

# BIOGRAPHIC NOTES

## ACADEMIA DE DANÇA CONTEMPORÂNEA DE SETÚBAL

Founded in 1982 by Maria Bessa and António Rodrigues, who directed it between 1982 and 2003. It was their concern to develop teaching in accordance with the organic principles inherent to all forms of movement.

It was the intention of the founders of the Setúbal Contemporary Dance Academy (ADCS), from the beginning and expressed through the subjects and study plans, to give students the possibility of acquiring the proficiency necessary to perform the profession of dancer, and make them capable to compete on equal terms in the international market, regardless of the characteristics of a professional dance company, and, at the same time, maintain and develop their creative potential. The simultaneous teaching, since the first year of this course, of modern dance technique, classical dance and improvisation, an innovation in our country, allows these objectives. The professional dancers trained by this school, who joined companies with classical or contemporary characteristics, as well as the awards with which they were distinguished in choreography, are the embodiment and testimony of this intention.

ADCS's fundamental objective is to train professional dancers, through teaching provided by professionals. It is held by the Associação Academia de Dança Contemporânea (AADC), a private non-profit institution, made up of people interested in the educational project defined for the school, including names from dance and Portuguese culture. It has been considered a public utility institution since 1983. Its study plan was published in the *Diário da República* in 1985. Since 1986 it has been sponsored by the Ministry of Education and in 1997 it was granted pedagogical autonomy.

ADCS, over the years, has received help from various organizations, namely the Setúbal City Council (CMS) through the provision of facilities – from 1987 to 2001 the Academy operated in a CMS pavilion in Largo José Afonso and, since 2006, it has been operating in temporary facilities provided by CMS in partnership with the Fundação Escola Profissional de Setúbal. Between 2001 and 2006, Casa do Professor, INATEL, Instituto Português da Juventude, CeDeCe-Companhia de Dança Contemporânea and above all EDP, providing facilities, enabled the Academy to survive. From the Civil Government of Setúbal, SECIL, Navigator, CitYPrint, among others, we also received some occasional support. The company Tela Negra has collaborated with ADCS in almost all school or Pequena Companhia/Little Company shows.

## ACADEMIA DE MÚSICA DE ALMADA

ACADEMIA DE MÚSICA DE ALMADA is a school of specialized teaching of Music of the network of Private and Cooperative Education, under the tutelage of the Ministry of Education, Definitive Authorization of Functioning N° 05.0113/DREL on October 19, 2005, by Order of the Regional Deputy director. Endowed with pedagogical autonomy, it ministers the Basic Music and Secondary Courses of Instrument and Singing, as well as Courses of Music Initiation and Free System.

It welcomes annually about 330 students, with ages ranging from 6 months to 70 years old, distributed by the various courses and schemes, mostly covered by financial support from the Ministry

of Education, through a Sponsorship Contract, which essentially translates into full or partial co-participation of training costs.

## ACADEMIA DE MÚSICA E BELAS ARTES LUÍSA TODI

Academia (AMBALT) named from Luísa Rosa de Aguiar Todi, a lyric singer, born in Setúbal, it's a non-profit association, founded in 1961.

For the work performed it was awarded with Setúbal City Honour Medals in 1985 and 2003. AMBALT is directed to the teaching of Music and Fine Arts, from nursery to secondary education, allowing, under the Decree-Law No. 152/13, of the Ministry of Education, the subsidised attendance, in the Music Vocational Courses, to some of the students who attend these courses in an Integrated and Articulated regime.

He was responsible for the first four editions of the Luísa Todi National Singing Competition, for the Commemorations of the 50-year career of Master Lima de Freitas, and for the foundation of the Orff Orchestra of Setúbal in 2007 with the recording of the album "Extranho".

Nowadays, it officially ministers 14 courses of Music Vocational Education, with a total of almost three hundred students and about thirty teachers, distributed by Pre-School Education, 1st and 2nd Cycles of Basic Education and Music Vocational Courses.

AMBALT is today a historical institution, which has a very close relationship with the city of Setúbal. Regularly present in the Setúbal Music Festival, the school is regularly invited to participate in commemorations, tributes, festivities and concerts in which it involves its students and teachers. It performs annually, autonomously, two major shows in the city's largest auditorium, the auditorium of Fórum Luísa Todi.

In the year 2018 and 2019 AMBALT was distinguished with the "Child Friendly School" seal, in the categories of Food, Hygiene and Environment, Family-Community Involvement; Extracurricular and/or interdisciplinary activities and Citizenship and/or Inclusion.

## ANTÓNIO MACHADO

Born in Alcanede, he began his musical studies at the age of 12 at the Academia da Sociedade Filarmónica Alcanedense. In 2014, he completed the 8th degree of Percussion at CAORG (Minde). In 2019, he completed his degree at ESML under the guidance of professors Jeffery Davis, Richard Buckley and Pedro Carneiro. Also in 2019, he joined the Master in Music Teaching. In 2016, he performed for the Cascais Symphony Orchestra, taking the place of Timpaneiro/Percussionist. In 2017 he founded MerakTrio - percussion trio - with whom he had the opportunity to win 2nd place ex-aequo (without first place awarded) at CIMCA (Alcobaça); 1st place in the eMuse competition in Greece; 2nd place in the PJM Senior Level Chamber Music category, Antena 2. He is currently a teacher at the Academia de Música de Almada, coordinator of the percussion parade project at the Setúbal Music Festival and maintains a parallel activity as a freelance percussionist, having worked with most orchestras in Lisbon.

## **APPACDM DE SETÚBAL**

The Portuguese Association of Parents and Friends of the Mentally Handicapped Citizen of Setúbal is an IPSS dedicated primarily to the area of mental disability. The institution intervenes with approximately one thousand citizens, of different ages and degrees of disability, and their families, through regular actions and dynamics designed and operated within the framework of the operation of 18 facilities, framed by agreements signed with Social Security, the Ministry of Education and the Institute of Employment and Professional Training, or supported exclusively by the association with the support of sponsors and the community in general. The APPACDM of Setúbal has the geographical scope of natural intervention in the district of Setúbal, focusing mainly on the municipalities of Setúbal and Palmela and privileged work with the most disadvantaged populations, with a view to promoting an effective quality of life and achieving citizenship. full participation by citizens with disabilities.

## **ALEKSANDAR CARIĆ ZAR**

Born in Yugoslavia, Aleksandar Caric was a member of the theatrical and musical improvisation company CirKo Della Primavera, with whom he produced numerous shows that were never rehearsed more than once, in a constant search for new spaces and forms. During this period, he also directed the publication of a collection of books for Matica Srpska, a publishing house in Yugoslavia.

In Italy, where he settled in 1991, he became part of the Tatamata Theater Company, founded in 1994 with Serena Galella. This street and outdoor theater company organizes major events for the Coast to Coast festival in Palmi and Gerace, Calabria. Over the past ten years, Tatamata Theater performances have toured all regions of Italy and various European countries, as well as South America and Asia. He taught in several primary schools in Rome (children aged 6 to 10) as part of the MUS-E program supported by the Yehudi Menuhin International Foundation.

Since 2008, Aleksandar Carić Zar has been working in Santa Maria da Feira as a conductor and artistic director of the Orquestra Criativa, a community music project that blends different sounds, focusing on musical improvisation and inclusion through music and the arts. The group consists of children from the 1st cycle of basic education, young people from different educational cycles, social centers, local special education centers, and members of the community, spanning various ages and backgrounds, who share a common love for music.

A regular presence in the main program of Imaginarius, the Creative Orchestra has premiered several community creation projects at the festival, including “O Bairro do Pinóquio,” “A Pomba da Paz é Cheia de Revoluções Futuras,” “O Gamelão de Plástico,” and “Sinfonia das Hortas,” among others.

## **ALE DAMASCENO**

Ale Damasceno holds a master's degree in Music from UNICAMP in the area of Musical Performance, and is currently a PhD candidate in Musical Arts - Performance, from Universidade Nova de Lisboa. He participated in concerts and/or recordings with artists such as: Caetano Veloso, Arnaldo Antunes, Jaques Morelenbaum,

Guinga, Gal Costa, Luiz Melodia, Jonhy Alf, Olívia Byington, Tetê Espíndola, among others. He is a researcher at the so-called “Bateria Brasileira” and author of the book: A Batucada Fantástica de Luciano Perrone: its musical performance in the context of the arrangements by Radamés Gnattali, released by the Latvian publisher OmniScriptum.

## **ANA MARQUES**

Graduated in Performance from Escola Superior de Música de Lisboa. Ana completed her Master's in Music Teaching in 2019 and in 2023 her Master's in Music Therapy from Instituto MAP (Music, Art and Process). Since 2012 Ana has collaborated on music and art projects dedicated to social integration. And since 2023 has dedicated herself to music therapy with a special focus on working with children and young people with special educational needs. Ana is a musical expression trainer, music therapist and clarinet and piano teacher.

## **ARIEL RODRÍGUEZ**

Has a degree in Music Composition from the Universidad Nacional de Villa María (Córdoba, Argentina). With an extensive career as a teacher in music education, he has offered classes and courses in various training institutions at primary, secondary and university levels.

In the last twenty years he has developed an uninterrupted professional trajectory, in festivals, concerts, recordings, masterclasses, workshops, among others. He has a total of 4 copyright albums where he develops as a multi-instrumentalist, arranger and music producer.

## **CAMERATA ATLÂNTICA**

Camerata Atlântica is a musical project idealized by Venezuelan violinist Ana Beatriz Manzanilla, also the artistic director. Its nuclear formation are 11 professional string players. The Camerata has the flexibility of being able to extend itself up to a bigger formation, according to the repertoire to be performed. After its inaugural concert in November 2013, the Camerata has performed, with great success, at Dias da Música from 2014, at Centro Cultural de Belém. It also performed at Festival de Música in Leiria, at Festival Experience by Universidade de Lisboa, at the Grand Hall of Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, as the resident ensemble for Prémios Jovens Músicos 2014, at the music season of Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian 2015/16, with the trumpeter Pacho Flores, at the Festival Jardim de Verão at Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian 2018, and at Natal em Lisboa by EGEAC in 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020. It also performed in 2019 and 2021 music season at Teatro Joaquim Benite, at Festival das Artes 2019, at Temporada Música em São Roque 2019 and at Festival ao Largo 2020.

The Camerata also created the Concurso Nacional de Cordas “Vasco Barbosa” (national contest), which had its first edition in 2015 and it's already seen as one of the most prestigious music contests, countrywise. In May 2016 it was selected by Antena 2 to perform “Fuga para a América Latina”, at the closing ceremony of

the series “A influência da América Latina”, broadcasted by União Europeia de Rádios and later also broadcasted in Germany, Bulgaria, Croatia, Spain, Greece, Hungary, Czech Republic and Romania. In 2017 it performed at the official celebrations for “Lisboa Capital Ibero-americana da Cultura, and it performed a series of concerts in Spain. It also edited its first album, called “Fuga para a América Latina”.

Many national and international soloists have performed with Camerata Atlântica, like double bassist Edicson Ruíz, violinist Lana Trovtovsek, singers Carolina Figueiredo, Cátia Moreso, Carlos Guilherme, Sandra Medeiros, pianists João Bettencourt da Câmara and Vasco Dantas amongst others. From the moment it was established, Camerata Atlântica has promoted different activities for young musicians, like the concert series “Cordas Jovens” in 2018, at Museu Nacional dos Coches, a meeting with violinist Ray Chen and several masterclasses for string instruments and orchestra at the conservatories in Setúbal, Covilhã, Castelo Branco and Ponta Delgada (Azores). In February 2020 it organized a Masterclass with north-american violetist Sheila Browne, teacher at Juilliard School in Tianjin, China.

In 2021, it edited its second album, with the label Naxos, called “Bows Up!”, dedicated to Portuguese music for strings from the 20th and 21st centuries. In 2023, it participated in the production of Britten’s opera “The Turn of the Screw” at the Centro Cultural de Belém in Lisbon.

## **CARLOS GARROTE**

An eclectic musician, who uses electric bass, double bass, composition and arrangement to express himself artistically.

He has Jazz as his background but relates in a freer, rawer, and more comprehensive way with Music itself, nourishing himself from this almost infinite Universe of intuition, improvisation, melodies, rhythms and traditional and folkloric styles of the World.

After an international period traveling and playing on cruise ships, he resides since 2019 in Lisbon, Portugal, where he also develops a solid pedagogical activity.

## **CERCIFEIRA**

Established in 1980 as a Public Utility Institution, CERCIFEIRA began as a Special Education School. It is a school aimed at children and young people with disabilities, aged between 6 and 18 years old. Vocational training is attended by an average of 40-50 trainees.

In 1994, CAO - Occupational Activities Center was founded, aimed at supporting young adults with severe and profound disabilities. It serves between 50 to 55 clients. Two years later, in 1996, the home support service began with the aim of assisting families in their environment to ensure certain basic tasks related to family and personal life. The home support service is provided to 30-35 families. In the same year, Early Intervention began, providing support to children between 0 and 6 years old with disabilities or developmental delays, or at risk in socio-environmental terms. This support was provided at clients’ homes or at the institutions

where they were integrated. However, this service ceased to exist in the academic year of 2008/2009.

In 1999, the Residential Home service began, which aims to provide permanent or temporary accommodation for people with Mental Disabilities over 16 years old, with the guiding principle of the quality of life of the users. Initially, the Home supported 6 Clients. In 2007, the Camellias House facilities were inaugurated, with the capacity to accommodate 14 clients.

## **CERCI-LAMAS**

Cerci-Lamas is a social solidarity cooperative founded in 1979 by a group of parents and well-meaning individuals with the aim of immediately addressing the educational needs of children with school maladjustment or who were simply not attending school due to disability. Its priority geographical area is Feira Norte.

In 1980, the Special School opened, supported by the Ministry of Education, with a capacity of 35 students with mental disabilities or multiple disabilities. Working in interaction with the educational system, the capacity of the special school only decreased in the 1990s, when regular schools began to develop specific curricula for students with special needs. Today, Cerci-Lamas’ school intervention is divided between a small core of 3 full-time students and the Resource Center for Inclusion (CRI), accredited by the Ministry of Education in 2009 to provide psycho-pedagogical support to special education students in the School Clusters of the municipality of Santa Maria da Feira.

## **CONSERVATÓRIO REGIONAL DE SETÚBAL**

Conservatório Regional de Música de Setúbal is a school of specialised teaching of music, supervised by the Ministry of Education, through Gabinete do Ensino Particular e Cooperativo.

It teaches the Basic Music Courses and the Secondary Courses of Instrument, Musical Training, Composition and Singing, welcoming more than 500 students annually, guided by a faculty of about 50 teachers, duly qualified and permanently committed to raising the quality of teaching, in order to provide students with the development of all their artistic abilities.

It was founded in 1988, having been born from the realisation of the inexistence of a school specifically dedicated to the specialised teaching of music in the district of Setúbal. Among its promoters, the illustrious figure of the pedagogue Professor Maria Adelaide Rosado Pinto stands out, who contributed a lot to the patrimonial, artistic and cultural enrichment of the city of Setúbal.

Throughout its existence, it has been teaching music to thousands of students of the most varied age groups, contributing to their human, cultural and artistic formation. Many of them are now part of society, as professionals or amateurs, in the most varied fields of musical activity, having obtained prizes in competitions and degrees and masters in the various Higher Music Courses, as well as being part of several orchestras, from the country and abroad.

In addition to school activities, the Conservatório Regional de Música de Setúbal has sought to contribute to the cultural and

artistic development of the community in which it operates, collaborating with the most varied institutions, both official and private, having integrated several organising committees of musical events . It presents, annually, a vast program of musical activities, which takes place in different cultural spaces, not only in the city of Setúbal, but also in other locations in the country and abroad, recurrently in Spain.

## **CONSERVATÓRIO REGIONAL DE PALMELA**

Conservatório Regional de Palmela is a public school of specialised artistic education in music, named Sociedade Filarmónica Humanitária. This project was created in the school year 2001/2002, in order to provide young people with specialised training in music, developing social, intellectual and artistic skills.

Throughout these 20 years of existence, the Conservatory has contributed to a progressive increase in the number of young people studying music, with some of them now playing in Orchestras, Military Bands and Chamber Music groups with national and international projection.

Currently, the Regional Conservatory of Palmela has 420 students in the Courses of Initiation, Elementary and Secondary Music and, in parallel, provides the teaching of music in the Curricular Enrichment Activities in the Schools of the 1st Cycle of Basic Education of the Grouping of Schools of Palmela, accompanied by a faculty of high quality.

## **CORAL INFANTIL DE SETÚBAL**

Coral Infantil de Setúbal was founded in 1979 and is made up of children and young people aged 6 to 16. Its already long curriculum includes hundreds of concerts and performances from north to south of the country, as well as several participations in television programmes. Besides the recording of several CDs, it has presented unpublished works of great quality and demand, some of which in partnership with Banda da Armada Portuguesa, Banda de Música da Força Aérea and Banda Sinfónica do Exército. The Choir's repertoire is very comprehensive, encompassing classical and traditional themes as well as original pieces.

Coral Infantil de Setúbal has performed with several highly prestigious artists, such as Sérgio Godinho, Vitorino, Ana Bacalhau, Jorge Benvinda, Celina da Piedade, João Mendonza, Pedro Abrunhosa, Camané, Bárbara Tinoco, Júlio Resende, among others.

This choir has participated in all editions of the Setúbal Music Festival, which started in 2011.

The Artistic Direction is the responsibility of maestro Nuno Batalha. Professor Gonçalo Simões (Piano) and Professor Mafalda Louro (Vocal Technique) also collaborate with the Choir.

## **CORO FEMININO TUTTIENCANTUS**

The Female Choir was born in January 2006. It managed to present itself in public for the first time about 2 months later, during the 14th Children and Youth Choirs Meeting of Setúbal.

This choir has the particularity of being constituted only by ex-

choristers of the Children's Choir of Setúbal, thus satisfying the desire of these young lovers of choral music to give continuity to the work developed in the area of Choral Singing.

## **DAVID CHEW**

An English cellist who has been based in Brazil since 1981, he studied with William and Tony Pleeth at the Guildhall School of Music in London, specializing later in Brazilian music at the University of Hull (England). He served as the concertmaster of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, where he collaborated with Pierre Boulez, and was also a member of the BBC Orchestra and the London Mozart Players for six years. Since coming to Brazil, he has been one of the most active cellists in the country, performing as a soloist, chamber musician, and teacher. He is regularly invited to give recitals and teach abroad.

He is an emeritus concertmaster of the Brazilian Symphony Orchestra, of which he has been the concertmaster since 1981, as well as the String Quartet of UFF. He was one of the founders of the string orchestra Brazil Consort - Rio Strings (4 CDs), and more recently, the Rio Cello Ensemble (4 CDs). With the latter, he undertook three international tours (1998-2000), along with pianist Wagner Tiso and soprano Martha Herr. He is a member of Duo Folia (2 CDs), Trio Peranzetta, Senise, Chew (2 CDs), and Duo Canaud, Chew (1 CD), as well as the duo Blas n Chew (2 CDs). He has received various international awards in Europe for his interpretation of Villa-Lobos and a Latin Grammy nomination for the CD "Fantasia Brasileira". Since 1995, he has been the Artistic director of the Rio International Cello Encounter (RICE) [www.riocello.com](http://www.riocello.com) in Rio de Janeiro, one of the most important global festivals dedicated to the cello. He was a professor and director of the Master's program in String Instruments at the Brazilian Conservatory of Music (lato sensu) and a Cello professor at UNIRIO.

He was a Cello and Chamber Music professor at the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) and a Guest Professor for 7 years at the University of Fairbanks, Alaska. In 2010-2012, he participated in juries and masterclasses in Viña del Mar (Chile) and at the St. Petersburg Conservatory (Russia). In 2016, he participated in juries, recitals, and masterclasses in Portugal. In 2017/18, he participated in juries, recitals, and masterclasses in England. Currently, after 42 years of teaching in Curitiba, São Paulo, and various cities in the state of Rio de Janeiro, he is annually invited to conduct masterclasses in the USA and Europe. He is a member of the board of the OSB Youth Orchestra and is an emeritus concertmaster of the OSB. He is the director of the Rio Cello music school at the Villa Lobos museum. He recently wrote a book about the 25 years of Rio Cello. He produced 2 DVDs: in the first one, he invited A. Meneses and R. Lancelotte for the world's first DVD recording of Vivaldi's sonatas, and in the second one, "Chew Faces," he invited classical and popular artists to participate in the DVD. This year, he released 2 more CDs through the Karup label: "Back To Bach," and the first recording of the Brazilian Bachiana No. 2 for Cello and Piano, editing the original scores. He received the titles of citizen of the State of Rio de Janeiro in the ALERJ and Heir of Zumbi in 2003. He was awarded in Germany, France, and England in 1986 for his interpretation of the Bachianas Brasileiras, recorded by Hyperion, and was nominated for a Grammy in 2005.

In 2009, he received the title of Knight of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.), conferred by Queen Elizabeth of England, for his valuable contribution to Music in Brazil. In 2012, he received an honorary Doctorate in Music from Hull University, England.

## DEJAN IVANOVIĆ

Croatian guitarist Dejan Ivanović was born in Tuzla (BiH) in 1976. He studied with P. Stanković, V. Ivanović and D. Petrinjak. He was supervised by C. Bochmann on the Doctoral Course at the University of Évora. He participated in the music festivals of Spoleto (personally invited by maestro G.C. Menotti), Edinburgh, Estoril, Gevelsberg, Porto and Zagreb. He is the winner of the competitions Doña Infanta Cristina (1998), Sinaia (1998), Certamen Internacional Andrés Segovia (2001), Certamen Internacional de Guitarra Francisco Tárrega (2001), Arhanes 2005 (Greece) and was awarded in competitions in Italy, Portugal and Belgium. He collaborates with orchestras such as ADDA (ESP), Orchestre Royal de Chambre de Wallonie (BEL), Slovakia Chamber Orchestra, Vojvodina Symphony Orchestra (SRB), Filarmonia das Beiras, Orquestra Clássica do Centro and Orquestra Metropolitana de Lisboa. In 2017, he participated as a soloist in the national premiere of *Concierto Mudejar* by A. Garcia Abril with Setúbal Camerata, conducted by K. Hasan. His recitals received a strong response from the press. The Spanish magazine *Ritmo* describes him as “[...] courageous, sensitive young artist with a surprising technique and musicality and creativity in every note and phrase [...]” (1998). His solo discography contains the NAXOS CD *Recital* (2002) and *Mediterraneo* (2001). In 2013, he recorded the work “*Em Memória da Madrugada*” by M. Pikoul with Orquestra Clássica do Centro, under the baton of D.W. Lloyd. C. Bochmann, M. Pikoul, T. Oliver, J. Madureira, J. Pereira, R. Abreu, F. Chaves and C. Gutkin dedicated their works to Dejan. He has been part of the Kontaxakis-Ivanovich guitar duo since 2004. His first CD was released in 2010 by KSG EXAUDIO (GER). In 2019, the Duo participated in the opening concert of the Petrer Festival (Spain), dedicated to the 20th anniversary of J. Rodrigo’s death. He is the founder and artistic director of the Guitarmania International Festival in Almada (2005-10). He has been a guitar professor at the Department of Music at the University of Évora (Portugal) since 2007. He has a PhD in Music/Performance since 2015.

## DIOGO CASTRO

Born in Madeira Island, he had contact with music from an early age. In 2010 he entered the Professional Course of Instrumentalist at the Conservatory of Madeira in percussion, where he studied with Professors Jorge Garcia and Rui Rodrigues.

In 2013, he began his degree at the Escola Superior de Música de Lisboa, with Professors Pedro Carneiro, Jeffrey Davis and Richard Buckley, and in 2016 he began to attend the Master in Music Teaching, at the same school, having been completed in October 2020.

During this period he worked and collaborated in several cultural projects such as - *Câmara Nova 2014* in Madeira Island with composers Rodrigo B. Camacho and Milena Mateus, a project financed by Ponta do Sol Coletivo; London’s New Music Ensemble; *Taxonomy* prepared by Rodrigo B. Camacho and Sara Rodrigues in Funchal with funding from the Municipality of Funchal and many others, where he participated as a musician, and sometimes as a producer. In Lisbon, he worked on projects for the Portuguese Chamber Orchestra – *Caminhos Cruzados e Sementes*. He currently teaches Percussion Instrument at the Montijo Conservatory, and coordinates the percussion parade project at the Setúbal International Music Festival.

## FERNANDA CANAUD

French-Brazilian pianist, Doctor in Interpretative Practices in Music from UNIRIO, with recognition in Portugal from the University of Minho; Master in Music Performance from UFRJ and in Music Education from ESART in Portugal. She received her piano training from Linda Bustani (a disciple of Arnaldo Estrela and Yakov Zak - USSR); Homero Magalhães and Myrian Dauelsberg. Fernanda has won several awards in piano competitions in Brazil, including the International Competition of Santa Maria, Young Soloists of the CBM Orchestra, Arnaldo Estrela National Competition, Villa-Lobos National Competition, among others. In 2012, she received the Medal of the Order of Cultural Merit Carlos Gomes (SP, 2012).

As an educator, she was involved in the organization and foundation of the School of Music at Universidade Cândido Mendes (Nova Friburgo) and served as its first director from 2001 to 2004. She taught piano at the Universities: UNIRIO (RJ) and UNINCOR in Leopoldina (MG) UCAM (NF) and Villa-Lobos School of Music (RJ). Since 2019, she has worked as an accompanist pianist and piano teacher at EPABI and at the Regional Conservatory of Music in Covilhã.

She has performed concerts with the best Brazilian orchestras and regularly performs as a soloist in Europe, the Middle East, and the USA through the *Música no Museu* project. Her discography includes eight CDs released by various labels: Biscoito Fino, Kuarup, Rádio MEC/IMS, as well as the recording of the Complete Works for Cello & Piano by Radamés Gnattali with the English musician, based in Brazil, David Chew.

She made her debut in cinema, playing in the soundtrack of the feature film *Antes Que Eu Me Esqueça* by Tiago Arakilian (available on Netflix), an award-winning film in various film festivals, whose original music was composed by Caio Márcio Santos (her son).

## GONÇALO GOMES GOUVEIA

With training in guitar and conducting, Gonçalo Gomes Gouveia has a Master’s degree in Music – Choral Conducting from Instituto Piaget de Almada (2012) and a Degree in Music – Guitar from Escola Superior de Música de Lisboa (2006). He studies with J. Diniz, P. Nagy and D. Ivanović (guitar) and P. Lourenço, S. Coker and C. Tasher (choral conducting). He also holds a Postgraduate Degree in Music Teaching from Universidade Aberta (2016), recognition as a Specialist Teacher in Music, awarded by the Scientific Council of the School of Arts of the University of Évora (2017), and the Doctorate Course in Music and Musicology, curricular component, from the University of Évora (2021). As a complement to his artistic training, he also attended several courses and masterclasses in guitar, chamber music and choral conducting. He is currently attending the PhD program in Music and Musicology at the University of Évora (2020).

As an player, he performs on various stages across the country, either solo or collaborating with the Orquestra Portuguesa de Guitarras (2004, C. Bochmann), Orquestra Metropolitana de Lisboa (2008, M. Zilm), Coro ECCE Ensemble (2014, P. Lourenço), Guitar Ensemble of the University of Évora (2021, C. Bochmann), University of Évora Orchestra (2021, P. Amaral), Cetóbriga Chamber Choir and Orchestra (2023, G. Lourenço), and integrating Duo *Mediterraneus* (2009), Trio *Orpheus* (2014), Quarteto *Canticum*

(2017), among other formations. He founded and conducts the Guitar Ensemble at the University of Évora (2013). He participates in the CD Project Bochmann Guitar (2023), produced by D. Ivanović and recorded by M. Kontaxakis, recording six solo and chamber music works, scheduled for release in 2025.

In the field of vocal music, he founded and directs Ensemble VOCT (2003) and Setúbal Chamber Choir (2004), conducts Odyssea Choir (2006), Mateus d'Aranda Choir and Manuel Mendes Vocal Ensemble of the University of Évora (2020). As a singer, he is part of the professional vocal group ECCE Ensemble (2019). In the associative field, he assumes the direction of the Associação Coral Vozes de Lisboa (2011) with which he develops projects such as the VOCALIZZE Festival and the Lisbon Summer Choral Festival. He is also a member of the Setúbal Music Festival Association (2015) and of the Portuguese Association of Choral Music (2017), with which he maintains regular collaboration.

He began his teaching activity in 2002, with emphasis on teaching and developing projects at the institutions Conservatório Regional de Palmela (2006, teacher of Guitar and Choir), Conservatório Regional de Setúbal (2007, teacher of Guitar, Guitar Ensemble and functions as Department Coordinator), Instituto Piaget – ISEIT and ESE de Almada (2010, teacher of Guitar, Chamber Music, Conducting Technique and Choir Studio) and University of Évora (2013, teacher of Guitar, Chamber Music, Guitar Ensemble and Choir).

## LAETITIA VICENTE ALVES

Graduated in animation and artistic production and musical education, has always been involved in activities related to the world of music and performance. She has undertaken some voiceover work for the municipality of Palmela, including the narration of the documentary “Balmalla - Palmela, a fortification with over 1000 years of history” and hosting musical performances. Currently, she is a music education teacher in the 1st and 2nd cycles of basic education.

## MIGUEL ARAÚJO

Miguel Costa Pinheiro de Araújo Jorge (Maia, July 13, 1978) is a Portuguese musician. He moved to Porto at the age of 10.

His love for music began in 1989, and that year he received his first bass guitar as a gift. He was part of the band Yellow Lello (where Marlon, with whom he later played in Azeitonas, was also a member). Afterward, he joined Tsé Tsé, which released an album with BMG but disbanded shortly after. He became known as a member of the band Os Azeitonas, under the pseudonym Miguel AJ (or Miguel Araújo Jorge). Os Azeitonas formed in 2002 during a college trip.

He decided to switch from bass to guitar so he could sing at the same time. It was in this group that he started composing. The band's debut album was released in 2007 by Rui Veloso's Maria Records. In December 2007, he created the Blogue do Mendes. With his alter ego Mendes, he debuted live on June 18, 2009. Starting in February 2010, he began collaborating with João Só, and they released the EP “Não Entres Nesse Comboio Amor” through Optimus Discos. António Zambujo recorded the song

“Reader's Digest” written by Miguel. In addition to the album with João Só, he participated in the shows “Como Desenhar Mulheres, Motas e Cavalos” by Nuno Markl.

In May 2012, he released his first solo album, “Cinco dias e meio.” The song “Os maridos das outras” gained significant attention for its simple and original melody and humorous lyrics, playing with prejudices about marriage and gender differences. The single reached the fourth position on the Portuguese charts, while the album entered the Top 3 in sales in Portugal. The second single from the album was the song “Fizz Limão.” In the lyrics, the musician ironically talks about Portuguese yearnings and nostalgias, especially those of his generation. António Zambujo and Ana Moura recorded songs written by him on their albums released in 2012. However, he continued to prioritize his work with Azeitonas while engaging in parallel musical activities.

He recently worked on a children's song album with António Zambujo, Pedro Silva Martins (Deolinda), and Luísa Sobral. He also has another parallel project, “Os da Cidade,” with António Zambujo, João Salcedo (Azeitonas' keyboardist), and Ricardo Cruz, which is expected to record its debut album soon.

The successor to “Cinco Dias e Meio” is titled “Crónicas da Cidade Grande.” According to Miguel Araújo, it consists of “simple songs that tell small stories, nothing too fancy.” It features collaborations with João Martins and special guests António Zambujo, Inês Viterbo, and Marcelo Camelo.

## NUNO BATALHA

Nuno Batalha began his musical studies with the Complementary Clarinet Course. In academic terms, he completed a degree in Music Education Teacher of basic education, a Master's degree in Wind Orchestra Conducting and a Postgraduate degree in Cultural Programming and Management.

With extensive experience in teaching and musical direction, he is also a member of Banda da Armada, where he has performed various roles since 1993. He has directed the Coral Infantil de Setúbal and the TuttiEncantus Women's Choir since its formation in 2006. He is responsible for the annual programming of Convento Con-Vida, an initiative of Câmara Municipal de Setúbal that promotes performances by chamber music groups and opera singers, since 2020.

## ORQUESTRA CRIATIVA DE SANTA MARIA DA FEIRA

Orquestra Criativa SME, a community orchestra for everyone, promoted by the Municipality of Santa Maria da Feira since 2008, allows for the development of a socio-educational and artistic process with great social impact. Inclusion and equal opportunities are the manifesto and criteria by which the musical project of the orchestra is guided, aiming to make music accessible to everyone.

This Orchestra was born with the goal of making music accessible to everyone, fostering solidarity and social transformation through culture. In this orchestra, singing is allowed, playing is always possible, and it is where people feel both in front of their homes and on a very important stage. In this space, children, young people, and adults aged 8 to 80 circulate - living proof that everyone can contribute in their own way to the music creation process! This intergenerational and community orchestra has no limits to participation, contribut-

ing to improving people's lives through group musical practice. Currently, this collective includes 80 people of various age groups: children and young people from schools in the municipality, from different parishes, seniors from the Lourosa Social Center and the Dr. Crispim Social Center, and people with disabilities from Cerceira. The Creative Orchestra of Santa Maria da Feira is the catalyst for the continuation of an improvisation and musical creation project that has allowed the development of an educational and artistic process with a broad social impact, intending to make music accessible to all.

In the panorama of contemporary art, the project stands out as an innovative and unique experience, being one of the few orchestras with no limits on people's participation. On the other hand, the Orchestra achieves high artistic quality results thanks to a creative method based on simple sensitivity and experience, allowing for an organic construction of music, not only in its compositional phase but also in its performance phase. The result is outstanding performances that make the stage the face of diversity and an invitation to musical experiences. The artistic creation presented in this year's edition at the Setúbal International Music Festival is a reference to this.

## ORQUESTRA LIGEIRA DE PALMELA

Orquestra Ligeira of Palmela in its current formation exists since 2015, deriving from the previous formation of the Jazz Orchestra of the Palmela Regional Conservatory. It is currently conducted by the teacher José Condinho and has about 25 elements, including musicians and singers.

Its philosophy of repertoire privileges pop music, rock, jazz, blues, popular and Latin music. Portuguese music is usually part of the Orchestra's concert repertoire. Besides the instrumental works there is a great involvement of singers who in their vocal work sing solo or in duets, trios and quartets, sometimes passing through re-interpretative medleys of film soundtracks or tribute songs to various authors, singers or bands.

Another characteristic of this orchestra is to interpret various arrangements and originals by students of the conservatory, normally elaborated within the scope of the Instrumental Techniques course. Besides the periodic performances in concerts and auditions of the conservatory, the Orchestra has participated as a guest in other shows in the Palmela region.

## PABLO URBINA

Pablo Urbina (b.1988, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain), is a Spanish conductor who truly believes in using classical music as a vehicle for social change. A third prize winner of the 2023 Siemens Hallé International Conductor's Competition, since 2019 he is the Principal Conductor of London Orchestra Vitae. Pablo is an Ambassador of The Amber Trust UK, an organisation providing classical music to children with visual impairments.

Pablo has conducted orchestras including the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Spanish National Radio Orchestra, The Hallé, Ulster Orchestra, City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong and Castilla y Leon Symphony Orchestra, and has worked with conductors such as Leonard Slatkin, Bernard Haitink and Lionel Bringuier.

In 2020 and 2021, he worked as Assistant conductor of the

Balearic Symphony Orchestra (Spain), from 2017 to 2019 he was Associate Conductor of the Lerici Music Festival in Italy, and from 2013 to 2019 Music director of the London City Orchestra.

Pablo is extremely passionate about music outreach and education, wanting to bring music to the centre of the community. He has worked in several outreach projects with organisations such as the Royal Opera House Covent Garden and the BBC Proms, and has given masterclasses at institutions like Durham University and Baylor University in the USA.

He also believes in promoting new music creation, enjoys reviving lesser-known and forgotten repertoire, and promoting Spanish and Hispanic repertoire.

Pablo Urbina grew up in Pamplona, Spain, where he started studying French horn at the age of 8. He then went on to study as a scholar at the Thornton School of Music in the USA. In 2014 he finished a Master of Music at the Royal College of Music London, also as a scholar.

