Patrick Ozzard-Low—Composer—'short' biography—229 words

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Patrick Ozzard-Low (b. 1958) studied composition with the British composer Bill Hopkins—the sole composition pupil of Jean Barraqué—and with Michael Finnissy. He has been composing since about 1976, when his first orchestral piece was a joint winner in the MidNAG Composers Competition and performed by the Northern Sinfonia. His work has since been played in Brazil, Holland, Ireland, Italy and USA. Much of his music is for solo piano, a few examples of which have been performed by Nicolas Hodges, Jonathan Powell and Andrew Zolinsky, and occasionally by the composer. He also writes chamber, orchestral and choral music. His early work took impetus particularly from Barraqué—and to a lesser degree from Hopkins and Luigi Nono. Later he made thorough explorations of microtonality. Since 2007, however, his music has become increasingly tonal and melodic, whilst remaining instinctively exploratory. Alongside composition, from 2000 to 2004, he founded and codirected the Centre for New Musical Instruments at London Guildhall University—subsequent to publishing 21st Century Orchestral Instruments (1998), a study funded by Arts Council England. An updated version of this, now titled New Instruments for New Music, is in preparation for Routledge. He holds a BA Hons in Philosophy (York 1984) and a PhD in composition (Southampton 2008). He was awarded a Churchill Fellowship (London 1998), and has given lectures on instruments and composition in Europe, USA and Brazil.