

Daniel Johannes Taljaard (Siloam, Soutpansberg, South Africa 1971 –)

Hannes Taljaard is currently studying Masters in MBP/Rhythmik at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna, pursuing his interest in the relationships between music and movement in order to be part of various social contexts that have the potential to shape human interactions. Living in Vienna, he can participate as artist in a variety of projects, and integrate himself into an established, stimulating and extensive network of people with similar interests and experiences. His motivation stems from his convictions regarding the significance of embodiment.

Composing is still the core and foundation of his artistic activities. He also performs as pianist, singer, and movement artist. In order to structure the organisation of projects, he cofounded in 2024 the *allerdings* society, and a duo called *AMBO*. He hopes to work in future on the potential of MBP/Rhythmik (Music and Movement Education / Rhythmics) in performance and in tertiary education in Europe and South Africa.

Prior to moving to Vienna in 2019, he worked for more than two decades in South Africa as composer and lecturer at the North-West University (NWU) in Potchefstroom where he taught various subjects from different fields, and regularly organised concerts and a new music festival. Milestones in his academic career were the completion of his D.Mus. in Composition in 2007, an appointment as Associate Professor, and guest lectures at tertiary institutions in Africa, Europe and the Americas.

His formal musical training started in Potchefstroom, South Africa when he was seven years old: recorder, piano and later church organ. He progressed to studying piano at the university when he was sixteen. In the next year, he passed with distinction an exam in Harmony, Counterpoint and Analysis that had the same level as a university degree in Music Theory. He sang in choirs from an early age until 1992. He studied composition privately in Antwerp with Wim Henderickx and interviewed (for his masters dissertation) composition lecturers in England, France and Belgium. His compositions have been performed mainly in South Africa, and also in Europe, the USA, and Argentina, sometimes with him as performer. During his studies he worked as an accompanist in singing classes.