

## BIO

Nick Tsiantas holds a Diploma in Composition with distinction from the class of Constantinos Tsougras, degrees in Fugue and Counterpoint with distinction, and a degree in Harmony with the highest marks from the class of Yannis Grampsas. He also studied piano with Georgia Kontokostas, and accordion with Christos Kontokostas. He taught Composition, Theory and Harmony in conservatories at Trikala and Larissa, and music in elementary public schools of Trikala. He has been successful in preparing students for entrance examinations in music departments of universities and colleges since 1997. Currently, he teaches Composition, Fugue, Counterpoint, and Music Technology in the Municipal Conservatory of Trikala, where he served as principal from January 2012 to October 2013.

Nick Tsiantas recently published *Keyboard Harmony*, a two-volume work aiming at improving harmonizing and chordal accompaniment skills on key instruments. He has also created a solfège method, for which he orchestrated and recorded a considerable part of the established solfège repertoire of the Greek music education system. Moreover, he participated in the digitalization and publishing of *Music Anthology* of Leonidas Plastaras, a musically rich education series addressed to elementary and secondary education schools, which has been approved by the Greek Ministry of Education and the Education Institute of Greece.

In addition to his educational work, Nick Tsiantas has an avid interest in music technology, a subject he has thoroughly pursued and integrated into his teaching methodology. Invited by many music schools and conservatories of Trikala and Larissa, he has given numerous lectures on music notation programs, sound recording and sound processing programs, and synthesizer demonstrations. He offers courses in advanced theory, harmony, and music technology via internet, uses extensively computers in his instruction, and teaches electronic music as well. Since 2004, he works professionally as a sound recorder, and is also involved with photo and video processing.

Nick Tsiantas is an active performer, participating as a pianist, keyboardist, and accordionist in rock, pop, and folk ensembles. From 1997 to 2012 he was the accompanist of the *Saint Athanassios of Bara Youth Choir*, appearing in numerous

concerts in Greece and France. For the same choir, he orchestrated and conducted ten original music-theater plays, being honored twice with the first award with a special distinction from the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece.

Currently based in Trikala, Nick dedicates his free time in learning computer programming languages and studying folk music of the Balkans and the Middle East.