

Zubin Kanga

Piano



“ It would be difficult to imagine a more skillful advocate, patron and practitioner of this repertoire than Kanga”
Tempo Magazine

Zubin Kanga is a pianist, composer, and technologist. For over a decade, he has been at the forefront of creating, co-creating and performing interdisciplinary music that seeks to explore and redefine what it means to be a performer through interactions with new technologies.

Since 2021, he has been the Director and Research Lead of Cyborg Soloists, a 7-year music technology research project supported by a UK Research and Innovation Future Leaders Fellowship and based at Royal Holloway, University of London, where he is Senior Lecturer in Musical Performance and Digital Arts. Cyborg Soloists is unlocking new possibilities in composition and performance through interactions with AI and machine learning, interactive visuals, motion and biosensors, and new hybrid instruments. His Cyborg Soloists work has been featured in The New York Times, The Wire, Classical Music Magazine, The Guardian and Limelight Magazine, and regularly featured on BBC Radio and the BBC World Service.

Zubin has premiered more than 160 works and performed at many international festivals including the BBC Proms, Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, Aldeburgh Festival, London Contemporary Music Festival (UK), Melbourne Festival (Australia), Paris Autumn Festival (France), Time of Music (Finland), Music Current (Ireland), Klang Festival (Denmark), Hamburg International Music Festival (Germany), Gaudeamus Festival (Netherlands), Transit Festival (Belgium) and Modulus Festival (Canada).

In 2024-2025, he premiered 8 new concerti with ensembles including BCMG, Explore Ensemble, Ensemble Offspring, Manchester Collective and the BBC Philharmonic. His recent albums

featuring new works exploring cutting-edge technologies include Machine Dreams (Nonclassical) and Cyborg Pianist (NMC) as well as feature albums of composers Claudia Molitor (October House Records), Scott McLaughlin (Huddersfield Contemporary Records) and Simon Emmerson (NMC).

Recent collaborations include Philip Venables' Answer Machine Tape, 1987, which uses a KeyScanner to turn the piano into a hybrid audio-visual instrument, allowing it to type text onto the screen like a typewriter; Alexander Schubert's internet-based score WIKI-PIANO.NET (performed 30 times across 9 countries as well as the BBC World Service) as well as, Steady State, that uses EEG brain sensors to control music and holographic AI visuals; the keyboard/piano concerto, Schiller's Piano by Laurence Osborn, performed with Manchester Collective at the Southbank Centre in London, and TECHNO-UTOPIA a new concerto by Robert Laidlow which was recorded with the BBC Philharmonic, featuring an AI system modelled on the orchestra's archives, performed with AI-integrated digital instruments.

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