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José del Avellanal Carreño (1998)
composer / performer

Education

2021-23 Hochschule der Künste Bern (CH)

MA Composition (Creative Practice) with Simon Steen-Andersen and Franziska Baumann, minor in vocal studies with Franziska Baumann and Daniel Gloger

2017-21 Royal Northern College of Music (Manchester, UK)

BMus (1st Class Honours) Composition with Emily Howard and Steven Daverson

2020-... Masterclasses and extra-academic tuition

With Clara Iannotta, Steven Kazuo Takasugi, Jorge Sánchez-Chiong, Matthew Shlomowitz, Alessandro Perini, Trond Reinholdtsen, Oscar Bianchi, Lisa Streich, George Lewis, Farzia Fallah, Du Yun, Hannes Seidl...

Ongoing and future projects

2025-26 New work for voice, guitar and electronics

In collaboration with poet Eva Gallud

2025-26 New work for piano and electronics

For Francisco Morais Fernandes

Recent performances

2025 Hörbar (28/11) – *Lullabies for dinosaurs* [premiere]

Set for voices and electronics by José del Avellanal, Zhuoni Li and Matthias Müller, performed in Hamburg (DE)

2025 Klangwerkstatt Berlin (12/11) – *SPELL* by Kollektiv Unruhe

Light design for performance at Kunstquartier Bethanien (Berlin, DE)

2025 je mets mon scaphandre (13,15,17/10) – *je mets mon scaphandre* by John Aulich

Sound-reactive light design for the Olivia Palmer-Baker UK tour in Belfast, Edinburgh and Manchester (UK)

2025 Before the Wind (20-21/09) – *BEFORE THE WIND* by Franziska Baumann and Claudia Brieske

Technical assistance for performance at Diözesanmuseum Paderborn (DE)

2025 Tanzhaus Basel (12/09) – *EXPANSION* by Philolaos Kougias

Technical assistance and light design for performance at Tanzhaus Basel (CH)

2025 Bijloke Summer Academy (6/09) – *Krizo Asembleo* [new extended version premiere]

Co-creation by José del Avellanal and Bernat Pont, premiered with Spectra Ensemble in De Bijloke (Ghent, BE)

2025 impuls Festival (24/02) – *Krizo Asembleo de la Civitano Konsilio de la Libera Reĝlando de la Roko* [premiere]

Co-creation by José del Avellanal and Bernat Pont, premiered at Kunstuniversität Graz (AT)

Awards and residencies

2025 Bijloke Summer Academy - Music Theatre (artistic residency in Ghent, BE – for *Krizo Asembleo de la Civitano Konsilio de la Libera Reĝlando de la Roko*)

2025 Incentive for Musical Creation, SGAE (ES – for *what answer would please you most (II)*)

2024 Incentive for Musical Creation, SGAE (ES – for *wastelands*)

2022 Music Prize, WE:NOW International Youth Art Festival (Madrid, ES – for *CARNIVAL OF SOULS*)

2021 RNCM Creative Innovator Award (Manchester, UK – for the creative project 'ECO.max')

2019 Composition Award, International Courses 'Música en Compostela' (Santiago de Compostela, ES)

Courses

2025 Composition course, Darmstädter Ferienkurse (Darmstadt, DE)

2025 impuls Academy (Graz, AT)

2024 International Young Composers Academy Ticino (Loco, CH)

2023 Composition course, Darmstädter Ferienkurse (Darmstadt, DE)

2022 NEXT GENERATION | Donaueschinger Musiktage (Donaueschingen, DE)

2022 Contemporary Percussion Gathering (Casa della Musica San Michele, Montaldeo, IT)

2022 International Young Composers Academy Ticino (Loco, CH)

2021 Workshop on Composition and Sound Experimentation, Festival Mixtur (Barcelona, ES)

Experience (composer)

Worked with: Ex-Sentia Ensemble, Levy Lorenzo, JACK Quartet, Vertixe Sonora, PPCM, Spectra Ensemble, Arxis Ensemble, Les Percussions de Strasbourg, Shockwave Ensemble, Philipp Lamprecht, Oliver Janes, Ausiàs Garrigós, Weston Olencki, Olivia Palmer-Baker, Mireia Pellisa, Alberto Anhaus, BBC Singers, RNCM Brand New Orchestra

Showcased in: impuls Festival (AT), SONIC MATTER Festival (CH), Rümlingen Festival (CH), Foresty Festival (IT), Resis Fesival (ES), Contemporary Encounters Meitar Ensemble (IL), Kulturesk Festival (CH)

Experience (vocalist-performer)

Involved in: Solo performance, HKB Wandelweiser Ensemble (2022-23, Bern, CH), HKB Vertigo Ensemble (2022, Bern, CH), RNCM Chamber Choir – Tenor section leader (2018-20, Manchester, UK), Somnium Chamber Choir (2018-19, Manchester, UK)

Performed at: De Bijloke (Ghent, BE), Reitschule (Bern, CH), MZK (Zurich, CH), Alpines Museum der Schweiz (Bern, CH), Fondation Jan Michalski (Montricher, CH), KUG (Graz, AT), HKB (Bern, CH), Bridgewater Hall (Manchester, UK), Barbican Centre (London, UK), Grieghallen (Bergen, NO), Victoria Baths (Manchester, UK), Sage Gateshead (Newcastle, UK), RNCM (Manchester, UK)

Software knowledge

Sibelius	●●●●●
Max	●●●●○
DAW	●●●●○
Ableton Live	●●●●○
QLab	●●●●○
Processing	●●○○○
Arduino	●●○○○

Languages

Spanish (Native)
English (C2)
German (B2)
French (B1)

Additional work experience

Freelance technical assistant
Freelance copyist and engraver
Freelance performer
Localization reviewer – tonebase (US)
Board member – Kulturesk (Bern, CH)
Freelance translator – ABRSM (UK)

Selected works

2025 *Krizo Asembleo*, music theatre for performers, musicians and presentation slides - 45'

Premiered at Kraakhuis with Spectra Ensemble as part of the Bijloke Summer Academy (Ghent, BE)

2024 *what answer would please you most (II)* for septet and playback - 20'

Premiered by Vertixe Sonora in Auditorio de Galicia (Santiago de Compostela, ES)

2024 *Alpenstrasse (Quartet Sketches)* for string trio and motorised violin - 10'

Premiered by JACK Quartet and Levy Lorenzo at LAC (Lugano, CH)

2024 *NeuroDrive*, audiovisual performance for musicians, electronics, video and light design - 45'

Co-creation by Arda Yurdusev (video), Lautaro Tesar (composition, electronics) and José del Avellanal (light design), premiered at Reitschule Bern (CH)

2023 *wastelands* for tenor saxophone, percussion, piano/keyboard, electronics and lights - 15'

Commissioned by Ex-Sentia Ensemble, premiered at Ackermannshof Basel (CH)

2023 *TENEBRAE*, music theatre for voice, trumpet, violin, electronics, lights and video - 60'

Premiered in graduation concert at the Hochschule der Künste Bern (CH)

2023 *Mountain of Truth*, site-specific performance for directional speakers, quadraphonic installation and percussion - open duration

Premiered at Monte Verità (CH) as part of Rümlingen Festival 2023

2022 *what answer would please you most* for quintet and playback - 5'

Premiered by Ensemble Shockwave at the HKB (CH)

2022 *Canto* for percussion quintet - 8'

Premiered by Les Percussions de Strasbourg at LAC (Lugano, CH)

2022 *CARNIVAL OF SOULS* for percussion, video and electronics - 12'

Premiered by Alberto Anhaus at the HKB (CH) and Casa della Musica San Michele (IT)

2022 *Silencio* for alto saxophone, electronics and lights - 10'

Premiered by Mireia Pellisa Martín at the HKB (CH)

2022 *Vocalise* for male voice, live electronics and text - 10'

Premiered by José del Avellanal Carreño at the HKB (CH)

2021 *Manchester, May 2021 (Calling Dreams)*, fixed stereo electronic work - 5' 30"

Showcased in Kunstraum Walcheturm (Zurich, CH) as part of SONIC MATTER Festival

2021 *Marienbad* for sextet - 5'

Premiered by Arxis Ensemble in A Coruña (ES) as part of Resis Festival

2020 *speak, sing...* for clarinet in B-flat and electronics - 7'

Premiered by Oliver Janes at Arnolfini (Bristol, UK) and CBSO Centre (Birmingham, UK)