

## Biography

Adam Basanta (b. 1985) is a Montreal-based sound artist, composer, and performer of experimental music. His work traverses sound installations, electroacoustic and instrumental composition, site-specific interventions, and laptop performance.

Across disciplines and media, he interrogates intersections between conceptual and sensorial dimensions of listening, instabilities of instrumentality, and means with which site and space can be articulated.

His sound and audiovisual installations have been presented in North America and Europe in galleries and institutions including Carol/Fletcher Gallery (London), Serralves Museum (POR), Edith-Russ-Haus fur Mediakunst (GER), Vitra Design Museum (GER), Laboral (ESP), Gallery B-312 (Montréal), Foundry Darling (Montréal), Titanik Gallery (FIN), The Center for Contemporary Arts Santa Fe (USA), and BIAN 2014 Digital Art Bienale (Montréal), and have been awarded in the Prix Ars Electronica 2013 (honourable mention, Hybrid Art category) and the 2014 Edith-Russ-Haus Awards for Emerging Media Artists.

His experimental concert music has been presented worldwide, including appearances in the MATA Festival (NY), Gaudeamus Musicweek (NL), CTM Festival (GER), Akousma Festival (CAN), and Mutek Festival (CAN), and have been awarded multiple national and international prizes, including Métamorphoses 2010 (Belgium) and the Grand Prize in the SOCAN Foundation Awards for Young Composers (Canada). Recently, his music has been released on Kohlenstoff Records (Montreal), Farmacia901 (Italy), and Cassauna (USA).

Adam holds a BFA in composition from Simon Fraser University (Vancouver, BC) and an interdisciplinary MA in composition and sound art installation at Concordia University (Montreal, QC).

# Adam Basanta - CV

## Composer / Sound artist

5909 avenue du Parc, Montréal, QC H2V 4H4 Tel: 438-884 5387 [adam.basanta@gmail.com](mailto:adam.basanta@gmail.com) [www.adambasanta.com](http://www.adambasanta.com)

### Education:

2010 – 2013 Master of Arts, Individual Program (Research-creation), Concordia University.

2006 – 2010 Simon Fraser University, School of Contemporary Arts. BFA Music composition.

### Solo Exhibitions

#### 2016

- \*\*\*Upcoming. Title TBD. Solo exhibition. Nutting Gallery, West Liberty University, WV. March 30 - April 21, 2016.
- \*\*\*Upcoming. Title TBD. Solo exhibition. In Sonora Festival, Madrid, Spain. March 1-12, 2016.

#### 2015

- \*\*\*Upcoming. A Room Listening to Itself. Open Space Gallery, Victoria BC. December 1 - January 9th, 2015.
- \*\*\*Upcoming. Title TBD. Solo exhibition. Carroll/Fletcher Gallery, London, UK. November 27, 2015 - January 23, 2016.
- \*\*\*Upcoming. Title TBD. Solo exhibition. Titanik Gallery, Turku Finland. October 19-26, 2015.
- A room listening to itself. Centre for Contemporary Arts, Santa Fe, NM. June 12-September 13, 2015.
- The sound of empty space. Solo exhibition. Galerie B-312, Montreal QC. Feb 19-Mar 20, 2015.

#### 2012

- Room Dynamics. Artscape Wychwood Barns, Toronto, ON, Canada. October 26-Dec 15, 2012.
- Room Dynamics. The Bridge Gallery, Charlottesville, VA, USA. September 21-30 2012.

### Group Exhibitions

#### 2015

- \*\*\*Upcoming. The loudest sound in the room experienced very quietly. Curated by the Conseil Québécois des Arts Mediatheques (CQAM). Invisible Dog Gallery, Brooklyn, NY. October 21-24, 2015.

#### 2014

- Invisible Lines. Collaboration with Julian Stein. Emerging Media Artists 2014. Edith-Russ-Haus für Medienkunst, Oldenburg, Germany. October 10-Jan 11, 2014.
- Room Dynamics. Sons Para Sono e Sonhos. Serralves Museum of Contemporary Art, Porto, Portugal. Curated by Pedro Rocha. October 1-4, 2014.
- N\_Polytope: Behaviours in Light and Sound after Iannis Xenakis. Collaboration with Chris Salter, Marije Baalman, Sofian Audry, Elio Bilinost. BIAN Montreal Digital Art Biennale. Darling Founderie Galerie, Montreal QC Canada. May 1-13, 2014.
- Invisible Lines. Collaboration with Julian Stein. Eastern Bloc Gallery, Montreal QC, April 23, 2014.
- Room Dynamics. Cluster New Music + Integrative Arts Festival. Winnipeg, MB. March 1-10, 2014.
- Invisible Lines. Collaboration with Julian Stein. Cluster New Music + Integrative Arts Festival. Winnipeg, MB. March 1-10, 2014.
- N\_Polytope: Behaviours in Light and Sound after Iannis Xenakis. Collaboration with Chris Salter, Marije Baalman, Sofian Audry, Elio Bilinost. CTM Festival. Berlin, Germany. January 26-February 23, 2014
- N\_Polytope: Behaviours in Light and Sound after Iannis Xenakis. Collaboration with Chris Salter, Marije Baalman, Sofian Audry, Elio Bilinost. Lighttopia. Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, Germany. January 10-20, 2014.

## 2013

- Music for Lamps. Collaboration with Julian and Max Stein. Electric Eclectics IX Festival, Meaford ON. August 2-4, 2013.
- Music for Lamps. Collaboration with Julian and Max Stein. Performance and installation. Sounds Like Audio Festival, AKA Gallery, Saskatoon, SK. July 23-25, 2013.
- Music for Lamps. Collaboration with Julian and Max Stein. 11th Annual Graduating Students Exhibition. FOFA Gallery, Concordia University, Montréal QC. June 10-28 2013.
- Music for Lamps. Collaboration with Julian and Max Stein. Nuit Blanche 2013, Montreal QC. March 2, 2013.

## 2012

- N\_Polytope: Behaviours in Light and Sound after Iannis Xenakis. Collaboration with Chris Salter, Marije Baalman, Sofian Audry, Elio Bilinost. Laboral Centro de Arte y Creacion Industrial, Gijon, Spain. Jul 20, 2012 – Sep 30, 2012.
- Music for 12 domestic lamps. Collaboration with Julian and Max Stein. Galerie Espace Projet, Montreal QC. April 25, 2012.

## 2011

- Contour, for a hallway. Light and sound installation. Vancouver New Music Festival 2011. Scotiabank Dance Centre, Vancouver, BC. October 5-9, 2011.
- Diagonal (for Eastern Bloc). Eastern Bloc Gallery, Montreal, QC. June 25, 2011.

## **Selected Awards**

- The sound of empty space. Finalist. FETA Prize in Sound Art 2015. Miami, FL.
- when you're looking for something, all you can find is yourself. Honorable mention, Soundscape category, PIARS Sonic Art Awards, Rome, Italy.
- Invisible Lines. Winner of the Edith-Russ-Haus Awards for Emerging Media Artists 2014, Oldenburg, Germany.
- N\_Polytope: Behaviours in Light and Sound after Iannis Xenakis. Collaboration with Chris Salter (US/CAN), Marije Baalman (NED), Sofian Audry (CAN), Elio Bilinost (CAN). Honourable mention, Prix Ars Electronica 2013, Hybrid Art category.
- Three Myths of Liberalism. John Weinzwieg grand prize for best composition and 1st prize, Hugh le Caine category, SOCAN Foundation Awards for Young Composers 2012, Canada.
- Three Myths of Liberalism. 2<sup>nd</sup> prize, JTTP 2012, Canadian Electroacoustic Community. Montreal, QC.
- a glass is not a glass. 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize, Sound in Space Festival 2011. Boston, MA.
- feelings I'm too tired for. 1st prize, Pierre Mercure category, SOCAN Foundation Awards for Young Composers 2011, Canada.
- a glass is not a glass. 1<sup>st</sup> prize, student category, Métamorphoses 2010, Musiques et Recherches, Belgium.
- a glass is not a glass. Honourable Mention, Musica Viva 2010. Miso Music, Portugal.
- Écologie Matérielle. 2<sup>nd</sup> prize, Hugh le Caine category, SOCAN Foundation Awards for Young Composers 2010. Canada.
- a glass is not a glass. 1<sup>st</sup> Prize, VII Concurso Internacional de Miniaturas Electroacusticas, Andalucia, Spain.
- Transients and Resonance. 3<sup>rd</sup> prize, Hugh le Caine category, SOCAN Foundation Awards for Young Composers 2008. Canada.

## **Selected Grants and Commissions**

- Canada Council for the Arts Travel Grant for Media Arts Professionals, 2015.
- Council des Arts et Lettres de Quebec, Commissioning grant. 2014.

- Canada Council for the Arts, Commission of Canadian Composition. 2014.
- Canada Council for the Arts Travel Grant for Media Arts Professionals, 2014.
- Canada Council for the Arts - Media Arts Production Grant. 2014.
- Canada Council for the Arts Travel Grant for Media Arts Professionals, 2013.
- Canada Council for the Arts, Commission of Canadian Composition. 2013.
- Commission of multichannel electroacoustic work by Western Front Artist Run Centre, Vancouver BC. 2013/14.
- Hexagram CIAM Development Grant. 2013.
- Commissioning of multichannel electroacoustic work by Codes d'accès and Centre PRIM (Montréal QC).
- Canada Council for the Arts Travel Grant for Media Arts Professionals, 2012.
- Commission of installation (Contour, for a hallway) by Vancouver New Music Festival 2011.
- Canada Council for the Arts Travel Grant for Professional Musicians, 2011.

### Artist Residencies

- Gallery Školská 28, Prague, Czech Republic. Nov 1-Dec 1, 2015.
- Titanik AIR, Arte Artists' Association, Turku, Finland. September 1- October 30, 2015.
- Elektronmusikstudion EMS Stockholm. July 15-31, 2014.
- KEAR Composer Residency, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio. November 10-28, 2013.
- Laboral Centro de Arte y Creacion Industrial, Gijon, Spain. June 25 - July 21, 2012.

### Selected Publications

- De ecos vacíos, espacios que se escuchan a sí mismos y el feedback como arte. Miguel Isaza for Hipasonic.com. August 15, 2015.
- Dancing lamps, a tortured piano: Illuminating objects and heavy concepts at the MATA Festival. Rebecca Lentjes for I care if you listen.com. April 2015
- Kids these days. Allan Kozinn for The Wall Street Journal. April 2015.
- Review: MATA Festival's Sounds of Play. Corinna Da Fonseca-Wollheim for The New York Times. April 2015.
- The sound of empty space. Régine Debatty for We make money not art. March 2015.
- Hacked Feedback Systems Reveal the Sound of Empty Space. Sami Emory for Vice's The Creator's Project. March 2015.
- Écouter le son d'un espace vide, voilà ce que propose cette installation. Aline Cantos for Konbini.com. March 2015.
- Silence is only an idea. Justin Metcalf for Deep Kuts, Montreal QC, Canada. March 2015.
- Besuch im Königreich der Stille. Jurgen Weichardt in Nordwest-Zeitung, Weimar, Germany. October 2014.
- A noite em que adormecemos na Casa de Serralves. Mariana Duarte in Publico, Porto, Portugal. October 2014.
- Music from the New Wilderness has an impressive scope. Alexander Varty in Georgia Straight, Vancouver BC, Canada. February 2014.
- Top 5 things you missed at Electric Eclectics. Moshe Rozenberg for The Grid TO. August 2013.
- Composer Profile: Adam Basanta composes with perceptive extremes. Nick Storrington in Musicworks 111, Toronto ON, Canada. November 2011.
- Dance in Vancouver, Program Four: spirituality and bodies. Melissa Walter for Plank Magazine. Vancouver BC, Canada. October 2009.

### Selected Musical and Media Performances

#### 2015

- The Privacy of Domestic Life. Percussion quartet with interactive scenography. Premiere, Usine C, Montreal QC. June 10, 2015.
- An outlier always finds its place out of place. Brass quintet + percussion. Commissioned by Magnitude6

with the assistance of Canada Council for the Arts. Premiere, La Gesu, Montreal QC. June 4, 2015.

- Strike / Struck. Percussion quartet with interactive scenography. Premiere, Music Gallery, Toronto ON. May 8, 2015.

## 2014

- synchronicity ain't no thing. Electroacoustic. Premiere. Sonic Arts Research Centre, Belfast UK, Nov 26, 2014.
- when you're looking for something, all you can find is yourself. 10 channel electroacoustics. Akousma XI Festival, Montreal QC. Nov 5, 2014.
- instant gris. Electroacoustic. Akousma Festival presentation at EMPAC, Troy, NY. Nov 1, 2014.
- from here to there in one straight line. Solo performance, 8 channel sound + live video. Festival Phenomena 2014, Montreal QC, October 24 2014.
- Music for Lamps. Site-specific audiovisual performance. Festival Phenomena 2014. Montreal QC, October 18, 2014
- Carte Blanche portrait concert. Presented by Sibelius Akademi, Helsinki, Finland. August 5, 2014.
- Room Dynamics (afterimages/vibrations). Audiovisual performance. Norberg Festival, Sweden. July 26-28, 2014.
- Tunnel Musik. Collaboration with Jen Reimer and Max Stein. Site-specific audiovisual performance. MMR McGill University, Montreal QC. Part of Suoni Per Il Popolo Festival 2014. June 9, 2014.
- this machine breathes to the rhythm of its own heartbeat. Piano + electronics, 2 surface transducers. Spectrum, NYC (world premiere). May 23, 2014.
- Early Robotics. Collaboration with Julian Stein + Max Stein. Machinic performance. University of Windsor, Ontario. March 30, 2014.
- gently contained but spilling outwards, long and flat. Composition for 5 microphone performers and feedback. Cluster New Music + Integrative Arts Festival, Winnipeg, MB. March 9, 2014 (Premiere).
- when you're looking for something, all you can find is yourself. 10 channel electroacoustics. Premiere. Vancouver East Cultural Centre. Feb 11-15, 2014. Commissioned by the Western Front Artist-run Centre.

## 2013

- Music for Lamps. Audiovisual performance. Curated by Innovacion en Concert. Sala Rosa, Montreal. Nov 4, 2013.
- Three Myths of Liberalism. Electroacoustics. Anthony Burgess Foundation, Manchester, UK. August 29, 2013.
- Music for Lamps. Audiovisual performance. Sounds Like Audio Festival, AKA Gallery, Saskatoon. July 26, 2013.
- Music for Lamps. Audiovisual performance. VIVO art centre, Vancouver BC. July 19, 2013.
- Three Myths of Liberalism. Electroacoustics. SEAM, Hochschule für Musik Franz Liszt, Weimar. July 15, 2013.
- Tunnel Musik. Collaboration with Jen Reimer and Max Stein. Site-specific audiovisual performance. Bain St. Michel, Montreal QC. Part of Suoni Per Il Popolo Festival 2013. June 5, 2013.
- Three Myths of Liberalism. Electroacoustics. Canadian Music Centre, Montreal. April 30, 2013.
- Music for Lamps. Audiovisual performance. Nuit Blanche 2013, Goethe Institut, Montreal. March 2, 2013.

## 2012

- sound unsound. Chamber ensemble (Flute, Bb Clarinet, Violin, Cello, Piano, and Conductor). Commissioned by Ensemble Allogène, Montréal. Dec 14, 2012 (premiere), Chapelle Historique Bon-Pasteur, Montreal QC.
- The Burning Skies of Bogota. Concert-installation, collaboration with Daniel Anez (Piano). Montreal Arts Interculturel (MAI). Nov 9-10, 2012.
- Tunnel Musik. Collaboration with Jen Reimer and Max Stein. Site-specific audiovisual performance. Wellington Tunnel, Montreal QC. Part of HTMelles Festival. Nov 16, 2012.
- Three Myths of Liberalism. Electroacoustics. Helsinki Music Centre, Finland. Nov 12, 2012.
- feelings I'm too tired for. Bass clarinet + electronics. European performances: Muzicki Salon SC, Zagreb, Croatia. June 6, 2012; ABOUT Cultural Venue, Athens, Greece, June 15, 2012.

- Music for 12 domestic lamps Gallerie Espace Projet, Montreal QC. April 25, 2012.
- Three Myths of Liberalism, Electroacoustics.. Usine C, Montreal, April 5, 2012 (premiere).
- a glass is not a glass. Electroacoustics. San Francisco Tape Music Festival, CA, USA. March 22, 2012.
- feelings I'm too tired for. Bass clarinet + electronics. North American Performances: L'envers, Montreal, March 16, 2012 (premiere); Packard Hall, Colorado College. April 21, 2012; Open Space, Victoria, BC. June 30, 2012.

#### 2011

- a glass is not a glass. Electroacoustics. US premiere: Sound in Space festival, Boston, MA, USA; Mexican premiere. CMMAS, Morelia, Mexico. May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- montreal, part I. Soundscape composition. Premiere. NAISA Deep Wireless Festival, May 7<sup>th</sup> 2011.
- a glass is not a glass. Electroacoustics. Image & Resonance Festival. Mar del Plata, Argentina. May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

#### 2010

- Audiovisual formation. Live audiovisual improvisation. VNM Festival Theatre for the Ears 2010. Vancouver, BC. October 5, 2010.
- Party Hat (for a 25<sup>th</sup> birthday). For 8 indeterminate performers. Vancouver New Music Production, March 10, 2010.
- a glass is not a glass. Electroacoustics. L'Espace du Son festival, Musiques et Recherches. Brussels, Belgium. Oct 22, 2010.
- a glass is not a glass. Electroacoustics. Korean Electro Acoustic Music Symposium. September 5, 2010.
- a glass is not a glass. Electroacoustics. North American performances: Clamour concert series, curated by Music on Main, The Western Front, Vancouver, BC, April 26, 2010; ICMC Concert. SUNY Stony Brook, June 10, 2010; Toronto Electroacoustic Symposium, August 16, 2010.

#### 2009

- Écologie Matérielle. Electroacoustics. ICMC, McGill University, Montreal,
- Écologie Matérielle. Electroacoustics. Toronto Electroacoustic Symposium, Toronto, ON.
- Free / Association. Electroacoustics. Premiere. Sonic Art Research Centre, Queen's University, Belfast, UK. October 2009.
- Transients and Resonance. Electroacoustics. Sonic Art Research Centre, Queen's University, Belfast, UK. October 2009.