

# CURRICULUM VITAE

Xavier Pagès i Corella | Conductor and composer

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## | Studies

Xavier Pagès i Corella, was born in Sant Pere de Ribes (Barcelona, Spain) in 1971. He studied in Barcelona Conservatory<sup>1</sup> and Liceu Conservatory<sup>2</sup> where he graduated with highest qualifications in piano with Margarita Serrat and Montserrat Almirall, composition with Salvador Pueyo and conducting with Albert Argudo. In 2000 he was admitted in the Conservatory of Vienna<sup>3</sup>, where he studied conducting with Georg Mark and Reinhard Schwarz. He also has attended several conducting and composition masterclasses, in which he has worked with conductors such as Ovidiu Balan, Robert Gutter, Manuel Hernández Silva, Collin Metters, and Antoni Ros Marbà, and composers such as Carles Guinovart and Albert Sardà.

In 1994 he won the Competition Josep Mirabent i Magrans for young musicians, with which he studied conducting and composition with Lou Harrison, Laszlo Heltay and Diego Masson, at the Dartington International Summer School. In 2005 he received a special mention of the selection jury of the Besançon International Competition for Young Conductors. Along with his music studies he graduated as Electric Engineer. His project on a computer-assisted piano tuning method was awarded with the Final Project Prize of the Industrial Engineers Association of Catalonia.

## | Conducting

As a conductor, he performs regularly in festivals and auditoriums all around Catalonia such as L'Auditori of Barcelona, the Palau de la Música Catalana, the Barcelona Grec Festival, the Castell de Peralada Festival, the Pocket Opera Festival of Barcelona<sup>4</sup>, the cycle "Music today" organized by the Catalan Composers Association, the International Music Festival Pau Casals and the international festivals of Ripoll, Rialp, Segur de Calafell, and Sitges. He has conducted ensembles such as the Orchestra of Catalogne (France), the Philharmonic Orchestra "Mihail Jora" of Bacau (Rumania), the Thüringen Philharmonic (Germany), the Orchestra of Elche (Alicante), the La Passione Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra Terrassa 48, the Orchestra of the Royal Artistic Circle of Barcelona, and the Classical Camerata of the Catalan Pyrenees. In 2008 he conducts his first concert in America, invited by the Mendoza Philharmonic Orchestra (Argentina).

From 2004, he is music director and conductor of the Cobla Sant Jordi - City of Barcelona with which he has had an intensive concert activity, and he has conducted several recordings for radio stations

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<sup>1</sup> Conservatori Superior Municipal de Música de Barcelona.

<sup>2</sup> Conservatori Superior de Música del Liceu.

<sup>3</sup> Wien Konservatorium.

<sup>4</sup> Festival d'Òpera de Butxaca de Barcelona.

such as Catalonia Music<sup>5</sup> and the National Radio of Spain<sup>6</sup>, and labels such as Harmonia Mundi. He also has participated in the development of several educative projects, such as the ones of the conservatories of Sabadell and Badalona, and in 2005 is selected as assistant conductor of Salvador Mas and Manel Valdivieso in the National Youth Orchestra of Catalonia. In 2007 he participates in the conducting of the soundtrack of His Majesty Minor by Jean-Jacques Annaud, with music by the Academy Award-nominated composer, Javier Navarrete. In 2008 he is invited to conduct in the Academy Concerts of the Catalonia High School of Music<sup>7</sup>.

## | Composing

As a composer, he has been awarded in the Memorial Fèlix Martínez Comín (2006), the Prizes City of Reus (2005, 2002), the Oare String Orchestra International Music for Strings Composing Competition (United Kingdom, 2004), “Catalonia” Prizes of the Catalan Choral Association<sup>8</sup> (2002), and the Memorial Francesc Basil (2000). He has also received commissions such as the Lieder Càmera Choir (2009), the Orfeó Català Foundation - Palau de la Música Catalana (2008, 2006), the Sant Cugat Symphony Orchestra (2005), the Pocket Opera Festival of Barcelona<sup>4</sup> (2004) and the Memorial Joaquim Serra (2001). His music is widely performed in Catalonia, and it has also been played in countries such as Argentina, France, United Kingdom, Russia and Italy.

Several of his works have been recorded, being relevant his participation in the Catalan contemporary music CD produced by Television of Catalonia<sup>9</sup>, and the recording of *Winter* by the Radio Television Choir of Spain<sup>10</sup> conducted by Josep Vila. As orchestrator, he has received several commissions for the opera productions at the University of Barcelona, and as a pedagogue he has given several composition and instrumentation courses at the Catalonia High School of Music<sup>7</sup>. In 2008 the Lieder Càmera Choir premieres his *Ave Maria* at L'Auditori of Barcelona, the Castell de Peralada Festival commissions the composing and conducting of a soundtrack for a silent film by Segundo de Chomón, and Drama9 brings to stage his chamber opera *Brune at night*.

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<sup>5</sup> Catalunya Música.

<sup>6</sup> Radio Nacional de España.

<sup>7</sup> Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya.

<sup>8</sup> Premis “Catalunya” de la Federació Catalana d’Entitats Corals.

<sup>9</sup> Televisió de Catalunya.

<sup>10</sup> Coro de la Radiotelevisión Española.