

PRESS INVITATION

**Aníbal Vidal's new concerto for trumpet to be
premiered by Imogen Whitehead in
Britten Sinfonia's Magnum Opus Composer
Showcase 2024**



Saturday 2 November at 2pm
St Giles Cripplegate, the Barbican

Alex Groves Violin Concerto

Anibal Vidal Concerto for trumpet

Eden Lonsdale Concerto for Voice

Imogen Whitehead trumpet

Rakhi Singh violin

Alexandra Achillea Pouta mezzo soprano

Tom Fetherstonhaugh conductor

Emily Davis leader

Britten Sinfonia

As part of their Magnum Opus Showcase 2024, **Britten Sinfonia and Imogen Whitehead** premiere Chilean composer **Aníbal Vidal's Trumpet Concerto** on **Saturday 2 November** at 2pm.

Vidal has woven quotations from Haydn's Trumpet Concerto and Mahler's *Resurrection* Symphony throughout the work inspired by the Japanese practice of Kintsugi. Kintsugi is the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery by mending the areas of breakage with urushi lacquer dusted or mixed with powdered gold. For Vidal, this past year has been defined by the idea of breaking things down and reassembling them in a way that breathes new life.

Since Vidal is not a professional performer, he likes to view instruments simply as sounding objects free from the weight of their historical traditional language and rigorous technique required for their optimal performance. He does the same with toy instruments to see what creative possibilities may arise. His music is driven by the physicality of sound and by direct engagement with its source. It is from this process that initial composition ideas often originate.

To this end, Vidal has created his own notation to indicate the novel, often pitch-less, percussive sound effects and murmurings. This has meant working closely with the musicians to explain the experimental sounds he is searching from these instruments. He used this for his work *Camanchaca* included on his debut album **Cuerdas y Rugidos** released in June 2024. *Camanchaca* was inspired by the distinctive fog that rolls from the Pacific Ocean as seen from his childhood home and the devastation reeked on that coastline by the 2010 tsunami and earthquake which registered 8.8 on the Richter scale.

Vidal says about his work

"Invocación n.2 for Trumpet and ensemble is, in a sense, a highly theatrical music piece that explores drama, oddness, and sarcasm. It features a unique sound palette to broaden the sonority of the ensemble.

Thematically, the piece incorporates musical material from Haydn's Trumpet Concerto and Mahler's Second Symphony "Resurrection" chosen because of its topic. This material is cut into small cells, looped, and stitched back together, much like assembling the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle as a way of reimagining resurrection as the act of rebuilding oneself.

I am delighted that Imogen Whitehead will perform my Trumpet Concerto. She is an outstanding performer, full of expressivity and virtuosic skill. It has been a pleasure working with her; we've had a close collaboration, exploring different techniques and sounds on the trumpet."

Debut Album: released on 14 June



"I have this 'Hollywood-esque' image in my mind of witnessing a gigantic wave towering above a five-storey building. But little is spoken about the sounding imagery associated with earthquakes and tsunamis such as the shaking of objects, the crunching of walls, the low roar that emanates from the ground before an aftershock, etc." Anibal Vidal

Aníbal Vidal



Anibal Vidal is a Chilean composer based in London, whose multifaceted career spans concert music, music for media, and multidisciplinary projects. Drawing on his South American heritage and a diverse range of musical influences, he creates immersive works characterised by gestural repetition and timbral experimentation.

His creative process embraces the self-discovering nature of his approach to both, traditional and unconventional instruments, incorporating the raw nature of objects and human voice. By blending these elements within a classical music setting, he cultivates an imaginative sound palette driven by the physicality of sound and direct contact with its source.

His compositions have been performed by ensembles and orchestras in Europe, America and Asia, including the Ensemble Intercontemporain, Quatuor Bozzini, Britten Sinfonia, Mise-En ensemble, RCM Philharmonic, MI Orchestra, East Anglia Chamber Orchestra, Divertimento Ensemble, Cikada Ensemble, Ensemble U:, Ensamble Taller Sonoro, The Carice Singers, Synchronos ensemble, BCN216 ensemble and Ensamble Fractura. Vidal has participated in international festivals such as Manifeste (Paris), Time of Music (Finland), Impuls (Graz), Cheltenham (UK), Spitalfields (UK), Music Panel (Croatia) and Mise-En (NYC).

In 2024, he obtained the 2nd prize in the Matan Givol Composers Competition for his clarinet trio "One of Many Circles." In 2022, he was awarded the 20th Joan Guinjoan International Prize for his orchestral work "Gliding Murmuration." Additionally, he won the DYCE Competition for Young European Composers 2022 award for his ensemble piece "Liquidify."

He has recently released his first chamber music album "Cuerdas y Rugidos" (Strings & Roars) featuring string quartet works in collaboration with the Brompton and Alkyona quartets, plus an oboe quintet piece performed by Jose Luis Urquieta and Ensamble Fractura. This project was generously supported by the PRS Foundation Open Fund for Music Creators, the Robert Anderson Trust, and Penny Wright.

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