



NICK ROTH (b. 1982)

www.nickrothmusic.com

Nick Roth is a saxophonist, composer, producer and educator.

His work seeks the liberation of improvisation from composition, the poetic syntax of philosophical enquiry, and the function of music as translatable epistemology.

A curious predisposition and a steadfast refusal to accept the existence of boundaries between the real and the imaginary has led to collaborations with an array of international performers, composers, choreographers, visual artists, poets, sculptors, directors, festivals and ensembles.

Often engaging in conversation with scientists from such diverse fields as mathematical biology, astrophysics, forest canopy ecology, orchidology, quantum loop gravity or hydrology, his work is an investigation into how we can come to know through the art of music. Simultaneously subsumed by an insatiable appetite for literature, many of his compositions explore the symbiotic resonance of language as sound and symbol.

He has served as artist-in-residence at institutions including the European Space Agency (ESTEC), California Academy of Sciences (CalAcademy), dlr LexIcon, Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris, Model: Home of the Niland Collection and the Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA).

He is artistic director of the Yurodny Ensemble, a founding member of the Water Project, co-director of Unreal Cities, and a partner at Diatribe Records, Ireland's leading independent record label for new music.

His work is represented by the Contemporary Music Centre, of which he is currently a member of the board, and is supported by Music Network's Music Capital Scheme, funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

As a composer, his work has been commissioned and performed by the European Saxophone Ensemble, Hong Kong New Music Ensemble, RTÉ Contempo Quartet, T.S. Eliot Foundation, Happy Days International Beckett Festival, Vogler Quartett, Red Note Ensemble, Trio InVento, Kirkos Ensemble, dlr Lexicon, Kate Ellis, Lina Andonovska, Crash Ensemble, Paul Roe, Sligo International Chamber Music Festival, The Ark Cultural Centre for Children, Dublin Dance Festival, Caimin Gilmore, Liz Roche Company, Emma Martin Dance, and the National Concert Hall, with performances at the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, Hay Festival, The Barbican, New Music Dublin, Cafe OTO, Ankara International Festival, Jazz d'Or Berlin, Kings Place Songlines Encounters, Bibliotheca Alexandrina and representing Ireland at the ISCM World Music Days in South Korea.

As a performer, he has worked across five continents with some of the world's leading musicians including John Taylor, Savina Yannatou, Jennifer Walshe, Bobby McFerrin, Barry Guy, Iarla Ó Lionáird, Nathalie Forget, Guillaume Orti, M.C. Schmidt, Diamanda La Berge Dramm, Thurston Moore, Gavin Bryars, Tom Arthurs, Julian Arguelles, Ben Davis, Ernie Watts, Alexander Hawkins, Ronan Guilfoyle, Oren Marshall, Alex Bonney, Olesya Zdorovetska, Michael McGoldrick, John-Joe Kelly, Lee Patterson, Merlin Shepherd, Mihály Borbély, Miklós Lukács, Liz Carroll, Matthew Jacobson, Benjamin Dwyer, Simon Jermyn, Lucas Niggli, Sean Carpio, Kate Ellis, Cora Venus Lunny, Oleg Ponomarev, Francesco Turrisi, Furio di Castri, Petar Ralchev, Zohar Fresco, Alkinoos Ioannidis, Theodosii Spassov and Pedram Zavir Kamini.

He has collaborated in world premières by composers Jennifer Walshe, Mamoru Fukeida, Alla Zagaykevych, Ian Wilson, Panos Ghikas, Kamran Ince, Roger Doyle, Dan Trueman, Judith Ring, Mel Mercier, Adrian Hart, Elena Leonova, Linda Buckley, Ed Bennett, Henk van der Meulen, Onur Türkmen, Christian Mason, Francis Heery, Matthew Whiteside, Amanda Feery, Piaras Hoban and Elaine Agnew, whilst also working as producer with John Tilbury, Darragh Morgan, Kevin Volans, Xenia Pestova Bennett, Caoimhín Ó Raghallaigh, Maya Homburger, Irene Murphy and Isabelle O'Connell.

In the scientific world, he has developed collaborative projects with scientists Margaret D. Lowman, Enrico Coen, Thomas E. Lovejoy, Mark McCaughrean, Barbara Gravendeel, Iain Couzin, Francesca Vidotto and Henry S. Horn. In the space of literature he has worked with contemporary poets Anne Waldman, Steven J. Fowler, Richard Berengarten, Colm Keegan, Dairena Ní Chinnéide and Gabriel Rosenstock, engaging posthumously with the work of T.S. Eliot, James Joyce, Samuel Beckett, Roland Barthes, Anne Dufourmantelle, Jacques Derrida, Diane di Prima, Epiphanius and Dermot Healy.

As an educator, he teaches at Trinity College Dublin (TCD) and the University of Limerick (UL). He has also been invited to teach, talk and give workshops at the California Academy of Sciences, European Space Research and Technology Centre (ESTEC), l'École Nationale Supérieure Louis-Lumière Paris (ENS), TEDxStormont, University College Cork (UCC), Sonic Arts Research Centre (SARC), University College Dublin (UCD), Institute for Biodiversity, Science and Sustainability, San Francisco (IBSS), Cork School of Music (CSM), Middlesex University London (MDX), University of Aalborg, Copenhagen, the National University of Ireland Maynooth (NUI), Royal Irish Academy of Music (RIAM), Technological University Dublin (TUD) and the Norwegian Center for Technology in Music and the Arts (NOTAM).

Focusing on the creative process in early years development, he has worked as a facilitator for several educational organisations including the National Concert Hall, YouthReach, Common Ground, The Ark and Dublin City Council Arts Office.

He holds a Diploma in saxophone from the London Guildhall School of Music (Distinction) and a BA (1st Class Honours) in jazz and composition from Newpark College of Music (now DCU), studying saxophone with Kenneth Edge and Gilad Atzmon and composition under Ronan Guilfoyle and Elaine Agnew. He undertook further studies at the School of Improvised Music, New York under Steve Coleman, Ravi Coltrane, Vijay Iyer and Peter Epstein, of pedagogy in Hungary at the Kodály Institute under Katalin Kiss, of Maqam at the Labyrinth Workshop, Crete under Sokratis Sinopoulos and Ross Daly and the 49th edition of the Summer Writing Programme at the Jack Kerouac School for Disembodied Poetics in the Naropa Institute, Colorado, studying under Anne Waldman and Thurston Moore.

AWARDS, NOMINATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

ZEITGEIST IRLAND: IRELAND IN GERMANY PROGRAMME	2024
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: COMMISSIONS AWARD	2023
ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE, AVALOCH FARM MUSIC INSTITUTE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, USA	2023
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: AGILITY AWARD	2023
ELECTION TO DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD AT THE CONTEMPORARY MUSIC CENTRE (CMC)	2023
DLR PRIMARY ARTS AWARD	2022
SPECIAL MENTION FOR ORIGINAL MUSIC: BUENOS AIRES FILM FESTIVAL (BAFICI)	2022
ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE, THE MODEL, HOME OF THE NILAND COLLECTION	2021
BANK OF IRELAND: BEGIN TOGETHER AWARD	2021
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: COMMISSIONS AWARD	2021
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: AGILITY AWARD	2021
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: BURSARY AWARD	2020
MUSIC NETWORK: MUSIC CAPITAL SCHEME	2020
ELECTION TO VOTING MEMBERSHIP OF THE RECORDING ACADEMY	2020
ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE, CENTRE CULTUREL IRLANDAIS, PARIS	2019
BEALTAINÉ @ TEMPLE BAR COMMISSION	2019
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: OPERA BURSARY AWARD	2019
DÚN LAOGHAIRE – RATHDOWN COMMISSIONS AWARD	2019
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: PROJECT NEW WORK AWARD	2019
CULTURE IRELAND GB18: IRISH ARTS IN BRITAIN	2018
CREATIVE IRELAND / SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL COMMISSION AWARD	2018
PERFORMANCE FOR TAOISEACH LEO VARADKAR AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION JEAN-CLAUDE JUNCKER	2018
PERFORMANCE FOR UACHTARÁN NA HÉIREANN / PRESIDENT MICHAEL D. HIGGINS	2017
MUSICIAN-IN-RESIDENCE, DLR LEXICON	2017
ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE, EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY (ESTEC)	2017
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: COMMISSIONS AWARD	2016
ISCM WORLD MUSIC DAYS FESTIVAL, KOREA (REPRESENTING IRELAND)	2016
ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE, IRISH MUSEUM OF MODERN ART (IMMA)	2015
ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE, CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES	2015
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: PROJECT NEW WORK AWARD	2014

COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE, CENTRE CULTUREL IRLANDAIS, PARIS	2014
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: YPCE BURSARY	2014
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: FESTIVALS AND EVENTS AWARD	2013
CULTURE IRELAND: EU PRESIDENCY AWARD	2013
DANISH ARTS FOUNDATION: COMMISSIONS AWARD	2013
ARTS COUNCIL OF ENGLAND PROJECT AWARD	2013
IRISH THEATRE AWARDS 2012: BEST SOUND DESIGN (NOMINATION)	2012
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: PROJECT NEW WORK AWARD	2012
QWARTZ PARIS 9TH ELECTRONIC MUSIC AWARDS (NOMINATION)	2012
MUSICIANS BENEVOLENT FUND UK: PROJECT AWARD	2012
DEIS: PROJECT NEW WORK AWARD	2012
CULTURE IRELAND: DELEGATION AT WOMEX AND APAP NEW YORK	2012
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: COMMISSIONS AWARD	2011
GUINNESS CORK JAZZ FESTIVAL: BEST IRISH GROUP	2011
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: PROJECT NEW WORK AWARD	2011
IASCA: MUSIC FROM IRELAND, COMPILATION CD FOR THE CULTURAL	
DELEGATIONS OF US PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA AND HM THE QUEEN	2011
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: BURSARY AWARD	2010
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: COMMISSIONS AWARD	2010
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: PROJECT NEW WORK AWARD	2008
GUINNESS CORK JAZZ FESTIVAL: BEST IRISH GROUP	2007
ARTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND: PROJECT NEW WORK AWARD	2006
SIEMENS FEIS CEOIL: CHAMBER MUSIC CUP, 1 ST PRIZE	2005