

## **Daniel Blanco Albert – composer, performer**

From Moncada, Valencia, Spain 08-01-1993

Based in Birmingham, UK

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### **ACADEMIC BACKGROUND**

- **September 2016 – June 2018** MMus Composition (Distinction), Birmingham Conservatoire, Birmingham City University
- **September 2014- June 2016** BMus (Hons) Composition First Class Honours, Birmingham Conservatoire, Birmingham City University
- **September 2011- June 2018** Bachelor in Composition and Trumpet, Conservatori Superior "Joaquín Rodrigo" de Valencia

### **AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

- **Premi extraordinari de Composició (Extraordinary Composition Award) – Conservatori Superior "Joaquín Rodrigo" de València** – November 2018
- **Arts Council England Grant** – For *Entanglement! An Entropic Tale*.
- **Grand Union Residency 2018/2019** – Artistic Residency.
- **Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Opening Festival Commission** – The opera *Entanglement! An Entropic Tale* was selected as student project for the Opening Festival of the RBC new building.
- **Philip Bates Audience prize 2017** – For "When close to a heat death... *Entropy comes easy*" (fragment from the opera *Entanglement! An Entropic Tale*)
- **Birmingham Chamber Music Society Composition Prize 2017** – For "duende, evocació"
- **Birmingham Conservatoire Endowment Fund / McQueen Bursary 2017**
- **Birmingham School of music Centenary Appeal Fund Award 2017**
- **Leverhulme Trust Art Scholarship 2016/2017** – Funding the MMus Composition studies at Birmingham Conservatoire
- **Birmingham Conservatoire Orchestral Composition Prize 2016** – For "La Obisparra"
- **Philip Bates Composition prize 2015** – For "Sageta de Foc" composed for Baritone, Violin, Viola and Trumpet
- **Birmingham Conservatoire Scholarship 2015** – Funding the BMus (Hons) Composition studies at Birmingham Conservatoire
- **Erasmus exchange scholarship 2015** – From Conservatori Superior de València

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

February 2018 – May 2018

Workshop leader at Welsh National Opera's  
Black Country Freedom project

Workshop leader, composer and conductor at WNO's extension of their "Freedom" programme in the Midlands in a pioneer project in the Black Country devising a new opera with students aged 12-14. Working in collaboration with practitioners Roxanne Korda and Sara de Visser.

**September 2017 – Ongoing**

**Co-artistic director at Infinite Opera Company**

Infinite Opera Company is an opera troupe whose aim is to highlight the wonders of physics and science through human stories with a touch of humour and drama. Founded by librettist Roxanne Korda and composer Daniel Blanco Albert.

<https://infiniteopera.com/>

**May 2017 – Ongoing**

**“Macbeth Projeto” Composer**

Directed by Sasha Dundžerović. Interdisciplinary productions of “Macbeth”, “Rey Lear” and “Hamlet” in partnership with other international companies.

**September 2016 – 2018**

**YCP Composition Mentor**

Composition mentor at Kirsty Devaney’s “Young Composers Project”.

**September 2015 – June 2018**

**Birmingham School of Acting composer**

Music composer at the following BSA productions: “The Sins of Sor Juana” (2015), “Ciphers” and “The Two Gentlemen of Verona” (2016); “Blood Wedding”, “The cabinet of Dr. Caligari” (Touring Serbia and Hungary), “Phedra”, “Macbeth Projeto#1”, “Dream Big, Women in Engineering”, “Macbeth Projeto#2, “Holy Day” and “Pentecost” (2017); “Macbeth Projeto#3” (2018).

**September 2012 - Ongoing**

**Freelance arranger and editor**

Edition, revision, arrangement and re-orchestrations of scores for diverse ensembles, artists and editorials such as Joan Enric Lluna, Moonwinds Ensemble or Editorial Tritó.

Works include pieces by Piazzolla, Julián Bautista, Ramón Carnicer, Joaquín Turina, Mozart or Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco among others.

These works have been played by orchestras and ensembles such as Manchester Camerata (Ramón Carnicer’s *Clarinet Concerto*), Moonwinds ensemble or Andrés Segovia Chamber Orchestra.

## **VOLUNTEERING**

**September 2014 - June 2017**

**Frontiers Festival production team**

Team member of Birmingham Conservatoire’s contemporary music festival Frontiers

## **OTHER EXPERIENCE**

### **Session musician:**

Lead trumpet at Joe Broughton’s Folk Ensemble studio album “Painted”. Composer of two tracks.

### **Research:**

Participation in Rose Bruford College’s “Music on Stage Conference” 2016 – Co-reader of the paper “The Sins of Sor Juana - Collaborative Interaction” with Lise Olson.

### **Projects as Performer:**

- “New Music for Solo Trumpet” (2016, 2017, 2018) – Project commissioning and premiering young composers pieces for solo trumpet or trumpet and ensemble.

## KEY WORKS

**Besse** – Trilogy about fermentation and feminism. March, April and May 2019.

<https://infiniteopera.com/productions/besse/>

**Entanglement! An Entropic tale** – Chamber Opera in 3 acts. Composed for 5 singers and 7 musicians. This work is defined as a cosmic dissemination opera. It tells the story of an Electron and a Positron stuck in a quantum quandary arising as a result of the unstoppable, chaotic destruction of our known universe.

**Two Homages, Two Gents** – Piece for sinfonietta ensemble commissioned by Thallein Ensemble and Royal Birmingham Conservatoire for the Edwin Roxburgh and Howard Skempton Celebratory Concert. The work is heavily influenced by the composer's music for the 2016 Birmingham School of Acting production of "The Two Gentlemen of Verona".

**Can l'erba** – For piano-singer. Commissioned by pianist Eric McElroy and composer Seán Clancy to be premiered at Birmingham Conservatoire's CODA festival. Inspired by the simplicity of open octaves, long spaces underscore the poetry of the troubadour Bernat de Ventadorn. (2017)

**duende, evocació** – Homage piece to Spanish poet Federico García Lorca for the 80th anniversary of his murder. The piece tries to evoke the passion and the feeling of the connection with the audience that the concept of "duende" inspires. It was awarded with the "Birmingham Chamber Music Society Composition Award 2017". (2017)

**La Obisparra** – 50' piece for orchestra, mezzo and theatrical masquerade. The piece brings to stage the Celtic Winter Masquerades from Zamora, that, as fertility ritual appears all along Europe. Hybrid between folk theatre, ballet and opera, "La Obisparra" was premiered at 2016 Birmingham's Frontiers Festival. It was awarded with the "Birmingham Conservatoire Orchestral Composition Prize 2016". (2016)

"The detail of texture and orchestration really are very effective and capture a sound-world that is at once like a fairy-tale and unfolds the story very subtly. The, what I can only call 'lush' sound world reminds me sometimes of wonderful composers like Janacek, Stravinsky or even Scriabin at moments."

Andrew Toovey, composer, 2016.

".@FrontiersPlus I don't think I've ever seen anything quite like this! Fair play to @Daniblancocomp!"

Sean Clancy, composer, 2016

**Papallones silenciades sobre una mar de gel** – for mixed ensemble. Set of four miniatures composed for the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group as part of their project "Birmingham Conservatoire Student Composer Workshops 2016". (2016)

**Columna Vertebral: Sageta de Foc** – for Violin, Viola, Trumpet and Baritone. This piece sets music to the poem with the same name by the symbolist and futurist poet Joan Salvat-Papasseit. It was awarded with the "Philip Bates Composition prize 2015". (2015)

**Una Rosa entre Bambalinas** – Commissioned for the Inauguration of the XV Castile-León Theatre Fair. Piece composed in homage to Rosa García Cano. (2012)