

## BIOGRAPHY OF LUCA BELCASTRO

**Luca Belcastro** was born in Como - Italy (September 18th, 1964); he graduated in Classical guitar at the Conservatory of Music "G. Verdi" in Milano and in Composition, with the highest grade, at the Conservatory of Music "G. Nicolini" in Piacenza. He studied with Giuseppe Colardo, Sonia Bo and Azio Corghi, with whom he attended specialization courses at the *Accademia Goffredo Petrassi* in Parma and at the *Accademia di Santa Cecilia* in Roma, where he graduated with top marks and "Premio SIAE".

His orchestral works have been awarded in the International Competitions "*Ciutat de Tarragona*" (E) 2002 (I Prize), "*Valentino Bucchi*" - Roma 1996 (I Prize), "*2 Agosto*" - Bologna 1997 (II Prize), "*Concours Européen du Jeune Compositeur*" - Strasbourg (F) 1998 ("Troisième Grand Prix"), "*Concours de l'Orchestre des Jeunes de la Méditerranée*" - Marseille (F) 2000 (mention), "*Gino Contilli*" - Messina 1995 (mention) and performed by *Moscow Symphony Orchestra*, *Orquestra Simfònica de Barcelona i Nacional de Catalunya*, *Orchestra of Colours* - Athens, *OSER Toscanini* - Parma, *Orchestra Sinfonica Abruzzese*, *Milano-Classica*.

His Opera *1896 - Pheidippides... corri ancora!* has been awarded at the Competition "*Dimitris Mitropoulos - World Opera Project*" of Athens (GR) 2001.

His chamber music works won the First Prize at the International Competitions "*Edvard Grieg*" - Oslo (N) 2002, "*Biennale Neue Musik*" - Hannover (D) 2001 (performed by The Hilliard Ensemble), "*ICOMS*" - Torino 1999 and 2001, "*Ciutat d'Alcoi*" (E) 1999, "*Sommerliche Musiktage Hitzacker*" Hitzacker (D) 1999 (Publikum Preis), "*New Music for Sligo*" - Sligo (IRL) 1998.

After International Composer Competitions, his scores have been selected for the festivals "*ISCM-World Music Days*" - Slovenia 2003, Hong Kong 2002 and Roumania 1999, "*International Youth Music Forum*" - Kiev (Ukraine) 2001, "*MusicaNova*" and "*ppLANISSIMO*" - Sofia (Bulgaria) 2000, "*Sinfonischer Sommer*" - Riedenburg (D) 2000, "*May in Miami*" (Florida International University) and "*June in Buffalo*" (State University of New York) - USA 1993 and performed in important centres (*Festival de Músiques Contemporànies* in the Auditori of Barcelona, *Festival de Alicante*, Royal Festival Hall in London, The Athens Concert Hall, Konzerthaus Mozart-Saal di Wien, etc.)

Some of his works have been praised in other international and national composition competitions in Italy ("*Poesie in Musica*" - Cesenatico, "*Città di Barletta*", "*Città di Udine*", "*Città di Pavia*", "*Lucus*" - Potenza, "*Settimane Incontri - Di Nuovo Musica*" - Reggio Emilia, "*Angelo-Comneno*" - Roma, "*E. Porrino*" - Cagliari, "*Franco Evangelisti*" - Roma) and abroad ("*L. Kubik*" - Florida, "*IBLA Grand Prize*" - New York, "*VII Biennale dei Giovani artisti dell'Europa mediterranea*" - Lisbona, "*Deuxième Journées de la Jeune Musique*" - Marseille).

His compositions have been performed in important festivals in Italy (*Settembre Musica* in Turin, *Nuova Consonanza* in Rome, etc.) in Europe (Portugal, Spain, Ireland, England, Germany, Roumania, France, Bulgaria, Greece, Finland, Norway, Russia, Macedonia, Netherland, Slovenia, Austria) and in USA, China, Japan, Korea and Armenia. They have been recorded and broadcasted by radios and TV channels.

## BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

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