200 Words Biography

MALEK JANDALI

Malek Jandali is “**a uniquely gifted composer**” (*The Washington Post*) and his music has been hailed as “**a major new addition to the 21st century’s symphonic literature**” by (*Fanfare* magazine). His symphonies, concertos, and upcoming opera, *The Square,* havebeen commissioned, performed, and recorded by leading orchestras and distinguished soloists around the world. Through his works he seeks to promote cultural communication and understanding. His large-scale orchestral works engage major philosophical themes and integrate Arabic maqams (modes) with persuasive skill and a marked seriousness of purpose that echo UNESCO’s call to preserve and protect the rich cultural heritage of his homeland Syria.

Jandali has produced ten albums of lauded performances encompassing more than forty of his compositions. He is the first Arab musician to have arranged the oldest example of music notation in the world, which was featured on his album *Echoes from Ugarit*. Jandali is the recipient of the 2014 Global Music Humanitarian Award, and in 2015 the Carnegie Corporation of New York honored him as a Great Immigrant, a Pride of America.

Jandali is composer-in-residence at both Queens University of Charlotte and at Qatar Museums. He is the founder and CEO of Pianos for Peace, a nonprofit organization dedicated to building peace through music and education. Malek Jandali was born in Germany and raised in Syria. He now makes his home in Atlanta and New York City.



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