

IAN MIKYSKA

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BIO

Ian Mikyska (*1994) is a Czechoslovak composer living and working between London, Prague and Berlin. He also dabbles as a translator, journalist, poet, banjoist, improviser and maker of video.

His music has been performed in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Germany, the UK, Armenia, Lithuania, Greece, Spain and France, and by ensembles and performers like Klangforum Wien, the Anhaltische Philharmonie Dessau, Ostravská banda, members of the Prague Philharmonic, VENI Ensemble, 6daexit Ensemble Athens, Annette Schön Müller, Keiko Shichijo, Hayk Melikyan or Lucie Vítková.

His texts, both creative, academic and journalistic, have been published in the anthology *Abolishing Prague* (Charles University Press) and magazines like *Psí víno*, *Czech Music Quarterly*, *The Word Addict*, *The Goose – Journal for the Arts and the Environment* in Canada, *Slovo* and *Nový prostor*. His first collection of poetry (in Czech) is set to be published in October 2016. Since 2012, he has been a reviewer and writer for *HISvoice*. Since 2016, he has been a concert reviewer for *Bachtrack*.

In 2013, he co-founded *Stratocluster*, an ensemble focusing on multimedia improvisation, mainly through the use of lighting and analogue projections. They have performed at numerous venues and festivals, and in May 2015 prepared a program of pieces by Ian and Dutch composer Samuel Vriezen, which they toured around the Czech Republic. They have released a net-album; *Tamanrasset*, on *Signals from Arkaim*, a cassette, with design by Max Máslo, *Jabka hrušky meotary*, on *Meteorismo*, and their first CD, *FM*, will be released by renowned Czech label *polí5* in 2018.

He often works collaboratively in theatre, dance or performance and video art. He composed original music for a production of *Marat/Sade* by Peter Weiss at the Bohnice Psychiatric Hospital which was used as the basis for a film by Althea Thauberger, which then showed across North America and Europe. With Václav Gabriel Piños, he co-authored *The Analyses*, loosely based on the life of composer Alois Piños, for which he also composed the score. He also wrote and performed the music for *Persona forte*, a play by the artists Jan Pfeiffer and Markéta Magidová, premiered in Prague in 2015 and later shown as an installation piece in the *PLATO* Gallery in Ostrava. He also worked with the same artists on two video projects: *Montage* and *Drž mi palce* (*Fingers Crossed*), by Pfeiffer and Magidová respectively. Pfeiffer also curated his first solo show; an audiovisual installation at *Galerie Pavilon* (gallery of the Academy of Visual Arts in Prague) entitled *300' writing*, in collaboration with Prokop Jelínek and Jaroslav Noga.

Ian is also active as a translator of Czech poetry and prose into English. His translation of Filip Doušek's novel *Flock without Birds* is set to be published in the UK, while his collaborative translation (with Veronika Pehe) of Lukáš Palán's collection of poems *Cunt Shit Hitler Prague* will come out in 2016 with *Jantar Publishing*.

