Zoltán Váczi

Born into a family of musicians in Budapest, Hungary in 1960, Zoltán Váczi studied music at the Béla Bartók Conservatory of Music and at the Ferenc Liszt College of Music in Budapest between 1975 and 1984. He majored in percussion and graduated in 1984. Zoltán Váczi is a founding member of Amadinda Percussion Group.

In the early 1990's, Zoltán Váczi and Aurél Holló decided to create a series of pieces for percussion instruments with the purpose of connecting the traditional high cultures of percussion with the most outstanding musical trends of the 20th century, recognizing, adopting, retaining and possibly further developing certain musical achievements. Titled beFORe JOHN, the series will include 9 compositions altogether, 8 of which have been completed to date. beFORe JOHN is trying to express in the language of percussion instruments the various qualities of richness that surround us, attempting to create a percussion cosmos (with recognized order and principles) out of the percussion universe (a mass of sheer materials, a multitude of instruments).

Compositions: The Primitive (1993) RECONSTRUCTION / beFORe JOHN⁶ (1997) Traditions I – II / beFORe JOHN⁷ (with Aurél Holló – 1998) HEADS or TAILS? / beFORe JOHN⁴ (with Aurél Holló – 2000) Beyond the Glass Mountain... / beFORe JOHN⁹ (2012) Ghost Table / beFORe JOHN⁸ (2003)