

Francesco Iannuzzelli

Multicultural instrumentalist and composer, passionate educator and music technologist.

Born in Milan (Italy), lives in London since 2001.

Francesco has been studying classical and jazz guitar for more than 10 years with Alberto Pizzigoni, main guitarist of the Italian TV orchestra in Milan. He also studied harmony, composition and counterpoint with Aldo Rossi at the Music Education Centre in Milan.

Francesco has worked as a session musician, sound engineer and arranger at MAP studios in Milan for several years before moving to UK. He has written and produced music for TV and other media, and achieved a Specialist Certificate in Orchestration for Film and TV at Berklee College of Music.

After exploring various music instruments and styles from all over the world, he has specialised in the Oud, studying Iraqi, Ottoman and Persian music with several masters, including Ahmed Mukhtar, Ehsan Emam, Nejati Celik, Yurdal Tokcan, Veria Amiri.

Together with Ahmed Mukhtar, Francesco launched Taqasim Music School in 2011, where he taught individual and group classes of Oud, guitar and Middle-Eastern music theory.

Francesco has obtained a Master in Music Performance, awarded with distinction, at SOAS University – London, specialising in Middle-Eastern music and the Iraqi Oud. He also owns a MSc in Electronic Engineering & Computer Science from the Politecnico of Milan, achieved with a research project in the simulation of music perception via neural networks.

Francesco regularly performs as Oud soloist and in several London-based ensembles.

In 2015, he has won the International Composition Competition of the Arab Academy of Music with his work "Samai Hijaz", for Oud and orchestra.

His works have been published by various labels in Italy, but Francesco currently produces and publishes his music under his own independent label Musilogue.

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Skills & Experience

Oud & Arabic Music

Advanced understanding of Maqam system. Vast knowledge of Middle-Eastern repertoire and traditions, specifically Iraqi, Ottoman, and Persian.

Confident instrumental techniques and Taqasim (improvisation) skills.

Tuition

Founder of Taqasim Music School in 2011, providing regular courses on Middle-Eastern music in the UK for 5 years. Currently teaching Oud in individual and small groups.

Individual Classical Guitar teacher. Author of tuition manuals and methods.

Guitar

Vast knowledge of guitar repertoire, including Conservatory's program for classical guitar, jazz and Latin-American standards, contemporary and folk music from different cultures and traditions. Experience in both studio and live performances as solo player and with small ensembles. Very good sight-reading, improvisation and accompaniment skills.

Composition

Very good understanding of counterpoint, classical harmony and modern techniques. Extensive familiarity with diverse genres (Classical, Contemporary, Jazz, Popular) and music traditions (Western, Mediterranean, Latin-American, Arabic).

Good background in arranging and composing music for small ensembles and solo instruments. Orchestration skills, specifically for Film and TV.

Commercial experience in composing for short films, adverts, TV, Radio and multimedia.

Sound engineering and music technologies

Very familiar with music technology since the very early days of MIDI programming and digital audio editing. Professional experience as studio technician and sound engineer, managing the full production process from recording to post-production. Technically proficient in music notation (Sibelius, Finale), production (Cubase, Pro Tools), software sampling, sound libraries, audio editing, encoding and streaming for online distribution.

Music Therapy

Music laboratories for disabled people and street children, including ensemble performance.

Research

Psychoacoustics, cognitive psychology and music perception. Software simulation of music perception with neural networks. Computer-generated music.

Qualifications

M.Mus. Music Performance, with Distinction – SOAS University – London

Certificate in Music Studies – Goldsmiths College, University of London

Specialist Certificate in Orchestration for Film and TV – Berklee Online

ALCM Diploma in Classical Guitar Performance by London College of Music.

Certificate in Teaching World Music Performance – SOAS University – London.

Grade 8 in Electric Guitar by RGT (Registry of Guitar Tutors).

Grade 7 in Music Theory by ABRSM.

Grade 5 in Piano by ABRSM.

M.Sc., Electronic Engineering & Computer Science – Politecnico di Milano – Italy

Relevant memberships & other certifications

PRS for Music

Musicians Union