

Curriculum Vitae

Johan Svensson - tonsättare
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Born: 30.04.1983
Vimmerby, Sverige

Education

University	Year	Education
Norwegian music academy in Oslo / Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Graz	2012-2014	Composition, Master
Academy of Music and Drama in Gothenburg	2006-2009	Composition, Bachelor
Gotland School of Music Composition in Visby	2004-2006	Composition education
Växjö university	2003-2004	Music Major, Focusing on Music Composition

Main professors: Klaus Lang, Asbjørn Schaathun and Ole Lützow-Holm

Supplementary education

3-24 February 2015: Impuls Academy in Graz, Austria. Two weeks with lessons, lectures and masterclasses with Pierluigi Billone, Chaya Czernowin and Isabel Mundry among others.

2-16 August 2014: Internationale Ferienkurs für neue Musik in Darmstadt. Two weeks with lessons, lectures and masterclasses with Helmut Lachenmann, Pierluigi Billone and Brian Ferneyhough among others.

31 January-2 February 2014: Notes#4 in Venice, Italy. Three days with masterclasses and lectures with Pierluigi Billone.

9-21 February 2013: Impuls Academy in Graz, Austria. Two weeks with lessons, lectures and masterclasses with Pierluigi Billone, Beat Furrer and George Friedrich Haas among others.

Work as a composer

Om

Johan Svensson is a Swedish composer who is active both within the acoustic and the electronic music. With an equally artistic and technical input into his composition work, he explores alternative ways of producing sounds by electronic means. His current focus is to design sound-generating electromechanical devices as well as explore different relationships between musician and machine that may arise in a live situation. Several of his works have a clear conceptual starting point and are written for a combination of instrumentalists and electronic sound sources. In addition, visual elements, such as lights and coordinated movements, are material often found in his music. Svensson is Artistic director and a founding member of the ensemble Mimitabu (<http://mimitabu.se>) and Artistic director of the Kalv festival (<http://kalvfestival.se>).

Technical knowledge acquired through studies and artistic work

- Very good knowledge of MAX for sound generation, live-electronics, and design of compositional tools and live instruments.
- Very good knowledge of SuperCollider for sound generation, live-electronics, and design of compositional tools and live instruments.
- Very good knowledge of working in a DAW (in particular Logic and Reaper).

- Very good knowledge of physical computing and micro-controllers (in particular Arduino).
- Very good knowledge of recording and studio work.
- Very good knowledge of electroacoustic composition.
- Very good knowledge of audio synthesis, processing and analysis.
- Very good knowledge of development and construction of sound-producing devices using actuators (motors, solenoids, vibrators etc.).
- Very good knowledge of circuit bending.
- Very good knowledge of DMX, MIDI and serial communication.
- Very good knowledge of different methods of light control: with DMX, led strips with Arduino, and with custom-made relay circuits.
- Good knowledge of design and construction of electrical circuits.
- Good knowledge of Ableton Live.
- Good knowledge of analogue synthesizers.
- Programming skills in Python, Processing, C ++ and JavaScript.
- Experience of working with video and image editing.

List of works (excerpt)

- *double dubbing (firefly song)* for clarinet, accordion och 16 piezo buzzers (2020)
- *pixilation* for two keyboards, lights and samples (2019)
- *marionette* for string instrument, electro-mechanical devices and lights (2018)
- *stop motion* for percussionist, ensemble[piccolo/bass flute, oboe, trombone, violin, cello, double bass, 3 object players, keyboard], electro-mechanical devices[motors and vibrators] and lights (2018)
- *ampèrian loops – part III* for ensemble[piccolo/bass flute, bass clarinet, percussion, violin, cello, keyboard, vibrators [1 performer]] and electronics[solenoids and transducers] (2017)
- *One Man Band* for percussion, vibrators and air instruments [one performer] (2016)
- *fieldwalking* for viola d'amore (2015)
- *ampèrian loops – part II* for ensemble[piccolo/bass flute, bass clarinet, percussion, violin, cello, keyboard] and electronics[solenoids, transducers and vibrators] (2015)
- *Shiver* for piccolo, tenor sax, trombone, percussion, piano, guitar, violin, cello and double bass (2014)
- *ampèrian loops – part I* för ensemble[bass flute, half clarinet, metal can, piano, violin, viola, cello] and electro-mechanical devices[solenoids] (2013)
- *diamond dust* for bass flute, cello and piano (2013)
- *Down* for violin and electronics (2012)
- *Bricks and waves* for orchestra (2009-2012)
- *Rita cirklar* for flute, percussion, piano, violin, viola and cello (2010)

Music performed at (excerpt)

MATA festival in New York, Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, ULTIMA Oslo Contemporary Music Festival, KLANG in Copenhagen, Festival de Música de Canarias at Canary Islands, Internationale Ferienkurse für Neue Musik in Darmstadt, Nordic Music Days (Oslo, Helsingfors, London, Bodø), Unerhörte Musik in Berlin, Tempo Reale in Florens, Sampler Series in Barcelona, conDiT in Buenos Aires, Sound of Stockholm, GAS-festivalen in Gothenburg, Festival Dissonanzen in Neapel, Cagliari Festival of Contemporary Music, iN festival in Seoul, Glazbena Tribina Opatija in Opatija, Summartónar festival at Färöarna and SchauSchall i Graz.

Music performed by (excerpt)

Norwegian Radio Orchestra (NO), Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra (SE), ensemble mosaik (DE), Distractfold Ensemble (UK), Ensemble Lemniscate (CH), Curious Chamber Players (SE), Aksiom (NO), Gageego! (SE), Uusinta Ensemble (FI), Ensemble Fractales (BE), Mimitabu (SE), Current Saxophone Quartet (NO), Norrbotten NEO (SE), Ricciotti ensemble

(NL), Ensemble TIMF (KOR), Audio Exhibition (DE), Stockholms Saxofonkvartett (SE), Karin Hellqvist (SE), John Popham (US), Simone Beneventi (IT) och Marco Fusi (IT).

Professional positions

2010-ongoing: Artistic director and a founding member of the Gothenburg-based contemporary music ensemble **Mimitabu** (<http://mimitabu.se>). The work includes concert programming, project management, concert planning, application work and administration. Also participates as technicians or musicians at the concerts.

2018-ongoing: Artistic director for the **Kalv festival** (<http://kalvfestival.se>) and responsible for its composition academy. The Kalv Festival is one of the most renowned festivals of contemporary music in Sweden. The work includes concert programming, project management, concert planning, planning of the composition academy, contact and contract writing with participants (musicians, ensembles, composers and academic participants), application work and other administration.

2017-2019: Member in the working team for composers in the musician and artist agency **Musikcentrum Väst** in Gothenburg.

2015-2017: One of the founders of the concert series **Periferien** in Oslo. Also member of its board and programme council. The work included application work, concert programming, concert planning, technical work and administration.

2012-2014: Member of the program council for the contemporary music and sound arts festival **Gothenburg Art Sounds** (<http://www.gas-festival.com>).

2010-2013: Board member, member of the program council and concert producer of the concert organizer **Levande musik** in Gothenburg.

Guest lectures

28.03.2019: Guest lecture for composition students at the Manhattan School of Music in New York, (invitation from Reiko Fueting).

04.04.2018: Guest lecture for composition students at the Academy of Music and Drama in Gothenburg, (invitation from Malin Bång).

Significant projects

2013-ongoing: Part of the major collaborative project **Kan själv! - A sound exhibition for the very youngest** (https://www.vastarvet.se/tjanster_och_projekt/pedagogik--utställningar/kan-sjalv/) which is a touring sound exhibition for 0-2 year old children. The work in the project have included, together with a pedagogue, to conduct a study with young children, write a report with criteria for the designer, develop acoustic and electronic sounds, technical manager at each new venue, and lecture on infant's listening and sound creation. The exhibition has currently visited nearly 40 locations in Sweden and South Korea.

2018-ongoing: Product development for the company **Igeia Health Labs**. The work in the project have included research, circuit board design, circuit board manufacturing, programming of micro-controllers and streamlining work to go from prototype to serial production.

2011-ongoing: Development and implementation of a large number of workshops in **instrument building** as an educational project for children in the Västra Götaland region. The workshops have taken place in schools, cultural schools, concert halls and in conjunction with festivals. These workshops have also been made to educate music teachers.

2015-2017: Part of the project **The extended piano - playing techniques for the 21st century** together with the pianist Jonas Olsson and the composer Martin Rane Bauck. The project resulted in a website with information about piano harmonics for composers and pianists, in the form of text, sound, picture and an interactive map (www.pianoharmonics.com).

2013: Development of **computer controlled solenoid robots** in collaboration with the technician and sound engineer Henrik Alsér. The work included construction, circuit board design, circuit board manufacturing and programming of Arduino.

2012-2014: Collaboration with the Icelandic artist **Halldór Úlfarsson**. The collaboration resulted in two compositions for his instrument *halldorophone*, one for concert and the other as a video work.

2009-2012: Lecturing in **music history** on the theme *The development of art music from the Middle Ages to today* at several educational institutions.

2009-2012: Organized a number of workshops in **circuit bending** in Aalborg, Denmark. Circuit bending is a method of, with creativity and randomness as guidance, modifying low-voltage circuits in electronic devices such as radios, toys and simple synthesizers to create new experimental musical instruments.

Prices

2017: awarded the prize and residency *Progetto Positano* from **Ernst von Siemens Musikstiftung** and **ensemble mosaik**. <https://progettopositano.org/>

CD releases

Stradivarius (2019): The CD *Wooden Songs* with the percussionist Simone Beneventi including the piece *One Man Band*.

GEIGER Grammofon (2017): The CD *Restoration* with Marco Fusi: new music for viola d'amore. Including the piece *fieldwalking*.

LAWO Classics (2016): CD with ensemble Aksiom including the piece *Shiver*.

Languages

Swedish (native language)

English (fluently)

German (basic)