others.

As a soloist in numerous performances, he has premiered the "*Concerto pour Marimba et 15 instruments*" by David del Puerto at the Ars Musica Festival in Brussels and at the Ensems Festival in Valencia, Spain. In 2002 he premiered "*Campos Magnéticos*" by Cesar Camarero with the Orquesta Nacional of Oporto, Portugal and the Orquesta de la Comunidad de Madrid. In 2003 he premiered "*Mantis walk in a Metal Space*" for Steel Drum solist electronics and Ensemble in Centre G. POMPIDOU, Paris, the first Concerto existing for these instrument.

Formerly a professor at the Rotterdam and Brussels conservatories, he is currently engaged intensively in pedagogical activities at the "Escola Superior de Musica de Catalunya" in Barcelona, Spain, "Escola Profissional de Musica de Espinho (Portugal)", and the "Escola Superior de Musica do Porto" (Portugal). In Porto he founded **DRUMMING: Grupo de Percussao**, which was selected as the Resident Music Group of Porto 2001 when Porto was Cultural Capital of Europe. **DRUMMING** has also performed numerous concerts in Portugal, Spain, France, Belgium and Brazil.

He is regularly invited to the most reputed international contemporary music festivals (in France, England, Brazil, Venezuela, Australia, USA, Finland, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Thailand) to perform as a solo percussionist, ensemble player, and/or to lead master classes.

He has performed extensively with various dance companies, having performed as soloist in "Just Before" by the Belgian choreographer Anne Teresa de Keersmaeker and her company Rosas, and in "Psappha" by the Italian choreographer Mauro Bigonzetti with the Ballet Gulbenkian of Lisbon.

A passionate performer of new music, Miquel Bernat has worked with numerous composers (many works have been dedicated to him) thus contributing to the expansion and constant evolution of the contemporary repertoire for percussion.