

Short CV

Federico Biscione, composer, was born in Tivoli in 1965. After graduating from the Tivoli Humanities High School, he obtained diplomas in Piano, Composition (under the guidance of Vieri Tosatti) and Orchestral Conducting at the "A. Casella" Academy of Music in L'Aquila. In his work, which goes beyond the avant-garde, Biscione seeks to interact with the audience: his musical language moves in a free-tonal environment, accommodating both contemporaneity and tradition in equal measure.

He has composed a vast variety of work, such as *Alter Ego* for strings, *Tropic of Scorpio* for Marimba and strings (performed by the "Milano Classica" Orchestra), *Mozart. Eine Biographie* for cello and grand Orchestra (with the R.-Schumann-Philharmonie of Chemnitz, Germany), *Dalla soffitta* for orchestra (for the "Pomeriggi Musicali" in Milan), *Symphony with Sarcasm* and *Passacaglia* for strings (performed at the Parco della Musica in Rome), *Aus Rilkes Bildern* for soprano and strings and *Hanno* for piano and strings (Milan State University Orchestra), *The Pied Piper*, a ballet in one act (commissioned by the of the Teatro Regio, Turin, conducted by the composer). Other successes include *Mamma Laser* (a chamber opera for children) at the Fondazione Arena in Verona, *Tredicesimo Canto Canto* (for vocalist and classic/rock ensemble based on Dante's text), *Dell'intimità* (for clarinet, cello and harp) and *Jabberwocky* for soprano and nine instruments.

Readily available on CD are: *Serenata breve* for woodwind quartet, *Sonatina Giocattolo* for trumpet and piano, and several piano cadences for Sonatas and Concertos by C. Ph. E. Bach. His compositions are published by the Casa Musicale Sonzogno, Ricordi Universal Music Publishing, Edizioni Preludio, Pentaflowers and Sconfinarte.

He teaches Composition at the "N. Piccinni" Academy of Music in Bari.

(May 2011)

Full CV

In his work, which goes beyond the avant-garde, **Federico Biscione** seeks to interact with the audience: his musical language moves in a free-tonal environment, accommodating, and appealing to, contemporaneity and tradition in equal measure.

Federico Biscione was born in Tivoli in 1965. He graduates the Tivoli Humanities High School in 1983, and obtains shortly after, at the "A. Casella" Academy of Music in L'Aquila diplomas in Piano, Composition and Orchestral Conducting.

His first performed composition (*Sonatina Giocattolo* for trumpet and piano) was later published on CD by the Beat Records Company. Under the guidance of Vieri Tosatti, he acquires the fundamental skills of composing, and some of his compositions begin to be performed in Italy and broadcast on the radio. These works include *Jabberwocky* for soprano and nine instruments, *Dell'intimità* for clarinet, cello and harp, *Tredicesimo Canto* for vocalist and classic/rock ensemble and the chamber opera *Mamma Laser*, commissioned by the Fondazione Arena in Verona, as well as the television programmes for RAI 1, "Contemporary Composers", and RAI 3, "Sonic Alphabets", which air Biscione's performances of a selection of his piano pieces.

From 1997 to 1999, he focuses particularly on studying and practicing orchestral conduction. He performs well in the specialization courses held by Gianluigi Gelmetti at the Accademia Chigiana in Siena and the "Pomeriggi Musicali" in Milan. He occasionally teaches Composition and Harmony at the Academy of Music and, in 1999, wins the national competition for professorship in Italian music academies, in the field of Fugue and Composition.

From 2001 to 2005, he lives in Milan, where he composes music performed at the Regio Teatro in Turin (the ballet *The Pied Piper*, which is conducted by the composer) and the Parco della Musica in Rome (*Passacaglia* and *Symphony with Sarcasm* for strings). He works with the Pomeriggi Musicali Orchestra of Milan (*Dalla soffitta* for orchestra, a piece which won first prize at the national competition "Mozart Today 2005"), the Milano Classica chamber orchestra (*Tropic of Scorpio* for marimba and strings, *Alter Ego* for strings, conducted by Massimiliano Caldi), the Milan State University Orchestra (*Hanno* for piano and strings performed by Davide Cabassi and conducted by Christopher Franklin, *Aus Rilkes Bildern* for soprano and strings), as well as *Forse Lontano* and *B-612* for orchestra performed in Romania and conducted by Federico Longo (dedicatee and first performer of these and several other of Biscione's works). He has also transcribed and adapted several pieces by other composers, including a reduction for seven instruments of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* (performed at the Regio Theatre of Turin in 2006) and a version for string orchestra of

Dvorák's *Lieder* (*Four Popular Songs* op. 73) for the Pomeriggi Musicali (2005). During this period, alongside composition, Biscione works as a professional music copyist for the Casa Musicale Sonzogno, the main publisher of his work.

Between 2005 and 2007, Biscione lives in Leipzig, where he composes various pieces which are performed there (*Myricae* for three voices and five instruments; *Verkündigung* for soprano and trio performed in the Thomaskirche; *Mozart. Eine Biographie, Windmühlen* – these last two in Chemnitz, commissioned by the Robert Schumann-Philharmonie, with the first marking the celebrations for the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth). The German public radio station Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk (MDR) devotes an hour-long programme to Biscione, with interviews and extracts from some of his work. In this period, he attends two semesters of specialisation in Composition at the "Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy" Hochschule.

Available on CD, besides the aforementioned *Sonatina Giocattolo*, are the *Serenata Breve* for woodwind quartet (also on Beat Records) and the cadences for the six *Preußischen Sonaten*, the six *Württembergische Sonaten* and the concertos for piano and orchestra in A minor and D minor by Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, performed by pianist Ana-Marija Markovina and recorded by the Leipzig-based label, Genuin Classics.

In April 2007, he becomes Head of Musical Services of the Fondazione Teatro Comunale in Bologna. In this capacity, within the artistic direction of the theatre, he is personally responsible for the coordination of the orchestral and choral masses.

At the end of 2009, Biscione moves to Milan and becomes tenured teacher of Composition at the "Niccolò Piccinni" Academy of Music in Bari.

Some of his most recent work includes: Britten *Diversions* for small orchestra, performed in Bari, *Evocations and Songs* for string orchestra (first performed in Mikkeli, Finland), *Divertimento on Popular Christmas Themes* for piano and string orchestra (commissioned by the "Silesian Chamber Orchestra" in Katowice, Poland).

His work is published by the Casa Musicale Sonzogno, Universal Music Publishing Ricordi, Edizioni Preludio, Pentaflowers and Sconfinate.

(May 2011)