

NURIA NÚÑEZ-HIERRO. BIOGRAPHY

Born in Jerez de la Frontera, Spain in 1980, Nuria Núñez-Hierro studied piano and composition at the Higher Conservatory of Music in Cordoba, Spain, and completed a master's degree with honours at the Berlin University of the Arts, where she received tuition from the composers Elena Mendoza and Iris ter Schiphorst. She has been awarded scholarships from La Caixa Foundation, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and the Andalusian regional government. From 2014 to 2016, she was a fellow at the Graduate School of the Berlin University of the Arts with her project *Bestiarium*, a study of the interrelations between musical and theatrical elements in contemporary performative productions for all audiences. She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at the Complutense University of Madrid, where she is conducting research into opera and other contemporary music productions for children.

She has been awarded numerous prizes and scholarships, such as the XXXIX Queen Sofia Composition Prize, the Best Opera and Public Choice Awards at the 2020 Young Audiences Music Awards (YAMawards); the Rome Prize from the German Academy Rome Villa Massimo-Casa Baldi and the Spanish Academy in Rome; a Leonardo Grant from the BBVA Foundation for the creation of *La Isla*, a video opera for children; First Prize and Audience Prize at the Composition for Orchestra Competition at Weimar Spring Festival (2014); a Villa Aurora Fellowship (2015, an arts residency in Los Angeles); a composition scholarship (Kompositionsstipendium) from the Thüringer Landesmusikakademie Sondershausen (2013, an arts residency and a commission for an orchestral piece); Third Prize at the 7th International Jurgenson Competition for Young Composers (Russian Centre for Contemporary Music in Moscow); and a nomination for the European Composer Award at the Young Euro Classic festival, Berlin (2012, for her work *Donde se forjan las quimeras*). In 2011, she was awarded a composer residency at the Academy of Contemporary Music of the Spanish National Youth Orchestra (JONDE).

As a composer, she is particularly interested in creating projects to bring contemporary music to younger audiences. Her ideas have resulted in projects such as *La Isla* (a video chamber opera for audiences aged 11 and over), *El sueño del señor Rodari* (a chamber opera with shadow play theatre for audiences aged 8 and over), *Kleines Stück Himmel* (a Musiktheater for children aged 2-4 years old commissioned by the Deutsche Oper Berlin and nominated for the Berlin IKARUS Preis) and *Bestiarium* (2014-2018), a hybrid Musiktheater for audiences aged 6 and over.

www.nurianunezhierro.com