

## CV

### Merlijn Twaalfhoven

Born: Havelte, NL, 14-02-76

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#### **Musical training**

Conservatory of Amsterdam: Master studies composition music. 2001-2003

Conservatory of Amsterdam: Graduate in composition music with Daan Manneke. 1997-2001

Conservatory of Amsterdam secondary studies:

- viola with Esther Apituley. 1998-2002
- contemporary and south-Indian composition and playing techniques with Raphaël Reina. 1998-2001
- improvisation with Nico Langenhuisen. 1999-2000
- life-electronics with Jos Zwaanenburg. 2000
- piano with Reinoud Maartense. 1996-1999

University of Amsterdam: ethnomusicology. 1998-1999

Conservatory of Amsterdam: Preparation class viola with Esther Apituley. 1997-1998

Sweelinck Conservatory, Amsterdam: Preparation class viola with Marjolein Dispa. 1996-1997

Royal Conservatory The Hague: Special preparation class viola with Gisella Bergman and temporarily also Liesbeth Steffens. 1993-1996

Royal Conservatory The Hague: Secondary subject composition with Roderik de Man. 1994-1994

Private lessons viola with Sjoukje Kruisselbrink (Zwolle). 1991-1993

Violin lessons (music school en private) with Henk Boshart en Marjan Oudes (Meppel). 1984-1991

#### **Other Education**

University of Leiden: art history. 1995-1996

Special High School of the Royal Conservatory The Hague: 5th & 6th grade. 1993-1995

High School in Steenwijk (Grammar School / V.W.O. grade 1-4). 1989-1993

Primary School (Vrije School) in Meppel. 1981-1989

#### **Master classes**

Magnus Lindberg, Pär Lindgren and Bent Sorensen: Stockholm International Composition Course with percussion ensemble Kroumata. 2002

Louis Andriessen en Hannah Kulenty: composition master class in Raziovice, Poland. 2000

Janavi Janaprakash: south-Indian music. 2001

Diverse teachers of Eo'len; Institute of West African Arts in Lamin Town, The Gambia: 2-weeks course West African music. 2000

Emile Cantor: viola master class "Margess International", Ftan, Swiss. 1995

Marjolein Dispa: viola master class (Fermo, Italy). 1996

#### **Occupation**

2001-present Artistic leader of Foundation "La Vie sur Terre"

2009-present Member of committee Netherlands Fund for Visual Arts, design and architecture (FBKVB)

2004-2008 Professor PopKunst of ArtEZ academy of Arts

2006-2007 "City composer" of Zaanstad municipality (unpaid)

2003-2004 Artistic leader of Soirées Unextracted, working space for young artists with Orchestra Volharding

## projects

NB A list of compositions is available in a different document.

### a. International

- Al Quds Underground: festival in Occupied East-Jerusalem. Western and Palestinian musicians and actors collaborate in about 150 small performances in living rooms.
- Symphony for All in Jordan: Large project with Amman Symphony Orchestra, 72 children from Palestinian refugee camps and students from the National Conservatories of Palestine and Jordan, 2008.
- Carried by the Wind: two experimental concerts with about 150 participants in Ramallah and Bethlehem in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, 2008.
- Station East: music festival in Roma Ghetto in Eastern Slovakia, 2007.
- Reality Estate: composition for 300 voices performed across a secluded housing block in Birmingham, UK.
- Long Distance call: music project at two sides of the buffer zone in Nicosia, divided capital of Cyprus, October 24, 2005
- La Nuit d'Europe: large music events celebrating artistic and cultural diversity in Europe: Ljubljana, Maribor (Slovenia), Bratislava (Slovakia), Prague (Czech Republic), Amsterdam (Netherlands)

### b. Community arts

- DroomZomerNacht: theatre project based on Shakespeare's MidsummerNights Dream with 100 participants, Zaanstad, 2007.
- Droom aan de Zaan: series of events in collaboration with the inhabitants of Zaanstad, 2006/2007
- U Bevindt zich Hier: large project with choreographer André Gingras on Springdance Festival 2004.
- Soundwave; Performance with 80 amateur musicians and singers featuring 5 members of Orkest de Volharding during festival "Uitgast" in the Naturepark Lelystad, 2003

### c. Large multidisciplinary events

- "High as the sky, broad as a mile": composition for 500 school-kids, glass-carillon, electric guitars and 9 opera singers. Opening Culture campus in Leidscherijn-Utrecht. 2009
- Symphony Arabica: Music composition uniting a large symphony orchestra with Arabic musicians, 100 children, rap and poetry. Amsterdam, The Hague, Rotterdam, Utrecht, 2008.
- La Nuit Zigane: Large music collage with Gypsy musicians of different corners of Europe, Amsterdam 2008.
- "Fabrique" 2006: location production in old factory, Enschede
- "Echoes across the Divide": Opening Treaty of Utrecht Festival with 50 singers and musicians from Cyprus and The Netherlands in the Dom Church, Utrecht. 2006
- "La Nuit n'est pas un Chocolat" 2002-2006: Kaleidoscopic events with mixture of classic, modern and dance music, food, dance and visual arts with large number of participants.  
Locations: Nightclub Paradiso, Amsterdam (6 editions); Concert hall Oosterpoort, Groningen (3 editions); Diverse locations in Enschede, Tilburg, Utrecht.  
Participants among others: Värttinä, Asko-Ensemble, Lena Willemark, Royal Wind Music, Netherlands Vocal Laboratory, Cluster Chamber Choir, Mimezine, DJ's Kypski and C-mon, Maestro, Isis, Sjam, Alec Smart, Zash, cook Joost Brouwer, dancer Sawami Fukuoka, videoartists Persijn Broersen and Raymond Taudin Chabot etc.
- Traffique: composition for 450 musicians, Rockfestival Lowlands and Uitmarkt Amsterdam, 2004
- MuseumNight in the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam: Huge spatial composition with more than 100 musicians, but also involving actors, dancers and painters. 2004
- "La Vie sans Voiture" Parade Festival with consideration for all senses. With many musicians, make-up artists, hairdressers and massage. 2003
- 3D super; "Une Nuit Urbaine" in Vredenburg, Utrecht. Guest programmer/composer of total concept with Radio Filharmonic Orchestra, Mimezine, DJ Kypski, Brass orchestra D.S.S., Royal Wind Music and Welf Turboacoustic Percussion. 2003
- "La Vie n'est pas un Chocolat": nocturnal event in Shipyard. Amsterdam Harbour 2001
- "Onrust in ..." spatial project on various locations with dancers undercover among the audience (Broeren Church, Zwolle during the festival "geDaanten", Kalenderpanden and the Sint Agnes Church, Amsterdam, Cityhall The Hague (Atrium), Sculpture park in the dunes at Wijk aan Zee.

1999 and on the street in front of the Theatre School (Amsterdam) during the International Theatre School Festival). 2000

- "La Vie urbaine"; spatial project in collaboration with Foundation Jur Naessens Music Prize. Performances in Utrecht (Vredenburg, partially), Groningen (Aa Church), Tilburg (Avenue) and Amsterdam (Old Church) 2001.
- The Big "L" party: concept and spatial performance for annual opening party of the Amsterdam school of arts in Paradiso. 2001
- "Synergy" arty dance party with live musicians positioned all over the place, dancers, food and art exhibition (Club Arena, in collaboration with. Cindy Pielstroom). 2001

#### **d. Theatre productions**

- Kursk; interactive performance in Sovjet submarine, Over 't IJ Festival, 2005
- Nacht in de Barentszee; multiperceptual wandering through the backstage of the City Theatre in collaboration with Toneelgroep Amsterdam, 2004

#### **e. Music for theatre**

- "Parasites" of Marius von Mayenburg, director Victoria Meirik. Gasthuis theater Amsterdam and theaters in Holland. 2002
- "Crave" by Sarah Kane, directed by Victoria Meirik. (Theater Bellevue during the Theater Festival and Transformatorzolder Westergasfabriek, Amsterdam). 2000
- "As you like it" (Shakespeare), by theatre company "De Droom", Hilversum (Land en Bosch, 's Graveland). Director Adriaan Pijl. 1999

#### **f. Works for dance**

- "Body": for the Dutch National Ballet in the Holland Festival, Amsterdam 2005
- "Double points: Bertha"; by company Emio Greco|PC, a.o. on festival springdance in Utrecht, 2003.
- "Merkavah" dance movie of Ruben van Leer and Sylvester Lindemulder, commissioned by NPS (national) television. Choreography Bruno Listopad. Co-composer Jeff Carey. 2002
- "Acces All Areas" for the Dutch National Ballet and Percussion group The Hague in the Music Theatre, Amsterdam. 2000

#### **g. Visual Arts productions**

- Pleinmuseum: video projection on 8-screen installation in 5 cities, 2005.
- Dailythings '99: visual arts/conceptual project. Exhibitions in gallery "Wee 't wee" (Amsterdam), gallery St Marten (Arnhem) and in Porvoo, Finland. 1999-2001
- Installation in gallery-space during H\*rt. (Panama, Amsterdam). 2002
- Music with photo exhibition by Tom van Heel in the "Beurs van Berlage", Amsterdam. 1998

**h. Work for artists, companies and institutions (events, openings etc.):** Nike Europe, Stichting Doen, MADe, Global Reporting Initiative, Netherlands Business Council Dubai, Netherlands Embassy Cyprus, Treaty of Rome, Triodos Bank, Nationaal Cultuurbal, Phillip Morris Art prize, Nightclub It, H\*ART in Nightclub Panama, Rijksmuseum Amsterdam, DVD-label NoTv, Filmmaker Marjoleine Boonstra ("Haven"), NFTA ("De Zeejongen", 2002), Foundation "De Kunst".

#### **i. miscellaneous**

- "Une Femme Urbane" 11 concerts with Tomoko Mukaiyama, 2006/2007
- Echoes across the Divide: documentary film by Adam Sebière about the Cyprus-project
- Guest programmer music hall Tilburg. 2006-2007
- "Plankgas" multidisciplinary theatre nights in the Gasthuis theatre, Amsterdam (in collaboration with students of the Amsterdam Art schools). 1998-2002
- "Night of the Death" Art-happening by Claire Leenaers in Gasthuis, Amsterdam. Performance and DJ. 2002
- "The Last Supper" Art-happening of Exp Masters in Panama, Amsterdam. Performance. 2002
- "Hartstocht" audio-tour by Roos van Geffen and Dries Verhoeven through the city of Brugge (Belgium) on the occasion of "Cultural Capital of Europe". 2002
- "The Case of Charles and Rupert" concert with spatial and organic music (Singel Church, Amsterdam). 2001

- Participant of 12xHolland; project in Japan. Made concerts and workshops, received lessons in traditional music. 2001
- "Margarine" performances on mini art festival in the Graansilo (Amsterdam). 1999

#### **Performers of compositions among others**

Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra de Suisse Italienne, Radio Symphonie Orchestra, Koninklijke Filharmonie van Vlaanderen, Radio Chamber Orchestra, Residency Orchestra, Holland Symphonia, Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra, Brabants Orkest, Radio Philharmonic Orchestra, Netherlands Ballet Orchestra, Asko-ensemble, Orchestra Volharding, Kroumata, Percussion group The Hague, Symphony Orchestra of the Conservatory of Amsterdam, Harmony Orchestra of the Conservatory of Rotterdam, Ricciotti Ensemble, Amstel Quartet, Escher Ensemble, Netherlands Vocal laboratory, Cluster Chamber Choir, Malle Symen Quartet, Prinsen Quartet, Royal Wind Music, Mimezine, the Backhaus, Trio Chiaroscuro.

**Conductors a.o.:** Peter Eötvös, Kazuyoshi Akiyama, Reinbert de Leeuw, Jaques van Steen, Micha Hamel, Lucas Vis, Christopher Lyndon-Gee, Etienne Siebens, Bas Wiegers, Bas Pollaard, Danny Oosterman.

#### **Prizes**

Art and Culture in my neighbourhood Festival 2009: prize Foreign country: "Carried by the Wind"

Selection I.S.C.M World Music Days 2004 for: "If you reveal...".

Honorable mention 50ste International Rostrum of Composers (UNESCO) for: If you reveal... 2003

NPS composersweeks, Dutch Music Days 2002: Juryprize and Audience award for: "If you reveal your secrets to the wind, you should not blame the wind for revealing them to the trees"

Laureat KBC AQUARIUS Composition competition (Belgium), for: "If you reveal..." (new version for big orchestra) 2002.

Jur Naessens Music prize 2002: 2nd prize.

NOG stimulant-prize for Young Composers, awarded for "GUSH or: Die Mündigkeit des selbstverschuldeten Ausgangs". 2000

Selection Gaudeamus Prize. 2002

2nd Prize "Kunstbende" (Youth music competition) (South-Holland). 1994

#### **Publications**

Art in Society, in Dutch (small book about the connection of arts and society, like community arts) 2009

Necessity of Desintegration-on the inclusion of minorities, Kennis Loont 2007-2011, 2007

On art and money, Boekman magazine, 2005

Debate on Culture, daily newspaper Trouw. 2005

"De Veelte" Research about esthetics of Japan, website. 2003

Publications of articles in Trans Artist, 2004

Lecture at the JML Seminar Yoshiro Irino Institute of Music, Tokyo 2003

Mens en Melodie (Dutch music magazine): 3 Articles about Japanese music and culture. 2001

#### **Lectures and guest-teaching activities**

Conference of Audiences Europe Network: seminar 'Involving the audience.'

IETM 2005: speaker

Lectures: Rietveld Academy, ArtEZ academy of Arts; Kaos Pilots, Jan van Eyck Academy, Den Bosch; AKI Enschede; Art School Amsterdam and many more.

Guest teacher at Academy of Architecture, Amsterdam; Conservatory of Amsterdam; Conservatory of Alkmaar; Royal Academy The Hague and many more

Created 6 Radio reports for AVRO/NCRV Radio 4 about Japanese music and culture. 2001

Jury member classical music during Griffioen plays of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. 1999

#### **Websites**

artist: [www.twaalfhoven.net](http://www.twaalfhoven.net)

foundation: [www.laviesurterre.nl](http://www.laviesurterre.nl)

interactive thesis on Japanese aesthetics: <http://deveelte.twaalfhoven.net/>

ArtEZ: [www.popkunst.nl](http://www.popkunst.nl)

projects in Middle East: [www.arabica.nu](http://www.arabica.nu)

project: [www.pleinmuseum.nl](http://www.pleinmuseum.nl)