

Marcel Octav Costea (Romania)

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Marcel Octav Costea, organist, conductor and composer, teaches at the National University of Music Bucharest (since 1992) and is Kapellmeister at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Bucharest (since 1986).

He toured in Romania, France, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria and Belgium. He composed film scores, theatre music, chamber and choral music. He is the author of 'Sacerdotes, schola et christifideles – an incarnation of dialogue in music ('Sacerdotes, schola et christifideles – O întruchipare a dialogului în muzică'), Ed. Muzicală, Bucharest, 2006 and of 'Sacred music in Codex Caioni' ('Muzica sacra în Codex Caioni'), Ed. UNMB, Bucharest, 2007.

He founded the Musica Sacra ensemble of the St. Joseph's Cathedral in Bucharest in 1990, with which he toured in Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, France and Romania. This ensemble is the focal point of musical activities around the Cathedral. They recorded three albums in the Musica sacra series: Sancta Dei Genitrix (2010), O crux ave (2011) and Hodie Christus natus est (2012).

He founded the Ethos Trio in 1997, along with Iancu Văduva (trumpet) and Dorin Gliga (oboe), with which he recorded two albums of baroque music, featured in the 'Golden Phonotheque' (Fonoteca de aur) of the Romanian Radio Broadcasting Company.

He recorded an album of Gregorian chant and organ music released by Weltmusik Konzertagentur – Erlangen and a promotional CD, Music to My Ears, released by IBM.

Composer of sacred and secular music, theatre music and film score: The White Lace Dress (Rochia albă de dantelă, 1989, directed by Dan Pița), To My Brother in Exile (Fratelui meu din exil, 2009, directed by Anca Boariu), etc.

Since 2005 he holds a PhD in Musicology with a thesis on 'Aspects of alternate chant – responsorial and antiphonal – in the Roman and Byzantine Church' (Aspecte ale cântului alternativ – responsorial și antifonal – în Biserica romană și bizantină).

In 2009 he took part in the International Organ Competition jury at St. Maurice (Switzerland), along with Luigi Celeghin – Italy, Z. Szathmáry – Germany, J.F. Vaucher – Switzerland, Hans Pålson – Sweden, Rotislaw Wygranienko – Poland and G. Athanasiades (president of the jury) – Switzerland.

In 2010 he was awarded the UCMR Prize for the choral composition Religious Triptych (Triptic religios).