

CURRICULUM VITAE

Denis COHEN

Personal **Orchestration Class**
Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et Danse, Paris
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MUSICAL STUDIES

1969 -79 **Paris Conservatory (Conservatoire national supérieur de Paris) :**
piano (Vlado Perlemuter), harmony (Pierre Lantier), counterpoint
Jean-Claude Raynaud), history of music (Norbert Dufourcq),
analysis (Elsa Barraine and Betsy Jolas),
piano accompaniment (Henriette Puig Roger),
composition (Olivier Messiaen, Michel Phillipot).
Piano studies with Jean Fassina
Concerts as piano soloist with regional orchestras; lieder accompaniment, opera
accompaniment; chamber music (1969-1978).

From the Paris Conservatory:
- first prize in harmony
- first prize in counterpoint
- first prize in piano accompaniment
- first prize in composition

1962-68 **Conservatoire National d'Orléans :**
1st prize in piano, 1967;
prize of « excellence » , 1968

AWARDS AND HONORS

1988 The Hervé Dugardin Composition Prize given by the SACEM for life work.
Regularly invited by France Musique to participate as a composer/conductor in
broadcasts on a wide repertory of classical and contemporary music.

1983 The Albert Wolff Composition prize given by the SACEM for the work
Cantate for soprano, mezzo and ensemble, with a text by Georg Webern.

1982-84 Nominated by the French Ministry of Culture to the Villa Medici in Rome “**Prix de
Rome**” for two years.

1982 Award from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Villa Medici *extra muros*.

1982 Award from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs for research at the C.C.R.M.A.
of Stanford University, USA.

- 1980-81** Award from the French Ministry of Culture for Research on Inharmonic Sounds at IRCAM.
- 1979** Award from the French Ministry of Culture for the piece for trio and computer tape *Trames*.
- 1977** Silver medal at the International Piano Competition of Finale in Liguria (Italy).

CONDUCTOR

Assistant conductor at the Ensemble Intercontemporain for the season 1981-1982.

During the last 25 years guest conductor for 30 orchestras, ensembles and choirs: the Philharmonic Orchestra of Radio-France, the Philharmonic Orchestra of Strasbourg, the Turin Orchestra and Choir (Turin, Italy), the Philharmonic Orchestra of Nice, the Ensemble Orchestral de Paris, the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO), the Orchestra and Choir of the Community of Madrid, the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra, the Philharmonic Orchestra of Lorraine, the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, the Stavanger Symphony (Norway), the Ensemble Intercontemporain, the Modern Ensemble of Frankfurt, Elision of Melbourne (Australia), the Ensemble Musica Nova of Tel-Aviv, the Orchestra of the C.N.S.M. in Paris, the Ensemble Itinéraire (Paris, France), Ars Nova (Paris, France), Nuova Consonanza of Rome, Musique Oblique (Paris, France), Alternance (Paris, France), the Ensemble 2E2M (Paris, France), Askó of Amsterdam, Forum in Lyon, among others, with works from the classical repertory (Beethoven, Stravinsky, Schönberg, Webern...) to the contemporary (Amy, Mefano, Petrassi, Zimmermann, Maderna, Stockhausen...), and more than a hundred premieres of new works.

COMPOSITION

(see list of works).

Works Commissioned by The French Ministry of Culture:

RIVAGE 2007

SEVERAL COUPLES 2005

NEXUS 2000

FLEXUS 1996

A'DANTE 1991

IL SOGNO DI DEDALO 1990

DOPPI VERSI ALLA LUNA 1989

PYRAMOIDES 1988

CLOSE ISLANDS 1985

LA CASSURE DES NUAGE 1983

CANTATE 1982

Works Commissioned by Radio-France:

ETUDE POUR LE POEME 1987

Works Commissioned by Ensemble Intercontemporain :

VOILES 1998

MEMOIRE DE VAGUE 1995

TRANSMUTATIONS 1980

Works Commissioned by Ircam:

ERINNERUNG 2006

JEUX 1989

Works Commissioned by Strasburg Musica Festival :

LES NEUF CERCLES D'ALIGIERI 1992

SPRACHE 1988

Works Commissioned by Natexis Foundation

PLEXUS

His works have been performed by the following artists, ensembles and orchestras : Ensemble Intercontemporain (Paris), 2E2M, Music Project, (London), Nuova Consonanza (Rome), Nuova Consonanza (Milano), Ars Nova (Paris), the Ensemble Forum (Lyon), the Philharmonic Orchestra of Radio France (Paris), Ensemble Orchestral of Paris, Groupe Vocal de France, Philharmonic Orchestra of Nice, Trio de France (Paris), Discours Quatre (Paris), Accroche-Note, Philharmonic Orchestra of Strasbourg, Philharmonic Orchestra of Radio-Frankfort, among others, with concerts and festivals in Paris, Rome, Milan, Strasbourg, Huddersfield, Lyon, Amsterdam, the Hague...

TEACHING AND LECTURES

1999- present Professor of Orchestration Class at the Paris National Conservatory

1999-2001 Professor at the "Institut d'Etudes Politiques" of Paris (1999/2001)

1994 – 1995 Master-classes in orchestra-conducting at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Paris

1987 Public analysis of Stockhausen's « Carré » in Turin before conducting the first presentation of this work in Italy, which was filmed and broadcast by « RAI TRE ».

1981-1988 Numerous lectures on concerts at Radio France and at the Pompidou Center, before conducting the works presented.

1986 Orchestra-conducting and composition classes at the seminar organized by the «Kultur Centrum» of Bayreuth in April

1986 Conducting at the Music Summer School of Darmstadt

Participation in numerous juries in the National Superior Conservatories of Paris and of Lyon, in the fields of piano, violin, analysis, theory, composition, orchestration, and conducting.

Radio broadcasts on 20th century music on *France Musique* and *France Culture*.

Analysis of the works played before concerts both filmed and radio broadcast in France, Holland, and England.

Presentations and analysis of works at the Paris Conservatory (*Transmutations, Cantate, Trames*,...) and within the teaching activities at the Ensemble Intercontemporain. conducting the works presented.

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PUBLICATIONS

«*Le présent décomposé, réflexions sur les avant-gardes musicales*» (« The decomposed present, reflections on musical avant-gardes »), Editions l'Harmattan, **2008**.

«*Le passé recomposé ou le malentendu concernant les courants américains et européens*». (“The rebuilt past or the misunderstanding between American and European musical schools”) in: *Passages*, November **1995**, in: *Poésie*, December **1996**.

«*L'histoire entre parenthèses ou les parenthèses de l'histoire* » (« History in Parenthesis or the Parentheses of History »). unpublished

«*Ulysse et les sirènes*» (Ulysses and the Sirens), Presses Universitaires de France; collection "La Philosophie hors de soi", **1993**.

«*Denis Cohen /Les cahiers de l'Ircam, compositeurs d'aujourd'hui*», publication dedicated to the works of Denis Cohen, 4th quarter **1993**.

«*Ulysse et les sirènes*», Presses Universitaires, **1992**

«*Ircam. L'institution face à la création*», (IRCAM. The institution faced with creation) in: *Art-Press*, July-August **1990**.

«*Pour ou contre ou l'art techno-science*» (“Pro or contra or the techno-scientific art”) in: *Libération*, April 16, **1990**.

Article sur Musique de notre temps, in *Libération* , September **1987**.

«*Réduire la marge de non écriture*» (“Reduce the field of non-writing”) in: *Entretiens*, February **1987**.

1986 Letter in: *Conséquence* no.8, 1985-Spring.

DISCOGRAPHY (excerpts)

- Alistair Mac Donald : *A Trace of Infinity*; Elision Ensemble Melbourne. Conductor: D. Cohen. Onemore Records PTY Ltd, Australia.

- F. Martin : *Concerto pour clarinette*. T. Lancino : *Symphonie d'instruments à vents et d'électronique*; Ensemble Itinéraire. Conductor: D. Cohen. Villa Médicis, Musidisc Production, Paris, 1990.

- Denis Cohen: *Transmutations, Jeux, Il sogno di Dedalo*; Ensemble Intercontemporain/ Ircam; Florent Boffard, piano. Conductor: D. Cohen. MFA/IRCAM/EIC/Musidisc Production. Paris, 1993.

- Michael Smetanin : *Bellevue II, Skinless kiss of Angels*. Elision Ensemble (Melbourne). Conductor: D. Cohen. ABC Classics, Australia .

- Alessandro Melchiorre: *Terra Incognita*, for instruments and electronics. Elision Ensemble (Melbourne) .Conductor : D. Cohen. Ricordi.

- Denis Cohen : *Les neuf cercles d'Alighieri , La cassure des nuages., A' Dante, Doppi Versi Alla Luna.* . Hessischer Rundfunk Orchestra . Ensemble Accroche-note.
Conductor : D. Cohen. Production Montaigne, 1996.

- Denis Cohen : *Il sogno di Dedalo , Flexus, Pyramoides,Les neuf cercles d'Alighieri*, Françoise Pollet, soprano.. Ensemble Alternance. Conductor : D. Cohen. Ricordi.

- Répertoires polychromes 2. Denis Cohen : *A'Dante* for two voices and two clarinets. MFA/CDMC Accroche-note.

- A. U. Boskovich : «*Concerto for violin and orchestra*», Ensemble Musica Nova, Tel-Aviv, Israel. July 1997.

- Yoshihisa Taira : *Polyèdre*, Philharmonic Orchestra of Radio-France. Conductor : Denis Cohen. MFA INA. FONTEC

- Hier und Jetzt - Musik der Gegenwart - Zeitgenössische Komponisten.
Denis Cohen : *Il sogno di Dedalo* for 16 instruments. Ensemble Intercontemporain. Conductor: Cohen. Universal-Accord-Ircam.

