



Guillaume CONNESSON

Le Rire de Sarai

Guillaume Connesson (b. 1970) studied piano, history of music, choir analysis and direction at the Conservatoire National de Région de Boulogne-Billancourt, as well as orchestration at the Conservatoire National de Paris. He also undertook parallel courses from Marcel Landowski. He is presently professor of orchestration at the Conservatoire National de Région d'Aubervilliers. In 1998, he received the Cardin award of the French Institut of Supernova and in 1999 he received the Nadia and Lili Boulanger award. In 2000 he received the SACEM award, and in 2001 a scholarship from Natexis Foundation in 2006 he was awarded the Grand Prix Lycéen des Compositeurs. Guillaume Connesson was commissioned for most of his works, including Supernova (Montpellier Philharmonic Orchestra, 1997), Athanor (Choir and National Orchestra of France 2004) or more recently A Glimmer in the Age of Darkness (Royal Scottish National Orchestra, 2005) and Aleph (Miami New World Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Royal Scottish National orchestra).

*“The crown belonged to Arian, daughter of the King of Minos in Crete. Theseus gave it to Arian as a wedding gift. According to Celtic folklore, it was given to Caer, daughter of the King of Fairies, who designated the resting places of the souls of dead kings, poets and magicians. This piece is all about rising up towards scintillating high notes, then descending into the serenity of the night, where the infinite melody of the viola overlaps with memories of Gregorian songs from another era. **Boreal Crown Constellation** is the main movement for my ‘Trilogy for Strings and Piano’”*

— Guillaume Connesson