



INSTR
MNTS

VICTOR GAMA

EXHIBITION

an interactive exhibition with contemporary musical instruments, sound installations, audiovisual displays, games and talks.

CONCERT

a concert with Victor Gama's unique INSTRUMENTS and music compositions.

WORKSHOPS

music workshops for children, grown ups and families in the gallery space.

INSTALLATION / PERFORMANCE

GigantikArpz, an interactive open air installation with piano strings of more than 40 mts and a performance by Victor Gama and world renown percussionist Pedro Carneiro.





Paul Hamlyn Hall, Royal Opera House, London

'the event's most impressive and resonant mix of sound, vision and concept was Instrumentos, an exhibition/performance in the beautiful Paul Hamlyn Hall by Angola-born inventor and musician Victor Gama. Each instrument is a beautiful object; each implies a different audio-visual journey that's both ethnic and high tech.'

The Guardian

VISION

A space of free experimentation and performance for the visitor

Inspired by the ancestral traditions of Angolan instruments and their continuities around the world, the INSTRMNTS project makes use of 21st century digital technologies to suggest a new paradigm. That of an instrument whose design and construction is undertaken by the

composer, becoming variables in the musical writing process. When operating in this mode, we observe that both the new typology of music and the old one add up, allowing us to establish a continuum between tradition and contemporaneity.



EXHIBITION

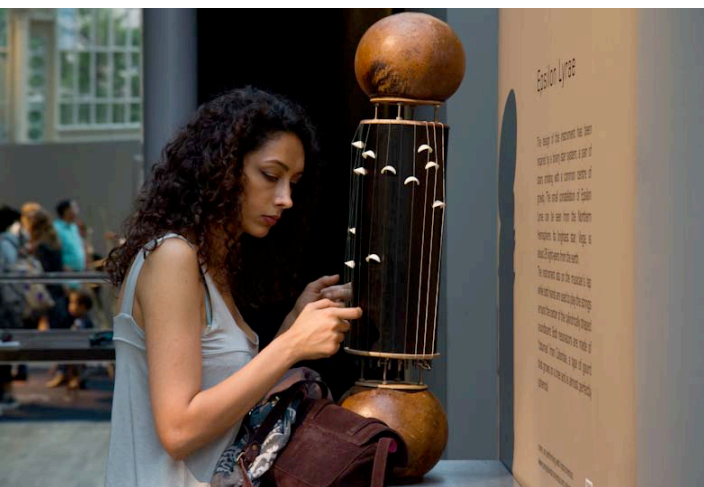
Since 1999 PangeiArt has developed an award winning exhibition that is part of a collection of more than thirty unique contemporary musical instruments designed by musician/composer Victor Gama.

Among the instruments are the Toha, a type of harp made with 44 strings to be played by two musicians, the Tahra, an instrument with four bows and 8 long metal strings for four players, the Acrux, an instrument with metal discs and a glass soundboard, and many others. The exhibition is a space of free experimentation and

innovation where the visitors are invited to touch and play the instruments on display. Video projections and other interactives are included in the exhibition space. Performances, workshops and informal talks in the exhibition space deliver an innovative and dynamic program of activities for the visitors.



EXPERIENCE MUSIC



Instrmnts is a project where music and musical instruments are used as mediators for dialogue, creativity and sharing.

Developing a whole new lexicon of acoustic and performing possibilities the Instrumentos have been performed and exhibited worldwide in cultural centers and international arts venues such as the Royal Opera House in London, the Philharmonie Luxembourg, Ormeau Baths Gallery in Belfast, Centro Cultural de Belém, Lisbon among many others.

"The best part of the concert was the inclusion of three of Gama's invented instruments, objects that were as striking visually as they were sonically. The Acrux, Toha, and Dino fall roughly in the string/wind/percussion families, and bear some resemblance to traditional instruments from Africa, Gama's native continent. An ensemble of strings, bassoon, and timpani performed admirably under the guidance of conductor Cliff Colnot, ...

Michael Cameron

Chicago Classical review

© José Frade/Teatro S.Luiz

CONCERT

In concert Victor Gama presents pieces written for his own instruments as well as for ensembles playing orchestral instruments.

'The repertoire includes pieces such as tectonik: TOMBWA, an emblematic work that gained international visibility thanks to the invitation of David Harrington, from the Kronos Quartet, to present it at Carnegie Hall in New York, together with the world premiere of Rio Cunene that the musician wrote exclusively for that quartet.

Composed of three parts designed for the instruments, acruX, toha and dino, and played solo, the pieces in this concert are a soaring flight over an invented ethnography. The eternal doubt of its geography and time makes us believe that we are dealing with

music somewhere between the simplicity of the ancestral mbira and the complexity of Harry Partch's revolutionary heritage. One of his recent works, Vela 6911, is presented in a show with orchestral soloists and the Acrux, Toha and Dino instruments, three instruments from the Instrmnts series with a video projection captured by the composer himself in Antarctica.

Pedro Santos
program manager Culturgest



“Gama's installations and exhibitions are an attempt at creating a space where the listener witnesses and experiments a topography of music, its body and its orientation, a concept reminiscent of John Cage's theatre of music where the listener can hear, see and touch.”

Kevin Murray

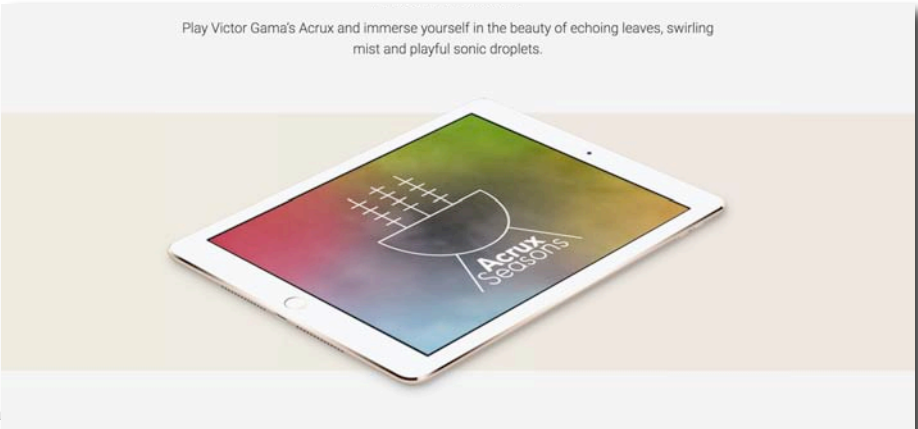
South Project, Australia



Acruxon - an installation of four acruces to be played by the public

INSTALLATION

The ACRUXON installation is made up of a group of occasional musicians who play in the set of four acruces linked to the center by the Acrux Seasons app, developed by school children in Wales, Victor Gama and the Pyka team of programmers. The installation remains active even when it is not played, keeping in memory what was played previously. Visitors to the exhibition can participate at any time.





Kronos Quartet performing "Rio Cunene"
Carnegie Hall, New York, 2010

COLLABORATIONS

World's greatest ensembles and musicians play INSTRMNTS

Unique projects and collaborations over the last two decades have driven the development of these fascinating instruments and music. A five year long collaboration with Kronos Quartet had its world premiere at Carnegie Hall in New York and its European premiere at Centro Cultural de Belém in Lisbon.





WORKSHOPS

Our program offers music workshops within the exhibition space.

In the music workshops with the INSTRMNTS the participants are given a simple set of instructions on how to play the instruments and are invited to play and interact through games and rhythmic sequences. The instrument building workshop is a chance for each

participant to build his/her own musical instrument. The instruments range from the very simple to the more complex using materials such as bamboo, gourds, woods from sustainable forests and environmentally friendly materials.



INSTALLATION/PERFORMANCE

The GigantikArpz is an installation and performance built with steel piano strings that can have from 20 to 160 meters in length. Hitting these particular strings produces a build up of bounced sounds and harmonics with natural reverb and echo effects. This unique performance probably reveals one of the biggest instruments in the world and has been

installed and performed over the lake of the Serralves Foundation, on the dunes of a coastal park at the Earagail Arts Festival in Ireland, over the Gulbenkian Foundation's lake in the centre of Lisbon, and in the Azores Islands. The GigantikArpz can be played by the visiting public and workshops may be offered.



AQUARIUM MATERIALIS

A piece for GigantikArpz and electronics written by Victor Gama and Pedro Carneiro for the Next Future Festival of Contemporary Arts and Culture.



Aquarium Materialis is performed in two movements, one during the day and another at night. In recent years they've performed at the Earagail Arts Festival in Ireland, the Serralves Foundation in Porto, Oeiras Parque dos Poetas in Lisbon and other major open air venues.



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Our work is backed by constant research and development, a commitment towards innovation and creativity.



M.I.T.A.I.Lab is a creativity and research structure initiated in 1999 in Sintra, Portugal, using 3D modeling, rapid prototyping and CAD (computer aided design) technologies for the development of new contemporary musical instruments for new music. M.I.T.A.I.Lab has collaborated with the National Museums of Scotland, the Kronos Performing Arts Association in San Francisco, the Clay Center for Arts and Culture in West Virginia and many other.



WHAT IT TAKES

We offer an exhibition ready to be shipped in crates with everything from plinths, graphics, interactives and some lighting and sound equipment. It takes three days to set it up.

[Exhibition + concert + workshops](#)

The exhibition includes one or more concerts by Victor Gama and musicians, workshops, talks and games.

[GigantikArpz installation and performance](#)

It can be offered in combination with the exhibition or separately.

[Materials and equipment included](#)

Graphics and interactives such as tablets with information about the instruments. Plinths and metal structures with silk screens that create divisions in the gallery space.

[Required transportation](#)

Transportation of 18 crates up to 1500 kg, transportation from/to Colares/Sintra, Portugal.

[Accommodation](#)

A team of five traveling, three musicians, two install and sound technicians, need to stay for at least three days.

Other options can be discussed according to the promoter's programme and needs.



'the Paul Hamlyn Hall looked amazing. The whole feeling around the exhibition with it's interactive inclusiveness was perfect. I think it was the best use of the space I have seen for Deloitte Ignite Festival.'

*Rebecca Hanson
Event Producer
Royal Opera House*

EXHIBITION DESIGN AND LAYOUT

We can design the whole layout for an INSTRUMENTOS exhibition using a 3D model of the gallery space with animations and graphics that we can supply to the promoter for a better visualisation of how the exhibition will look like.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information like press texts, tech raiders and high resolution images can be sent by request. Contact us at:

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