

MATHEUS SOUZA

composer · improviser · electroacoustic musician

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// ARTISTIC BIOGRAPHY

Matheus Souza (b. 1997, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) is a composer, improviser, and electronic musician based in Lyon, France. Working across electroacoustic composition, mixed music, and improvisation, his practice focuses on acousmatic music, live electronics, and on the intersection of both practices - interconnecting processes of composition and performance. His work often unfolds through collaborations with visual artists, dancers, and musicians from diverse fields, including jazz, traditional, experimental, classical, and electronic music.

Rooted in post-human and post-digital aesthetics, his music emerges from the physical negotiation between human gesture and analogue and digital systems. Glitches, electric roars, and mechanical sonorities shaped into physical gestures form living flows that guide the audience through contrasting yet coherent sonic environments built through recursive processes, inspired by his Brazilian Indigenous roots.

His interest in the relationship between sound and movement manifests in 2022 through performances and research around the work of John Cage and Udo Kasemets, conducted alongside choreography students from Tallinn University working in Merce Cunningham techniques, under the direction of Oksana Tralla and Taavi Kerikmäe.

In November 2023, he independently released his debut album *Terra*, a 34-minute solo work in two parts, composed, performed, and recorded in single takes on the Buchla 200e system at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm. The album highlights his approach to modular synthesis, merging detailed sound design with dynamic improvisation to create immersive, evolving sound environments.

In March 2024, he undertook a residency at Erica Synths headquarters in Riga, Latvia, where he began exploring interactions between Buchla and Eurorack systems. The residency concluded with a performance of the prototype of his work *Diode* at Erica Synths Garage. In June 2024, he performed *Tekoha* at the SILPAKORN International Music Festival and Conference in Bangkok, Thailand, as an electronic musician and researcher. That year, his collaborative approach to sound and movement continued, giving rise to a collaborative work for bassoon, percussion, and live electronics developed in dialogue with a choreography by Virginia Heinen. It was further deepened through his participation in *The Art of Improvisation 2024-II* as a member of the SPIIC+ Ensemble, alongside dancers Susanne Martin and Katarzyna Brzezinska, under the direction of Vlatko Kucan.

In 2025, he was in residence at GRAME CNCM, further developing his research on hybrid analog-digital systems using a Buchla/Eurorack, computer setup. The same year, he was selected to participate in the Darmstadt Summer Course for a workshop dedicated to *Rainforest IV* by David Tudor. Working alongside the Virginia Heinen and Violeta Todo González in two distinct choreographies, he worked on another work for the aforementioned trio, as well as a piece for four-hand piano and electronics. In 2026, following the artistic residency at GRAME CNCM, he premiered his solo performance *Thresholds* on April 22nd at Bac à Traille - Théâtre de la Renaissance.

As an artistic researcher, his studies are on both fields of Theory and Analysis of Electroacoustic Music and of Live Electronic Music. In his Master Thesis he carries out an investigation on an interdisciplinary relationship between electroacoustic music and philosophy via two concepts: the Praxis according to Paulo Freire and the Combination of Aural and Mimetic discourses by Simon Emmerson. The research presented in this dissertation are implemented in two of his acousmatic works *Atual estado de coisas*, *inBetw3en*, and a live electronic work *Tekoha*. During the same Masters studies, as an Erasmus+ student at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, he was guided in Contemporary Composition by Helena Tulse and he participated in a masterclass by Chaya Czernowin.

Awarded the third prize of the International Composition Competition «Nuestra América» 2020, he holds a Master's degree in Contemporary Performance and Composition (CoPeCo) from the CNSMD de Lyon and a Bachelor's degree in Violin Performance from the Instituto Villa-Lobos (UNIRIO). He is currently pursuing a DNSPM in Contemporary Composition at the CNSMD de Lyon under the guidance of François Roux.

// LINKS

web souzamatheus.com

soundcloud soundcloud.com/matheusouza

bandcamp souzamatheus.bandcamp.com/

youtube www.youtube.com/@souzamatheus_composer

instagram www.instagram.com/souzamatheus_composer/

erica synths garage.ericasynths.lv/articles/matheus-souza-bridging-classical-and-electronic/