

# Simon Katan BA, Mmus

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## Biography

Simon Katan is a composer and performer, living and working in East London, whose diverse activities include acoustic and electro-acoustic composition, interactive sound installations, performance art, and game design. He studied a BA in music at the Welsh College of Music and Drama (2001), an Mmus in composition at Goldsmiths University (2005) and is currently working on his PhD as an Isambard Research Scholar at Brunel University. Simon is also an SPMN shortlisted composer. His work has been shown, played and performed at Spitalfields Festival, Royal Festival Hall, King's Place, Sonic Expo, Sonorities Festival, Royal College of Art, Siobahn Davies Dance Studios, Barbican, The ICA, Battersea Arts Centre, Borealis Festival, the Round House and in many other settings. In the next few months Simon looks forward to completing commissions from Sound and Music and Spitalfields Festival. He is a committed educationalist, running workshops and teaching composition in schools and other institutions including the Southbank Centre, and was an apprentice animateur for the Spitalfields Festival in 2008.

## Education

**PhD in composition (complete in 2012)**

Brunel University

**Mmus in composition (pass with distinction)**

Goldsmiths College (2003-2005)

**Second Division First Class Hons in BA Music**

Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (2001)

**Alevels**

Maths (B), Music (B), History (B) (1997)

## Awards

**Brunel University Isambard Research Scholarship 2010-2013**

**SPNM shortlisted composer 2007-2010**

**RVW Trust Bursary 2002**

**WCMD BA hons Award 2001**

## Commissions

**Spitalfields Summer Festival 2010** – interactive sound & video installation

**Borealis Festival Kings Place 2010** – site specific video capture performance piece

**Sound and Music – Adopt a Composer 2010-2011** – composition for Sans Mureil singers recorded by BBC3

**Spitalfields Summer Festival 2009** Rubiks Music – interactive piano quintet

**Kate Ryder 2007 supported by RVW Trust** - 5 minute solo piano composition.

## Composition Experience

### Performances of Acoustic Compositions

Date	Venue/Event	Title	Instrumentation
25.09.2010	The Dolphin Centre, Darlington.	Sans Pareil	Mixed Choir
31.07.2009	Hide and Seek, Royal Festival Hall	Rubiks' Music	Piano Quintet
12.06.2009	Spitalfields Festival, Bishops Square	Rubiks' Music	Piano Quintet
04.05.2008	Enterprise festival, The Space	Slightly Variations	Toy Piano
12.04.2008	Enterprise festival, The Space	Slightly Variations	Toy Piano
05.04.2008	SCORE!, LSO St Lukes	The Meeting	Solo Violin
13.02.2008	University of Liverpool	Slightly Variations	Toy Piano
26.02.2007	Trinity College of Music	Khepera	Solo Piano
30.03.2006	The Warehouse, Waterloo	Lahal halla allaha lalahala	2 Pianos
15.11.2005	Camberwell Composers Collective	Orffyreus	Alto Saxophone
04.02.2004	Goldsmiths University	Serial Killer	2 Pianos
03.2003	Trinity College of Music	Three Piano Miniatures	Piano
02.2003	St Cyprians Church	Metro	Mezzo Soprano, Double bass & Music Concrete
02.2003	The Laban Centre	Metro	Mezzo Soprano, Double bass & Music Concrete
08.2002	Dartington International Summer School	Klee in Red	Mixed Chamber Ensemble

### Electro Acoustic/Site Specific/Installations

Date	Venue/Event	Title	Description
25.01.2010	Borealis Festival, Kings Place	Les Escaliers Mecaniques	Site specific performance on escalators using computer vision and synthesised sounds
26.11.2009	The Portman Gallery, Bethnal Green	Tecken 6.99	Audience interactive sound installation using computer vision and synthesised sounds
27.10.2007	The Battle of Ideas, Royal College of Art	Through the Night	Music Concrete

### Theatre/Sound Design

Date	Venue/Event	Production/Company	Media
26.11.2009	The Roundhouse	Game Runners, Sony PlayStation	Computer Synthesised Sound Live Vocals, Sampled Sound, Electric Guitar
24.05.2009	Accidental Festival, The Round House	Orpheus – Mahela Rhostek	Computer Synthesised Sound
06.09.2008	Open Space, Siobahn Davies Dance Studios	Still - Syndromus	Computer Synthesised Sound
12.02.2008	Mandarin Oriental, Kate Winslet Fundraiser	Cardboard Citizens	Music Concrete + Choral Conductor.

### Selected Self-Performance/Direction of compositions

Date	Venue/Event	Ensemble	Instruments/Role
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14.07.2010	Soundwaves Brighton	Brainer	Vocals, keyboards, (comp/performer)
05.07.2009	Moose Factory, The George Tavern	Brainer	Vocals, keyboards, (comp/performer)
02.07.2009	City of London Festival	Brainer	Vocals, keyboards, (comp/performer)
09.12.2008	Kings Place, SPNM Sound Source	Brainer	Vocals, keyboards, (comp/performer)
02.12.2008	Non Classical, The Macbeth	Brainer	Vocals, keyboards, (comp/performer)
04.07.2008	Sonic Expo, Brighton	Halal Kebab Hut	Vocals, objects, (composer/director)
29.04.2008	Louise T Boulton Institute	Halal Kebab Hut	Vocals (composer/director)
26.02.2008	Spirit of Gravity, Brighton	Halal Kebab Hut	Vocals, objects, (composer/director)
08.09.2007	Collision Festival, Peckham	Halal Kebab Hut	Objects, (composer/director)
21.07.2007	Sonic Expo, Plymouth	Halal Kebab Hut	Vocals, objects, (composer/director)
30.04.2007	The Canteen, Barrow in Furness	Halal Kebab Hut	Vocals, objects (composer/director)
21.02.2007	Battersea Arts Centre, London	Halal Kebab Hut	Vocals, objects (composer/director)
10.09.2006	Tea with Yximalloo, Brady Arts Centre	Cardboard Citizens	Vocals, objects (composer/director)
27.04.2006	Sonorities Festival, Belfast	Halal Kebab Hut	Vocals, objects, (composer/director)
02.06.2004	Spitalfields Festival, Shoreditch Church	Cardboard Citizens	Guitar + effects (improviser)
15.01.2004	Cage Un-caged, Barbican Centre	Cardboard Citizens	Guitar + effects (improviser)

### Academic Papers and Publications

**Expo Unconference July 2008** – On Constructing Humanly Performable Algorithms  
**Leonardo Electronic Almanac 2007** - issue 17: The Joy of the Gizmo

### Pervasive/Social Gaming

Date	Event/Venue	Game Title
27.10.2009	Sony Play Station, The Round House	Game Runners
19.10.2009	Sandpit, Battersea Arts Centre	Pingus
30.09.2009	Sandpit, RSC, Stratford-upon-Avon	William Shakespeare's Conversation Piece
22.08.2009	Collision Festival, Peckham	For Your Ears Only
31.07.2009	Hide and Seek Festival, Royal Festival Hall	Parse the Parcel, Rubiks' Music
24.06.2009	Sandpit, Royal Festival Hall	Parse the Parcel
12.06.2009	Spitalfields's Festival	Rubiks Music, Congestion Zone
03.06.2009	Sandpit, Soho Theatre	GK Chestertons Conversation Piece
02.05.2009	Sandpit, BFI	For Your Ears Only
07.03.2009	Sandpit, The Barbican	Congestion Zone
18.02.2009	Sandpit, ICA	Press Gang
09.09.2008	IGFest, Bristol	Congestion Zone
26.07.2008	Sandpit, Duty Free	Congestion Zone
27.06.2008	Hide and Seek Festival, Royal Festival Hall	The Freemasons, GK Chestertons Conversation Piece
10.05.2008	Sandpit, Battersea Arts Centre	GK Chestertons Conversation Piece
20.03.2008	Sandpit, Shunt	The Freemasons

### Workshop/Teaching Experience

#### permanent positions

Institution	Job Description	Year(s)
Hinchley Wood School	Composer in residence	(2009-2010)
Columbia Primary School,	Curriculum Support	(2006 - 2009)
Morpeth School	Assistant Artist, Rock School Project	(2006 - 2009)
Cardboard Citizens	collaborator/ support artist	(2004 - 2008)
Spitalfields Festival	Apprentice Animateur	(2007 – 2008)
Thames Music	Lead Project Tutor	(2006 - 2007)

The Idea Store - Whitechapel	Course Leader, Composition	(2006 - 2007)
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### one-off projects

Institution	Year(s)	Institution	Year(s)
The Round House	2009	Chisenhale Primary School	2008
Trinity College of Music	2009/10	Wilton Estate Community Centre	2008
The Purcell School	2009	Bonner Primary School	2008
Bangabandu Primary School	2008/09	Morpeth Education Action Zone	2008
John Scurr Primary School	2008/09	Royal Festival Hall	2008

### peripatetic guitar

Institution	Year(s)	Institution	Year(s)
Thames Music Service	(2006 - 2009)	Music House for Children	(2002-2005)
Morpeth School	(2004 -2009)	The William Burrough School	(2003 -2004)
Thomas Fairchild Primary	(2006)	The Immanuel College	(2001-2004)
Devonshire House School	(2005 - 2006)	Barnet Music Service	(2001-2002)

### Other Information

- Full Current CRB
- Musicians Union Member
- Registered Self Employed
- Full and Clean UK Driver's Licence