

Wataru MUKAI

A native of *Shizuoka*, Japan, WATARU MUKAI (b.1993) was first introduced to musical composition at the age of three, and began his first composition lessons in one of the Yamaha Music Programs one year later.

He also has composed for a variety of arts, such as movies and theatrical art.

He was awarded scholarships from the Rohm music foundation (2019-2020), the Kuma foundation (2018-2019), 4th Japan Public-Private Partnership Student Study Abroad Program (2016-17), the Munetsugu-Tokuji music foundation (2016) and a full national scholarship at Tokyo university of the Arts/Geidai (2012-2014).

He gains several international awards: 1st Prize at 8th International composer's competition "NEW NOTE" Croatia 2019, 2nd Prize and Jury's special award at 3rd Senzoku Contemporary Composition Competition, 3rd at the 29th Siegburg Composition Competition, 2nd and *Iwatani* award(Audience award) at the 84th Music Competition of Japan, Finalist at the 27th Akutagawa Composition Award, 2nd prize at the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Conservatory competition 2018 (Electronics: Johnathan Schmieding) , *Ataka* music prize (2015) and Acanthus music prize (2016).

His works have been selected for the 44th Samobor Music Festival (Croatia), the Darmstadt International Summer Courses 2018 (Germany) and the Suntory Hall Summer Festival 2017 (Japan), Works performed and commissioned by ensembles/orchestras, notably New Japan Philharmonic, Geidai Philharmonic Orchestra, International Ensemble Modern Academy, Ensemble REAM, Tokyo Sinfonietta and Senzoku New Philharmonic Orchestra.

Wataru graduated at the top of his class from Tokyo university of the Arts/Geidai in 2016. He has studied composition with *Midori Okubo*, *Shirofumi Aizawa*, *Jo Kondo* and *Jumpei Suzuki*, and studies at the Mannheim University of Music and Performing Arts under professor of composition Sidney Corbett and at the Bern University of the Arts under professor of Simon Steen-Andersen and Angela Körfer-Bürger.