

## HÈCTOR



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## PARRA

### Works catalog

Following his studies at the Conservatori Superior de Música in Barcelona (at the end of which he received the First Prize for composition, piano, harmonisation, and choral conducting), Parra studied composition and music technology at the IRCAM in Paris, and furthered his education at Royaumont, the Acanthes Center, Takefu in Japan, and at the Haute école de musique Genève – Neuchâtel” (Geneva HEM) under Brian Ferneyhough, Jonathan Harvey, Michael Jarrell, Philippe Leroux, and Philippe Manoury.

Through his numerous multidisciplinary projects for the stage, Parra has collaborated with various stage designers including Calixto Bieito, Georges Lavaudant, and Vera Nemirova, plastic artists such as Matthew Ritchie and Jaume Plensa, and even the scientists Lisa Randall and Jean-Pierre Luminet.

His opera *Das geopferte Leben*, based upon an original libretto by Marie NDiaye, was composed for the Freiburger Barockorchester and the Recherche Ensemble. It was premiered during the 2014 Munich Biennale, and hailed by *Opernwelt* magazine as one of the year’s most promising creations. His last two operas, *WILDE* (2015) and *Les Bienveillantes* (2019) - both with libretto by Händl Klaus and staging by Calixto Bieito - are premiered with great success.

Among his latest works is a 60-minute composition for the cellist Arne Deforce, in collaboration with the artist Jaume Plensa, and *Inscape*, an immersive symphonic work inspired by the cosmological theories of the physicist Jean-Pierre Luminet, composed for the Ensemble Intercontemporain, IRCAM, the Barcelona National Orchestra, the Cologne Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Lille National Orchestra.

His works have been awarded numerous prizes: the Ernst von Siemens Composition Prize in 2011, the Tendances Prize by the newspaper *El Mundo* in 2009, the Graz Impuls Prize (Klangforum) in 2008, the San Francisco Earplay Donald Aird Composers Competition prize in 2007, the IRCAM and Ensemble Intercomporain Tremplin prize in 2005, and the National Institute of Performing Arts and Music (INAEM) Composition Prize in 2002.

He has since received various commissions from institutions such as the Ministries of Culture of France and Spain, the IRCAM, the Ensemble Intercontemporain, the Berlin Academy of Arts, the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord in Paris, the Munch Biennale Opera, the WDR, the Cologne Philharmonic, the Société Générale’s Musical Sponsorship, Contrechamps, and the Klangforum Wien.

Parra has also developed close and privileged relations with performers and ensembles such as the Ensemble Intercontemporain (*Quasikristall*, *Caressant l’horizon*, *Hypermusic Prologue*, *Te craindre en ton absence*), and the Ensemble Recherche (*Abîme*, *Early Life*) who recorded a monographic CD in honour of the composer (Kairos, 2008), and the Arditti Quartet.

His works are often included in the programmes of international festivals in Lucerne, Warsaw Autumn, Wien Modern, Donaueschingen, Witten, Wien Konzerthaus, Tokyo Suntory Hall, Agora-Ircam, Ars Musica (Bruxelles), Musica (Strasbourg), Staatsoper Berlin, Stuttgart Opera, Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelone, San Sebastián, Traiettorie Parma, Steirischer Herbst in Graz, the Muziekgebouw in Amsterdam, Auditorio Nacional in Madrid and Auditori in Barcelone, Hoy Opera and Musé Reina Sofía in Madrid, Granada International Festival, Luxemburg Philharmonic, Zurich, Kings Place (London), Huddersfield, New York Guggenheim...

Parra's music has been performed by numerous orchestras, including the Ensemble Intercontemporain, the Tokyo Philharmonic, the Stuttgart SWR Radio-sinfonieorchester, the Orquesta Nacional de España, the Brussels Philharmonic, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Liège, the Barcelona National Orchestra, the Île de France National Orchestra, and the Holland Symfonia, conducted among others by David Afkham, Michail Jurowski, Kazushi Ono, Emilio Pomárico, Clement Power, Enno Poppe, Peter Rundel, and Lothar Zagrosek...

After a period of time working in the plastic arts (in the studio of Francesc Miñarro in Barcelona), and developing a fascination for art and painting, notably El Greco and Cézanne whose pictorial texture he has sought to express through his music, Hèctor Parra has now turned to his inspiration of theoretical physics and evolutionary biology through ***Stress Tensor, Mineral Life, Caressant l'Horizon, and InFALL***.

Depuis 2002 Hèctor Parra habite Paris et est actuellement professeur de composition à l'Ircam-Centre Pompidou.



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LYRICAL

WORKS

***Te craindre en ton absence (2012 -2013)***

Monodrame for actress, ensemble & electronic

Booklet of Marie NDiaye

Nomenclature: 1.1.1.1/1.1.1.0/2..1.1.1

Commissioned by Ensemble Intercontemporain, IRCAM-Centre Pompidou, CICT/Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord

Premiere: March 4, 2014, Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, Paris, by Astrid Bas (actress), Ensemble Intercontemporain, Julien Leroy (cond.), Thomas Goepfer (computer Music design IRCAM-Centre Pompidou), Georges Lavaudan (stage setting)

Duration: 1 h 10

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/te-craindre-en-ton-absence>

En location / on hire – Editions Durand

***Das geopferte Leben (2013)***

Opéra for four singers, baroque ensemble & ensemble

Booklet of Marie NDiaye

Commissioned by Kompositionsauftrag der Landeshauptstadt München zur Münchener Biennale und des Theaters Freiburg

Premiere: May 20, 2014, Salle Karl Orf, Gasteig, by Ensemble Recherche et Freiburger Barockorchester, Peter Tilling (cond.) and Vera Nemirova (stage setting)

Duration: 1 h 33

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra\\_das\\_geopferte\\_leben](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra_das_geopferte_leben)

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/das-geopferte-leben-lingong-sopr>

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## **WILDE (2014 - 2015)**

For six singers, actor & orchestra

Nomenclature: 2.2.2.2 — 2.2.2.1 — 2 perc — hp — Str

Commissioned by SWR for Schwetzingen Festspiele 2015

Premiere: May 22, 2015 at Rokokotheater (Schwetzingen Festspiele 2015),  
by Lini Gong, Marisol Montalvo, Mireille Lebel, Bernhard Landauer,  
Vincent Lièvre-Picard, Ekkehard Abele (singers), Ernst Alisch (actor),  
Radio Sinfonieorchester Stuttgart des SWR, Peter Rundel (cond.), Calixto  
Bieito (stage director)

Duration: 2 h

Have a look at the score on ISSUU : [https://issuu.com/  
durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra\\_wilde\\_pno-](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra_wilde_pno-)

Recording: [https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/wilde-ekkehard-abele-bar-  
rso-stuttgart-peter-rundel-cond](https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/wilde-ekkehard-abele-bar-rso-stuttgart-peter-rundel-cond)

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## ***Les Bienveillantes* (2018 - 2019)**

Based upon the novel by Jonathan Littell

Booklet by Händl Klaus

Opera

Nomenclature: 3.3.3.3 — 4.3.3.1 — timb – 2 perc — hp – pno — 1.1.1.1.1

Commissioned by Opera Vlaanderen Antwerp/Ghent, Staatstheater  
Nürnberg and Teatro Real de Madrid

Premiere: April 24, 2019 at Anvers opera, Belgium by Symfonisch Orkest  
Opera Vlaanderen and choir Koor Opera Vlaanderen, Peter Rundel (cond.),  
Calixto Bieito (stage director)

Duration: 2 h 45

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# ORCHESTRAL

# WORKS

## ***InFALL (2011)***

For orchestra

Nomenclature: 3.3.3.3 — 4.3.3.1 — timb - 3 perc - hp — Str

Premiere: February 24, 2012 at Auditorium of Barcelona by the OBC

Duration: 8 min

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra\\_infall](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra_infall)

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/infall-obc-kazushi-ono-cond>

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## ***WILDE suite (2015)***

For orchestra

Nomenclature: 2.2.2.2 — 2.2.2.1 — 2 perc - hp — Str

Commissioned by SWR for the Schwetzingen Festspiele 2015

Premiere: March 11, 2016 at Auditori Nacional de Catalunya, Barcelona, by the OBC, Kazushi Ono (cond.)

Duration: 20 min

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra\\_wilde\\_suite](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra_wilde_suite)

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/wilde-suite-2015-for-orchestra-obc-kazushi-ono-conductor>

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## ***Wilde - ouverture & finale (2015)***

For symphonic orchestra

Nomenclature: 2.2.2.2 — 2.2.2.1 — 2 perc - hp — Str

Commissioned by SWR for Schwetzingen Festspiele 2015

Premiere: Septembre 25, 2015 at Auditorio Nacional de Música, Madrid, by the ONE, David Afkham (cond.)

Duration: 14 min

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra\\_wilde\\_ouverture](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra_wilde_ouverture)

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/wilde-concert-ouverture-and-finale-2015-for-orchestra-one-d-afkham-conductor>

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### ***Three Shakespeare Sonnets (2016)***

For tenor voice & baroque orchestra

Parts: Sonnet 18 (3'50") – Sonnet 19 (3'20") – Sonnet 20 (3'50")

Nomenclature: 2.2.0.2 – 2.0.0.0 – Str

Commissioned by Kölner Philharmonie / KölnMusik

Premiere: May 25, 2017 at Kölner Philharmonie by Freiburger

Barockorchester and Julian Prégardien (tenor). Jérémie Rhorer (cond.)

Duration: 12 min

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00_parra_three_shakespeare_sonnets)

[durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00\\_parra\\_three\\_shakespeare\\_sonnets](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00_parra_three_shakespeare_sonnets)

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/three-shakespeare-sonnets-2016-sonnet-20-freiburger-barockorchester-j-pregardien-j-rhorer>

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### ***Orgia –Irrisorio alito d'aria (2017)***

For tenor voice & baroque orchestra

Parts: Sonnet 18 (3'50") – Sonnet 19 (3'20") – Sonnet 20 (3'50")

Nomenclature: 2.2.0.2 – 2.0.0.0 – strings

Commissioned by Kölner Philharmonie / KölnMusik

Premiere: May 25, 2017 at the Kölner Philharmonie, by the Freiburger

Barockorchester and Julian Prégardien (tenor). Jérémie Rhorer (cond.)

Duration: 12 min

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00_parra_three_shakespeare_sonnets)

[durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00\\_parra\\_three\\_shakespeare\\_sonnets](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00_parra_three_shakespeare_sonnets)

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/three-shakespeare-sonnets-2016-sonnet-20-freiburger-barockorchester-j-pregardien-j-rhorer>

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### ***Avant la fin... vers où ? (2018)***

For large orchestra

Nomenclature: 3.3.3.3 – 4.3.3.1 – timb – 3 perc – hp – 16.14.12.10.8

Commissioned by Instituto Nacional de las Artes Escénicas y de la Música (INAEM)

Premiere: April 20, 2018 at Auditoria Nacional de Musica à Madrid, Spain, by Orquesta Nacional de Espana, David Afkham (cond.)

Duration: 40 min

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/orgia-irrisorio-alito-d-aria-2017-concerto-koln-musikfabrik-s-asbury-conductor>

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## ***Inscape (2017 - 2018)***

For ensemble & orchestra with electronic

Nomenclature : 1.2.1.1/0.2.2.0/2 Perc./1.1.1.1.1// Orch:3.3.3.3/4.3.3.1/Timp./  
3Perc./Hrp./16.14.12.10.8

Commissioned by Consorci de l'auditori i orquestra, Ensemble  
Intercontemporain, Ircam, Orchestre national de Lille, Gurzenich-  
orchester Köln

Premiere: May 19, 2018 at Temporada OBC-Auditori, Barcelona, by  
Ensemble Intercontemporain and Orquestra Simfònica de Barcelona i  
Nacional de Catalunya, Kazushi Ono (cond.)

Duration: 30 min

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/  
durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00\\_inscape\\_po\\_a3\\_int\\_dd\\_20181125](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00_inscape_po_a3_int_dd_20181125)

Recording: [https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/inscape-2017-2018-eic-onl-  
ircam-a-bloch-conductor](https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/inscape-2017-2018-eic-onl-ircam-a-bloch-conductor)

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szlNwrSBf1s>

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# WORKS

## FOR ENSEMBLE

### ***Caessant l'horizon (2010)***

For ensemble (27 musicians)

Nomenclature: 2.2.2.2 – 2.2.2.1 – 3 perc - hp – 3.2.2.1

Commissioned by Mécénat Musical Société Générale

Premiere: November 9, 2011 at Cité de la Musique (Paris) by Ensemble Intercontemporain, Emilio Pomarico (cond.)

Duration: 30 min

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra\\_caessant\\_l\\_horizon](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra_caessant_l_horizon)

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/ensembleintercontemporain/hector-parra-caessant>

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### ***Moins qu'un souffle, à peine un mouvement de l'air (2012)***

Hommage à Khady Demba

For flute, bass flute, piccolo & ensemble

Nomenclature: 1.0.0.0 – 0.0.0.0 – 2 perc – hp – pno – 1.1.1.1.1

Commissioned by Brandstätter Baumanagement for Klangforum Wien

Premiere: Octobre 1<sup>er</sup> 2012 at Konzerthaus Wien, Mozart Saal, by Klangforum Wien, Enno Poppe (cond.)

Duration: 20 min

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra\\_moins\\_quun\\_souffle](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/parra_moins_quun_souffle)

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/moins-quun-souffle>

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### ***Aracne – Quatuor à cordes n° 3 (2015)***

For string quartet

Premiere: April 17, 2015 at Auditorium du Musée du Louvre, by quatuor Tana

Commissioned by Musée du Louvre (Paris), Wigmore Hall (Londres), Festival Nits de Clàssica de Girona and Konzerthaus (Vienna)

Duration: 15 min

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/aracne-quatuor-tana>

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## ***Cell 2 (2016)***

For flute, clarinet, percussion & piano

Nomenclature: 1.0.1.0 — 0.0.0.0 — perc — pno

Commissioned by Auditorium of Barcelona – Sampler Series 2016/2017

Premiere: June 1st 2017 at Fundació Miró, Barcelona, by Ensemble

CrossingLines, Mariano Chiacchiarini (cond.)

Duration: 14 min

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/cell-2-2016for-flute-clarinet-percussion-piano-crossinglines-mariano-chiacchiarini>

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00_cell_2_po_int_a3_mp_20170428)

[durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00\\_cell\\_2\\_po\\_int\\_a3\\_mp\\_20170428](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00_cell_2_po_int_a3_mp_20170428)

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## ***Breathing (2015)***

For choir (12 voices)

Commissioned by La “Semana de Música Religiosa de Cuenca” (2016) for the Vocalconsort Berlin

Premiere: March 26, 2016 at Catedral de Cuenca (Spain) by the

Vocalconsort Berlin, James Wood (cond.)

Duration: 24 min

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/breathing-piece-2-vocalconsort-berlin-james-wood-conductor>

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00_parra_breathing_20160301)

[durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00\\_parra\\_breathing\\_20160301](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00_parra_breathing_20160301)

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## ***Un souffle en suspens (2013 - 2016)***

Based on « Te craindre en ton absence »

For ensemble

Nomenclature: 1.1.1.1 — 1.1.1.0 — 2 perc - hp — 1.1.1.1.1

Commissioned by Fondation Ernst von Siemens for the Konzerthaus Blaibach and the ensemble Risonanze Erranti/Peter Tilling

Premiere: July 9, 2017 at Konzerthaus Blaibach, Germany, by Ensemble

Risonanze Erranti, Peter Tilling (cond.)

Duration: 70 min

Have a look at the score on ISSUU: [https://issuu.com/](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00_parra_un_souffle_en_suspens_po_2)

[durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00\\_parra\\_un\\_souffle\\_en\\_suspens\\_po\\_2](https://issuu.com/durand.salabert.eschig/docs/00_parra_un_souffle_en_suspens_po_2)

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***Lent comme un rêve (2017)***

For choir & piano

Commissioned by Chœur de chambre du Palau de la Música Catalana  
(Barcelona)

Premiere: February 4, 2018 at Petit Palaudu, Palau de la Musica Catalana,  
Barcelona, by Oscar Paya, José Menor (piano) and the Cor de Cambra del  
Palau

Duration: 7 min

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***Cos de matèria (2012)***  
***Cinq Études d'Art***

For piano

Commissioned by Festival Nits de Clàssica (Auditori de Girona)

Premiere: July 21, 2012 at Catedral de Girona (Festival Nits de Clàssica) by José Menor

Duration: 6 min

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/cos-de-materia-antoni-tapies-in-memoriam>

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***Caricies cap al blanc (2013)***  
***Cinq Études d'Art***

(Gerhard Richter - Abstraktes Bild 911-4)

For piano

Commissioned by Festival Nits de Clàssica (Auditori de Girona)

Premiere: July 3, 2013 at Catedral de Girona (Festival Nits de Clàssica) by Àlex Alguacil

Duration: 4 min

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/caricies-cap-al-blanc-jose-menor-piano>

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***HAUS ur/Office BAROQUE (2014)***

***Cinq Études d'Art***

For piano

Commissioned by Festival Nits de Clàssica (Auditori de Girona)

Premiere: July 9, 2014 at St Domènec de Girona (Festival Nits de Clàssica)  
by Carles Marigó

Duration: 6 min

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/haus-ur-jose-menor-piano>

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***Una pregunta (a Jaume Plensa) (2015)***

***Cinq Études d'Art***

For piano

Commissioned by Festival Nits de Clàssica (Auditori de Girona)

Premiere: September 9, 2015 at Palau de la Musica Catalan, Barcelona, by  
José Menor

Duration: 6 min 30

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/una-pregunta-a-jaume-plensa-jose-menor-piano>

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***Cell (Arch of Hysteria) (2016)***

***Cinq Études d'Art***

For piano

Commissioned by Festival Nits de Clàssica (Auditori de Girona)

Premiere: July 14, 2016 at Catedral de Girona (Festival Nits de Clàssica), by  
José Menor

Duration: 10 min

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/cell-arch-of-hysteria-jose-menor-piano>

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***Au cœur de l'Oblique (2016 - 2017)***

For piano

Commissioned by Concours international de piano d'Orléans

Premiere: 18 mars 2018 by Maroussia Gentet, Ogura Miharu, Jo Hyeonjun

Duration: 15 min

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/au-coeur-de-loblique-2016-17-maroussia-gentet-piano>

Video: <https://youtu.be/wbO8SW3EA2s>

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## ***Tres Miradas (2016)***

For organ

Commissioned by Radio France

Premiere: February 18, 2017 at Auditorium de Radio France (Festival  
Présence 2018) by Francesco Filidei

Duration: 15 min

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/tres-miradas-fragment-francesco-filidei-orgue>

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WORKS

FOR SOLOISTS

## ***Sonate (2010)***

For piano

Commissioned by Arcana Festival and Regionale 2010, Styria

Premiere: Octobre 8, 2010 at Festival ARCANA, St Gallen-Gesäuse, Austria,  
by Nicolas Hodges (piano)

Duration: 22 min

Recording: <https://soundcloud.com/h-parra/piano-sonata-jose-menor-piano>

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