
Alejandro Viñao

Born 1951, Buenos Aires.

Alejandro Viñao studied composition, guitar and conducting in Buenos Aires. In 1975 he moved to Britain where he continued his studies at the Royal Collage of Music and the City University in London. He has been resident in Britain since then. In 1988 he was awarded a PH. D. in composition at the City University.

In 1979 his composition "**Una Orquesta Imaginaria**" won the 2nd prize ex-aequo at the International Competition for Electroacoustic Music at Bourges, France. His composition "**Go**" was awarded the 1st prize at Bourges (1981), 1st Prize at The International Rostrum of Electroacoustic Music at the Unesco World Music Council (1984), and a 'Euphonie d'Or' at Bourges (1992)

Viñao's music has been played and broadcast throughout Europe and the U.S.A and have featured in international festivals such as the Bergen Festival, the Tangelwood Festival, the Warsaw Autumn Festival and the London PROMS.

He has received commissions from various performing groups and institutions around the world such as I.R.C.A.M, in France, MIT in the USA, the Ensemble Intercontemporain and many others.

Viñao was composer in residence at M.I.T. in the U.S.A. from January till May 1987. His MIT commission "**Toccata del Mago**" was premiered in Boston in April 87. During his visit to America the San Francisco Symphony presented the U.S.A. premiere of his "**Triple Concerto**". **Triple Concerto** was awarded a Mention at the 1988 Prix Ars Electronica. In 1989 his composition **Son Entero** -for 4 voices and computer- won an Honorary Mention at the Prix Ars Electronica and in 1992 **Chant d'ailleurs** won the 1st Prize 'Golden Nica' at the same competition.

His music has been characterised by the use of pulsed rhythmic structures to create large scale form, and by a melodic writing which -as in the case of many non-European musics- develops through rhythm rather than harmony. In addition to his instrumental and electroacoustic music compositions he has also been involved with the creation of multi-media works, and has composed music for some 20 films. In recent years Viñao has produced several radio programmes for the BBC where he presented his music and that of other composers who share similar aesthetic and technological interests.

New work for the 1994/95 season include a commission for the ensemble L'itneraire and a piece for the Kronos quartet.

Recordings

On L.P.:

" An Imaginary Orchestrina "

Pipe Records - Cherry Red
Records- London.

" Go "

Fylkingen Records (FYLP 1026)
Stockholm

On cassette:

Excerpts from **"Go"** and **"Una Orquesta Imaginaria"** available on:

" The Andre Previn Guide to Music "

EMI-London

On C.D.:

" Son Entero " & "Triple Concerto"

WERGO (WER 2019-50)

" Toccata del Mago "

WERGO (WER 2031-50)

"Chant d'ailleurs" & "Tumblers"

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also available from May 1994:

"Chant d'ailleurs" , "Borges y el Espejo" GRM, France
"Hildegard's Dream" & "Go".
