

Short Biography
380 Words



MALEK JANDALI
c o m p o s e r

Malek Jandali is “**a uniquely gifted composer**” (*The Washington Post*) and his music has been hailed as “**a major new addition to the 21st century’s symphonic literature**” by (*Fanfare* magazine). His “**deeply enigmatic**” music (*Gramophone*) with “**heart-rending melodies, lush orchestration, clever transitions and creative textures**” (*American Record Guide*) spans a broad body of work that includes eight symphonies, seven concertos, four string quartets, chamber music and his upcoming opera, *The Square*.

Jandali’s works have been commissioned, performed, and recorded by leading orchestras and distinguished soloists around the world, such as the Royal Philharmonic, ORF Vienna Radio Symphony, Russian Philharmonic, Baltimore Symphony, and the Zagreb Philharmonic. His large-scale orchestral works engage major philosophical themes and integrate Arabic *maqams* (modes) with persuasive ingenuity and a marked seriousness of purpose that echo UNESCO’s call to preserve and protect the rich cultural heritage of his homeland Syria. Maestro Marin Alsop says “**Jandali belongs among the superb composer poets of our time—a meaningful voice of quite astonishing, almost unearthly beauty.**”

Mr. Jandali has produced ten albums of lauded performances encompassing more than forty of his compositions. He is the first Arab musician to have arranged the oldest example of music notation in the world, which was featured on his 2008 album *Echoes from Ugarit*. Jandali is composer-in-residence at both Queens University of Charlotte and at Qatar Museums. He is also the founder and CEO of Pianos for Peace, a nonprofit organization dedicated to building peace through music and education. Jandali is the recipient of the 2014 Global Music Humanitarian Award, and in 2015 the Carnegie Corporation of New York honored him as a Great Immigrant, a Pride of America. Malek Jandali was born in Germany and raised in Syria. He now makes his home in Atlanta and New York City.



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