

# MICHAEL GATONSKA, COMPOSER

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MICHAEL GATONSKA is a composer and soundscape artist. He is a recipient of a Civitella Ranieri Fellowship, Kosciuszko Foundation Fellowships, MacDowell Fellowship, and multiple awards from New Music USA and ASCAP. His music has been recognized through commissions and awards from arts institutions including the Hoeschler Foundation, Roberts Foundation, Mary Cary Flagler Charitable Trust, MATA, the Paul Underwood/ACO commission, Chicago Symphony First Hearing Award and the American Prize. He has collaborated with orchestras and ensembles including the Minnesota Orchestra, the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, Pacific Symphony, Hartford Symphony, String Orchestra of New York City, Talea, Sinfonietta Cracovia and the Chicago Chamber Players.

Gatonska's compositional thinking is primarily concerned with exploring how musical works can express the human-nature relationship. His application of the natural world to music embraces both the intuitive and technical, that create a mosaic of musical contexts in which diverse sound worlds seamlessly coexist – from raw to highly refined timbres, from rhythmic vitality to abrupt stasis, and from sinuous continuity to mechanical repetition. His music frequently explores the construction of musical pictures that are woven together like the real world, thus replicating the human experience. Gatonska's musical thinking is primarily concerned with patterns in nature, and how these patterns can be used as ecostructural models for organizing musical sound, color, movement and structures, and musical perception more generally.

Gatonska has received degrees from Manhattanville College, the Academy of Music in Kraków, the Manhattan School of Music, and his DMA from the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. He has taught music composition, theory and history at the Pontifical Xavierian University in Bogotá.