

Elia, Marios Joannou (b. 1978, Pafos). Cypriot composer, now resident in Austria (Salzburg) and Germany (Tübingen) of all musical genres that are being regularly performed in Europe; he is also active as a guitarist.

Biography of Elia Marios Joannou

Elia Marios Joannou, described already by international critics as "phenomenal", "the sound magician" and as "one leading figure of the new generation of composers" was born 1978 in Cyprus. While and after absolving high school with distinction (1996), he began studying at the European Conservatory in Pafos (classical guitar) and the New Conservatory of Cyprus in Nicosia (music theory) absolving both with distinction (1996, 1998). After succeeding the last exams in music theory and classical guitar from the *Assoc. Board of the Royal Schools of Music* London, begun 1998 his studies at the *University of Arts and Music "Mozarteum" Salzburg* by Adriana Hoelszky (since 2000) and Boguslaw Schaeffer (1999/00) in composition and in the guitar class of Matthias Seidel / Marco Diaz Tamayo as well as his music education study (Wolfgang Roscher). In the academic year 2001/02 Elia Marios Joannou was announced as the best student of the University for which he received a scholarship from the *Austrian Federal Ministry of Education and Art*.

Bachelor Degrees with Distinction in composition (2004), music education (2004) and concert guitar (2003). Additional studies in the composition master class of K. Huber at the *Music Academy in Basel* (2003/04).

Furthermore he participated in master courses and music festivals among others in Austria (*Impuls Composition Academy Graz 2005, Internationale Summer Academy Mozarteum, 10. International Academy for New Composition And Audio Art Schwaz, Forum Guitar Vienna, 20th International Innviertler Guitar Seminar, 19th/21th/22th International Symposium for Polyaesthetic Education*), Germany (*3rd Stockhausen Courses Kuerten, Weimar master courses (composition), 9th International "A. Carlevaro" Festival, Instituto Cervantes Munich, International guitar festival Gevelsberg, STEIM LiSa X / New Music Theater Stuttgart*), Poland (*6th International Workshop of Contemporary Music, New Technologies and Multimedia*), England (*Dartington International Summer School*) and Lichtenstein (*LiGiTa*) with artists like Karlheinz Stockhausen, Bernhard Lang, Beat Furrer, Leo Brouwer and Alvaro Pierri.

In international composition competitions he obtained Prizes and Distinctions so far, between others in Greece (1st Prize at the *2nd International Composition Competition of Volos 2004*), Holland (Best National Entry during the *EXPO Kaatsheuvel 2003*), Italy (Distinction und 3rd Prize at the *5^o/ 7^o Concorso Internazionale di Composizione Chitarristica Paolo Barsacchi 2000/2002*, Distinction beim *12^o Concorso Internazionale per Giovani Musicisti "Citta di Barletta" – Composizione 2002*, 3rd Prize at the *7^o Concorso Internazionale "Città di Pavia" – Composizione 2002*, 3rd Prize at the *13^o Concorso Internazionale "Città di Barletta"/ Premio Internazionale di Composizione "Città della Disfida" 2003*), England (*Hinrichsen Foundation Award London 2003, Ensemble Eleven Young Composers Competition Manchester 2003*), Austria (Annerkennungspreis at the *Kompositionswettbewerb des Salzburger und Pinzgauer Blasmusikverbandes 1999/2000*, Distinction by the *Kreativwettbewerb ZukunftsLeben of the Robert-Jungk Bibliothek / Prolit Foundation / City of Salzburg 2003, Raiffeisen Klassik Preis 2004*) and Poland (1st Prize at the *Lutoslawski Award 2004*)

He was supported with scholarships and commissions, that enabled his studies, among others from Cyprus (*Republic of Cyprus, Ministry of Education and Culture, Archbishop Makarios C' Foundation, Cultural Department "Bank of Cyprus"*), England (*Dartington Festival*), Estonia (*New Estonia Musica Nova*), Poland (*Gdańsk Music Academy*), Lichtenstein (*LiGiTa*), Switzerland (*City of Basel*), Austria (*Republic of Austria, Austrian Chancellor, Ministry for Education Science and Culture, Ministry of Economy, Pro Scientia, KulturKontak Austria, Austro Mechana, C. M. Ziehrer Foundation, University Mozarteum, Summer Academy Mozarteum*) and Germany (*I. Vogtlaendischen Vorderverein, Music Academy F. Liszt*).

Elia Marios Joannou graduated performances among others in Germany (Munich, Weimar), France (*Festival Synthèse Bourges*), Austria (*Rupertinum Museum of Modern Art, Literaturhaus Salzburg, Kuenstlerhaus Salzburg, Radio Kultur Vienna, G. Rendl Tagen, University Mozarteum, University of Salzburg, C. Orff Institute, Beethoven Saal Vienna, International Symposium for Polyesthetic Education, Pro Scientia Summer Academy Kaernten*), Italy (*A. Gigli International Festival*), England (*University of Cambridge, Anglia Polytechnic University, Royal College of Music Manchester, Dartington Festival*), Switzerland (*Musik academy of the city of Basel*), Poland (*Warsaw Philharmonic Hall, Forum Lutoslawskiego, 6. New Music Festival Gdańsk*), Greece (*Ionian University, University of Macedonia*), Slovakia (*Methodical Educational Centre Prešov, University of Žilina*) and Cyprus (*Spring Concert Days*).

Publications by *Peter Lang-Verlag* Frankfurt am Main, *JBZ- Verlag* Salzburg and *Irisblaetter* Salzburg. CD recording by the *Agenda Edizioni Musicali*, Bologna.

At the moment he is a [scientific](#) and artistic Assistant in the composition department of the *University Mozarteum Salzburg*. The work of Elia Marios Joannou contains more than fifty compositions of all music genres. Besides that, he is working intensive with musicology and the writing of playwrights, and literature.

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COMPLETE LIST OF WORKS

STAGE: *For the Unknown Soldier* (collage of abstract texts compiled by the composer), actress-voice, violin, double bass, 2002; *Im Spiegel* (prepared improvisatory music theatre work, texts by Hans Christian Andersen [German translation], Clemens Brentano, Ezra Pound [German translation], Adalberg Stifter), 6 children's voices, dancer, guitar, violin, cello, 2-track tape, film projections (by Christoph Kendlbacher), 2002 (also concert version for guitar, cello); *My Eyes, Only You* (text by the composer), 2 actors, 2002; *Lifting Shadows* (text by the composer), dancer, voice, percussion, 2003; *eMotion Study*, actor (+ any number of Orff instruments, any number of percussion instruments, any number of musical toys, any number of self-made objects), 2003; *Vanished Statues* (text by the composer), 3 actors, 2003; *Die Vitrine* (theatre work, text by the composer), 3 actors, 4-/6-track tape, 2003; ***running through my veins*** (text by the composer), videos for 2 or 3 simultaneous projectors & live speech-play for 3 actors, 2003-04 (also multimedia version for 2-track tape, 2 or 3 film projectors); *Just...Maybe...*, fisherman, 4 cyclists, 2004

MUSIC THEATER: *Burning Motions*, music theatre collage (performance) for 7 performers, violin, viola, cello, piano, sound utensils, electronic sounds, electronic media, video projections and lights with stage and audience arrangement and preparation

ORCHESTRAL: *Spring of the Poor*, 1998-99; *O-Mega Stasis*, 33 soloist and solo conductor, 2001

CHAMBER MUSIC: *Odyssée pour quatre et moi*, clarinet, violin, viola, cello, 1998-99; *Sweet No. 1*, guitar, 1999-2000; *Del amor imprevisto*, flute, guitar, cello, 1999-2000; *Original Sculptures in Multiple Editions*, percussion ad libitum, any 4 melody instruments (with conductor ad libitum), 2001; *Ontologie Kubik I-II*, 2 guitars, 2001 (each of its sections may be performed separately: *I*, guitar; *II*, 2 guitars); *Ontologie parallèle*, guitar, 2001; *Can-on per quattro clarinetti*, 4 clarinets, 2001; *Anasyndeseis*, percussion, 2001; *Praksandros – planning a 'CitY' in 9 steps*, any player/ensemble (with conductor ad libitum), 2001; *Salut an einen flammenden Engel*, violin, 2002; *Im Spiegel*, guitar, cello, 2002 (concert version of stage work); *Der verrückte Granatapfelbaum*, French horn, amplified trombone, tuba, live electronics, 2002; *Ideas and Dreams*, guitar, violin, 2002; *Ode an die weisse Nacht*, guitar, 2002; *Fantasie symbolique*, flute player (any 3 flutes from: piccolo, flute, alto flute, bass flute), live electronics, 2002; *A Door*, prepared improvisational guitar, 2003; *WAI TiNG FOR LiGHT*, any player, any melody instrument, any accompanying instrument, 2003; *black WHITE*, 2 guitars, violin (all + amplified sound utensils), 2003; *Mensch aus Glas* (all players also speaker, text by the composer), any 3 players/ensembles, 2003; *I Have Seen You Tomorrow* (all players also speak text by the composer), A-flute, bass clarinet, cello, piano, percussion, 2003; *Tears in Crystal Vase*, bassoon, guitar, violin, 2003-04; *Strawberries and Grapes* (String Trio Nr. 2), violin, viola, cello, 2004, *Holy Bread*, string quartet (string trio and violin solo), 2004

CHORAL: *Homage an deine Nachbarin, die Medea* (text collage by Federico García Lorca, Giuseppe Ungaretti, Paul Éluard, Hans Magnus, Odysseus Elytis, Eugène Guillevic), speaker, 2 choral groups (3 mixed voices each), guitar, 2000; *Corpo, Aqua e Vino* (text by the composer), mixed chorus (divided into variable groups, teams), 2002-04; *Voices, without a Voice* (text by the composer), 5-50 mixed voices (with conductor), 2002-04

VOCAL: *Mythos und Magie* (text from a book on ancient magic traditions), any 2 voices, flute, harp, cello, piano, 2001; *Histoire de la Grèce antique – A* (text by Sappho), female voice, 2-track tape, film projections ad libitum (by Christoph Kendlbacher), 2001; *Böse Träume ohne Duft* (text by the composer), male speaker, guitar, live electronics, 2002; '– ich mag nicht Liebe die mit Wörter liebt –...!' (text by the composer), female voice (+ riqq, sagat [finger cymbals]), 2003

PIANO: *Anamniseis – Mémoires* (text by George Seferis), speaker ad libitum, piano, 1998; *Kindersonatine*, 2000; *In memoriam A. Berg*, 2001; *Eco I*, piano, live electronics ad libitum, 2001; *Eco II*, 2 pianos, live electronics ad libitum, 2001; *Eco III*, 3 pianos, live electronics, 2001; *Impromptu*, 2001; *The Magic Box XI*, piano 4 hands, 2002; *Song of five*, 2002

HARPSICHORD: *Magnetic Fields*, harpsichord, 2-track original tape, 2002-04; *Essays* (player also speaks texts by Odysseus Elytis [English translation], George Seferis [English translation], the composer), harpsichord, live electronics, 2002-04

CELLO: *Autosit*, one cellist, 2004; *Pagi*, two cellists (for one Siamese sound-body), 2004

PERCUSSION: *Believe my tears in your eyes*, I: for solo percussionist with possible amplification & recorded sounds (tape / Channels ad lib.), II: for two percussionists with possible amplification & recorded sounds (tape / Channels ad lib.), 2004

RECORDER: *Donate all my coloured clothes!*, two recorder players (bass and soprano recorder, shepherd's reed flute, prepared tenor recorder, sheep bell, leather sieve) and 3 double bass players, 2004-05

ELECTROACOUSTIC: *Fröhliche Weihnachten*, 2-track original tape, 2002; *Game of Chance*, 2-track tape, 2002 (collaboration with Nicolas Joannou Elia); *Dialogues Looking for Voices*, 2-track original tape, 2004; *...mainly a lot of wounds, mother!* (text by Costas Montis), female voice, live-electronic and 2-track original tape, 2004;

SOUND INSTALLATION: *Dialogues Looking for Voices*, for kitchen utensils and a performer, 2004

MULTIMEDIA/PERFORMANCE: *Histoire de la Grèce antique – B*, 2-track tape, film projections (by Christoph Kendlbacher), 2001; *Hydor – Chronos*, 2-track original tape (4 channels live mixing), film projections (by Christoph Kendlbacher), 2002; *L'impression inclue, et mes fleurs*, Alphorn, bagpipes, utensils player, overhead projections, 2003; *WhY?*, 2 electric guitars, live electronics, slide projections (by the composer), 2002-04; ; ***running through my veins***, 2-track original tape, 2 or 3 simultaneous film projectors (films by the composer), 2003-04 (version of stage work); *Strophes* (text collage by André Breton, Paul Éluard, the Tridentine Mass, the composer), boy soprano, 10 mixed voices, ensemble (French horn [tubes filled with water], trumpet [+ piccolo trumpet], trombone, harp, 2 percussion) (with conductor), car, elevator, glass tower, live electronics, 1-2 sound technicians, 1-4-floor room, 2003-04; ***The walls they didn't build yet***, for 5 tapes (after pre-recorded clavicembalo and synthesizer sounds), 5 moving loudspeakers, 5 moving performers & unmoved listeners, 2004

VOLUMES OF POETRY:

- *ΚΟΙΤΑ ΛΙΓΟ ΑΠ' ΕΞΩ ΛΥΠΗΜΕΝΗ ΚΑΡΔΙΑ, ΛΑΜΠΕΙ Ο ΜΑΗΣ* (1998-2004, modern Greek language, unpublished)
- *DIE LETZTE KERZE, BRENNT!* (2002-2004, in German & English language, unpublished)
- *ΠροΧειρώς* (2003–, unpublished)

(Last updated on January 14, 2005)