

# Septian Dwi Cahyo

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## SHORT BIO

Septian Dwi Cahyo is a composer whose work explores the intersection of contemporary music, Indonesian musical practices, and natural pattern systems. He studied composition with Beat Furrer and Sarah Nemtsov at the Kunstuniversität Graz and Mozarteum University Salzburg and further developed his practice through international academies such as Impuls, CIEL Academy, and the Young Composers Meeting. His compositions have been performed across Southeast Asia, Europe, the United States, East Asia, and Mexico by ensembles including Talea Ensemble, Orkest de Ereprijs, and Spółdzielnia Muzyczna, Mondrian Ensemble and have appeared in festivals such as Talea Encore, the Andriessen Festival, Limina Festival, and others. He has also presented his work at international conferences, curated the Southeast Asian music series *Beyond Threshold – New Voices from Indonesia* in Bangkok, and served as guest editor for a special issue on Indonesian contemporary music in *Contemporary Music Review* Vol 43, issue 1. His scores are published by BabelScores.

## EDUCATION

- 2025 – 2026 (June) : Mozarteum University Salzburg — Non-degree study (Music Practice Grant; study with Sarah Nemtsov)
- 2021 – 2024: University of Music and Performing Arts Graz — MA (Composition; study with Beat Furrer); *mit Auszeichnung bestanden (with distinction)*
- 2019 – 2020: University of Music and Performing Arts Graz — Non-degree study (Music Practice Grant)
- 2018: University of Music and Performing Arts Graz — Non-degree study (Music Practice Grant)
- 2012 – 2017: Indonesian Institute of the Arts Yogyakarta — BA (Composition); *cum laude*

### Additional Academies

- Young Composers Meeting Apeldoorn
- CIEL Academy
- Impuls Academy

## AWARDS & PROJECT GRANTS

### Awards

- 2021: 5th International Microtonal Guitar Composition Competition — 2nd Prize
- 2016: 12th Sunriver Prize Composition Competition — Honorable Mention

### Grants

- 2025: ASEA UNINET Ernst Mach Grant — Mozarteum University Salzburg; €12,900
- 2023: *Arbeitsstipendium 2024* — Federal Ministry of Arts, Culture, Civil Service and Sport (Austria); €4,000
- 2021: Commission Project — *Common Tonalities*, Nusasonic and Goethe-Institut Southeast Asia; €500
- 2019: Music Practice Grant — ASEA UNINET Ernst Mach; *Developing Gamelan Musical Languages Using Algorithms*, Institute of Electronic Music and Acoustics Graz, University of Music and Performing Arts Graz; €10,450
- 2018: Music Practice Grant — ASEA UNINET SP 24, University of Music and Performing Arts Graz; €4,500
- 2015: Travel Grant — Public Diplomacy and Cultural Affairs, Embassy of the Netherlands, Jakarta; Young Composers Meeting 2015; IDR 23,800,000

## CURATORIAL & EDITORIAL WORK

- Forthcoming: Editor — *Contemporary Music in Indonesia: New Voices from the Archipelago* (Republication of *Contemporary Music Review*, Vol. 43, Issue 1; Routledge Special Issues as Books).
- 2025: Guest Editor — *Contemporary Music Review*, Vol. 43, Issue 1: *Contemporary Music in Indonesia* (Routledge/Taylor & Francis).
- 2021: Curator — Southeast Asian Music Series *Beyond Threshold – New Voices from Indonesia*, Bangkok.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Forthcoming: “Exploring the Borderlands: The ‘In-Between’ as Creative Nexus.” In *Borders, Boundaries and Belonging: Translocality and the Navigation of Cultural Movements, Intersections, and Conflicts* edited by Tan Sooi Beng and Sarah Weiss. Graz Studies in Ethnomusicology. Institute of Ethnomusicology, University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz, Austria.
- 2024: “The Role of New Instruments in the Musical Works of Composers/Sound Artists in Indonesia.” *Contemporary Music Review* (Routledge/Taylor & Francis); <https://doi.org/10.1080/07494467.2024.2391148>
- 2022: “This Is Not Manifesto.” *PULSE*, Vol. 2, September 2022; <https://so18.tci-thaijo.org/index.php/pulsejournal/article/view/475>
- 2020: “Multimedia Analysis in Donny Karsadi’s Multimedia Piece I Hate My Stupid Brain.” *Emille Journal*, Vol. 18; [http://keams.org/emille/emille/emille\\_18/emille\\_18.html](http://keams.org/emille/emille/emille_18/emille_18.html)
- 2019: “Postmodern Aspects of Electronic and Multimedia Music.” *Jurnal Kajian Seni*, Vol. 6, No. 1; <https://doi.org/10.22146/jksks.55035>

## CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

- **2025:** Pekan Komponis Indonesia (Indonesian Composers Week)
- **2025:** Mireng Festival
- **2021:** Salihara Arts Center
- **2021:** PGVIS Conference
- **2020:** Korea Electroacoustic Music Society Annual Conference
- **2018:** IEEE Region 10 SYWL Congress

## PRESS COVERAGE

- *Tempo*: “Malam Lebaran Sitor di Arnhem,” 29 June 2025, pp. 48–49
- *Tribun Bali*: “Gamelan dan Gitar Bertemu dalam Rasa Bali Aroma Amerika,” 5 April 2025, p. 1
- *Pikiran Rakyat*: “Kreativitas dan Apresiasi Seni,” 30 January 2019, p. 24
- *The Straits Times*: Liang, Chang Tou, “Sleepless in Sonic Garden,” 29 September 2015

## BROADCAST

- Deutschlandfunk — *Musikpanorama* (Zeitgenössisches Südostasien-Projekt der Musikhochschule Lübeck), 11 July 2022 (radio broadcast; 21:05 Uhr): <https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/programm?drsearch%3Adate=2022-07-11>

## SCORES PUBLICATION

- BabelScores (2018 – Present): <https://www.babelscores.com/SeptianDwiCahyo>

## DIGITAL PORTFOLIO

- Website: <https://www.septiandwicahyo.com>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/gembulunta>
- SoundCloud: <https://soundcloud.com/septian-dwi-cahyo-2>

## Selected Works List (2018 – 2025/2026)

### 2018

- Commuter Line II for flute (piccolo), B-flat clarinet (bass clarinet), violin, cello, piano. Premiered by the Talea Ensemble at the Americas Society (2022).
- Follow The Map III for ten instruments. Premiered at Minoritensaal, Graz, Austria.
- CAh Kangkung for fixed media. Premiered at the Institute of Electronic Music and Acoustics (IEM), Graz, Austria (2018), and at Muslab, Mexico City (2018).

### 2019

- ASEAN Voice? for dan tranh, pat waing, strings, harp, percussion. Premiered by the ASEAN Youth Ensemble at the Princess Galyani Vadhana Music Institute. Conductor: Peter Veale.

### 2020 - 2021

- SENYAWA for string quartet. Premiered by the LandesJugendEnsemble für Neue Musik Schleswig-Holstein in Kiel in August 2021. Performed in Lüneburg and Lübeck in 2022; the Lübeck performance was broadcast on Deutschlandfunk's Musik Panorama: Neue Musik aus Südostasien.
- MAGHRIB for sheng, sarons, baduria double octavina, violin, viola, double bass. Commissioned by the Princess Galyani Vadhana Institute of Music (ASEAN Youth Ensemble Project).
- Co[l]oto[mi]c[nal] for solo guitar. Recorded by Putu Lia Veranika. Awarded 2nd prize at the International Competition for Microtonal Guitar (Composition Category).
- Enggung for fixed media. Commissioned by Nusasonic as part of Nusasonic, an experimental sound and music project by the Goethe-Institut in Southeast Asia, Playfreely/BlackKaji (Singapore), Yes No Klub (Yogyakarta), WSK Festival (Manila), and CTM Festival (Berlin).

### 2022

- s[TA]d II for multiple guitars. Performed by Caroline Delume at Ensemble Linea: CIEL Academy 2022.
- s[TA]d III for harpsichord and percussion. Commissioned by the Linzer Ensemble für aktuelle Musik. Premiered at Porgy and Bess, Vienna.
- [HAS] for 10 instruments. Premiered at Theater im Palais Meran, Graz.
- Hommage à Kubin for string quartet.

## **2023 - 2024**

- 2023 – 2024 {[A] [ru] [Na]} for percussion for soloists. Commissioned by Mizuki Aita. To be premiered in August 2024 at Tokyo Bunka Kaikan, Small Hall. This work received support from the 2024 Work Stipend of the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, Civil Service, and Sport.
- [a]saga for 4 instruments. Premiered by Ensemble Spółdzielnia Muzyczna at the LIMINA Festival 2024, Mozarteum, Salzburg.

## **2025 - 2026 (in progress):**

- [Ha] N.N for Ensemble and Soprano. Commissioned by Orkest de Ereprijs. Premiered by Orkest de Ereprijs in 2025 in Writers Unlimited Festival Den Haag, Second performance at the Andriessen Festival June 2025, Third performance at Muis and Stadstheater Arnhem (Andriessen Festival), Fourth Performance at 32<sup>nd</sup> Young Composers Meeting Apeldoorn, Fifth Performance at Oranjewoud Festival 2026.
- [E]st for Microtonal guitars, toy gamelans, gong, and electronic. Commissioned by Mireng Festival 2025.
- [..a..] (2 Movements) for Solo guitar. Commissioned by Putu Lia Veranika.
- JIL for String Trio. Commissioned by Tony Prabowo. Will be premiered by Mondrian Ensemble at Ruang Tamu Tony, Jakarta.
- A[n] for Ensemble. Premiered by ARCO Ensemble at Mozarteum Salzburg.
- [es] for Calung, Pemade, Contrabass. Commissioned by Basel Gamelan Community. Will be premiered by Basel Gamelan Community at Basel Gamelan Community Gathering 2026.
- [..a..] (2 movements) for Solo guitar. Commissioned by Methexisart Festival 2026. Will be premiered at Methexisart Festival 2026 by Julio Isaac.