

Joseph Julian Gonzalez, Composer



A California native, Joseph studied composition from Doug Davis at Cal State University Bakersfield and David Raksin at UCLA, then subsequently with John Adams, Thomas Newman, Jeff Beal and Osvaldo Golijov. He was music director of Luis Valdez's theater company El Teatro Campesino. He has written and arranged music for such artists as Los Lobos, Jose Feliciano, Vikki Carr, the Kronos String Quartet, Linda Rondstadt, as well as collaborating with Slash on the score for Quentin Tarantino's dark comedy, *Curdled*.

A 25-year veteran in the entertainment industry, he has composed a multitude of musical scores such as the Academy Award-nominated feature documentary *Colors Straight Up*, the Emmy Award-winning *Made In LA*, and Showtime's longest running Latino series *Resurrection Blvd*. The 6-part miniseries he scored, *Latino Americans*, won the 2014 Peabody award. He recently conducted the Bulgarian National Radio Symphony Orchestra for his score to the PBS landmark documentary *Children of GIANT*.

Mr. Gonzalez is of Uto Aztecan descent and has studied the accompanying language of his ancestry, Nahuatl. He is an expert on Cantares Mexicanos, the oldest known compiled collection of Nahuatl songs and poetry, which he uses as inspiration for many of his compositions. His symphonic oratorio, *Misa Azteca*, is written in Spanish, English and Nahuatl and has been performed at Carnegie Hall, the Sydney Opera House, and the Vatican.