

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Katia Beaugeais is a French-Australian award-winning composer and saxophonist based in Sydney. Her music includes innovative and unique repertoire ranging from solo saxophone to full orchestra.

Starting classical training on the piano at the age of six and saxophone at the age of thirteen, she went on to study at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. A Bachelor of Music Education degree was followed by a postgraduate degree in performance on saxophone, studying classical and contemporary repertoire with Mark Walton and Margery Smith. During this time she had lessons with a number of internationally acclaimed saxophonists in France, including Claude Delangle, Jean-Yves Fourmeau, Vincent David and Arno Bornkamp. Katia recently gained a Master of Music degree in Composition with High Distinction at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, under the guidance of Matthew Hindson.

Katia has performed with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra as a casual player and has done a number of solo recitals featuring her own compositions on ABC Classic FM and 2MBS-FM, and at international new music festivals. Katia won the Fellowship of Australian Composer's Encouragement Award in the 2006 WSOC-2MBS FM Young Composers Award for her first orchestral work, *Aurora Australis*. Two of her chamber works have been premiered by the Sydney Symphony Fellowship players: *Atlantis* (2006) and *The Last Flight of Saint-Ex* (2008). Her saxophone quartet, *Drifting Memories* (2010) was first premiered by Continuum Sax, and then especially arranged for 13 saxophones for a performance by the Sydney Conservatorium Saxophone Orchestra, conducted by Michael Duke.

In 2010, Katia performed to international acclaim by winning the prestigious International Society for Contemporary Music (ISCM) Young Composer Award for her solo soprano saxophone composition, *Sound Box*, which she performed in a live broadcast on ABC Classic FM during the 2010 ISCM World New Music Days festival in Sydney - the first time in its 88-year history that this festival has taken place in the Southern Hemisphere. As part of 80 works selected from more than 700 from 52 countries, her composition was voted best piece out of the 43 selected entries from artists aged under 35, by an international judging panel made up of musicologists and composers from USA, Sweden, Korea, Venezuela and Belgium. Katia was then invited on ABC Classic FM's New Music Up Late program where she was interviewed during the broadcast of her saxophone recital featuring her own compositions.

This year in April, Katia was guest composer at the 2011 ISCM World New Music Days festival in Zagreb (Croatia) for the world premiere of *Manifesto pour la Paix* (Manifesto for Peace) for winds, strings, piano and alto saxophone, which is dedicated to the victims of the Iraq war. It was performed in the closing ceremony by Ensemble Zeitfluss from Graz, Austria. She was also invited to perform a saxophone recital at a special reception for the Australian Embassy in Zagreb where she premiered *Sounds from Bondi* for soprano saxophone, specially composed for this occasion. Katia recently performed the Australian premiere of *Sounds from Bondi* at her saxophone recital for the 2011 Melbourne International Clarinet and Saxophone Festival and she will also be performing this work in an upcoming saxophone recital recording for ABC Classic FM.

Katia teaches composition and chamber music ensembles at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and saxophone at MLC School. Her music is available through her own publishing company, New Music Block, as well as Reed Music and the Australian Music Centre.

For more info on Katia's upcoming performances and her music please visit her website:
www.newmusicblock.com

