

UC **SANTA BARBARA**
Department of Music

CONTACT:

Adriane Hill
Marketing and Communications Manager
(805) 893-3230
adrianehill@ucsb.edu
music.ucsb.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / January 9, 2020

UC SANTA BARBARA DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC WELCOMES COMPOSER JOÃO PEDRO OLIVEIRA AS CORWIN CHAIR OF COMPOSITION

Internationally-recognized composer has received major honors such as the Magisterium Prize, Giga-Hertz Award, and Musica Nova Prize and brings over 30 years of teaching experience

Santa Barbara, CA (January 9, 2020)—The UC Santa Barbara Department of Music has appointed Dr. João Pedro Oliveira as Corwin Chair of Composition beginning January 2020. A native of Portugal, Oliveira brings a varied and dynamic background in composition, music theory, organ performance, and architecture, with a 30-year teaching career that includes positions at Aveiro University and the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil. In his new role at UC Santa Barbara, Oliveira will serve as the Head of the Composition Program and will teach courses in composition, electroacoustic music, visual music, and contemporary techniques.

"The Department of Music is very excited to welcome Dr. João Pedro Oliveira as the new Corwin Chair of Composition," said Professor Robert Koenig, Chair of the Department of Music. "Dr. Oliveira's innovative and renowned compositions have been performed throughout the world and he brings an unparalleled background and experience that will be a true inspiration for our aspiring young composition students. I am certain that Dr. Oliveira will be a most valued, respected, and integral part of the UCSB Music Department and we are fortunate to have him join us."

"I am delighted to be joining the faculty at UC Santa Barbara," said Oliveira. "Colleagues I admire, a Music Department filled with creative energy, a topnotch university."

Oliveira's music explores multiple facets of the interaction between acoustic instruments and electronic sounds as well as relationships between sound and images. He has written 118 compositions, of which 56 were composed on commission. His collected works include compositions for opera, orchestra, chorus, chamber ensembles, solo instruments, and various orchestrations/arrangements, as well as tape/electroacoustic works, multimedia works with video, and music for public spaces. His discography includes 11 solo/monographic CDs, as well as 54 additional pieces recorded on CD.

Oliveira's works are frequently performed nationally and internationally. In 2019 alone, there were over 100 performances of his pieces in more than 20 countries. In competitions, Oliveira has been highly successful, garnering 54 prizes or Honorable Mentions. Of his many awards, 25 were first prizes, including the Bourges Magisterium Prize, Giga-Hertz Award, Musica Nova Prize, and Metamorphosis Competition. Oliveira recently received First Prize in the Musica Nova Competition (Czech Republic) in the mixed music category for his piece *Dark Energy*, and was also named a finalist in the acousmatic music category for his piece *N'vi'ah*.

In addition to his artistic work and accomplishments as a composer, Oliveira has also been active for many years as an author and co-author, having published a large-scale analysis book (1999) and 21 articles and chapters on a variety of topics. His stature in the field is reflected in 10 articles that have been

- MORE -

“JOÃO PEDRO OLIVEIRA” 2-2-2

written about him and his music.

Throughout his career, Oliveira has lived and taught in a variety of locations across the globe, including Portugal (over 20 years), the United States (5 years), Eastern Europe (3 years), and South America (9 years). His teaching positions have included Assistant Professor at Aveiro University in Portugal (1990-1998), Associate Professor at Aveiro University (1998-2002), Full Professor at Aveiro University (2002-2019), and Full Professor at the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil (2011-2019). He has held several visiting appointments in Lisbon, Bratislava, Barcelona, New Zealand, and the United States.

Oliveira holds multiple degrees in various areas, including architecture (BS, Lisbon School of Fine Arts, 1981), organ performance (Superior Degree, Gregorian Institute, Lisbon, 1985), music theory (MA, SUNY/Stony Brook, 1988), and composition (MA, 1987 and PhD, 1990, SUNY/Stony Brook). From 1985 to 1990, he was a Fulbright Scholar in the US, and simultaneously held a fellowship from the Gulbenkian Foundations, a Portuguese foundation that supports the arts, sciences, and education.

ABOUT THE UC SANTA BARBARA DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

From an institution that began life dedicated to training the next generation of music educators, to what is now a multi-faceted department with a fully established research and professional graduate program with degrees in composition, ethnomusicology, musicology, music theory, and performance, the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music has produced many hundreds of graduates who have distinguished themselves both nationally and internationally. Alumni have gone on to teach on faculties of major colleges and universities in the United States and abroad, or in outstanding secondary school positions. Many graduates of the program have published extensively and become widely renowned, prize-winning scholars, while others are award-winning and frequently performed composers writing for television and film. Alumni are also establishing fine reputations as conductors of orchestras, opera, and choruses. Graduates of the instrumental programs have gone on to solo and orchestral careers with leading orchestras, and graduates of the voice program can be heard in opera companies around the world.

With over 150 events presented annually, the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music offers something for every music lover. The department boasts 26 unique performing ensembles, many with a quarterly concert calendar. Chamber music, large ensembles, opera, contemporary groups, world music, and jazz ensembles make up the department's rich performance calendar, along with lectures, master classes, and presentations from the ethnomusicology, musicology, theory, and composition programs. For a complete listing of performances and lectures for the quarter, please visit the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music website at music.ucsb.edu.

For additional information, photos, or to request an interview with an artist, please contact Adriane Hill at adrianehill@ucsb.edu or (805) 893-3230. To sign up for the Department of Music's newsletter, please visit eepurl.com/dcrvRr. Follow the Department of Music on Facebook ([@UCSBDepartmentofMusic](https://www.facebook.com/UCSBDepartmentofMusic)), Twitter ([@UCSBMusicDept](https://twitter.com/UCSBMusicDept)), and Instagram ([@ucsbmusicdept](https://www.instagram.com/ucsbmusicdept)).

###