

**COLLECTION**  
**BBVA FOUNDATION - NEOS**

**Nikolaus Brass**  
**songlines**

**NIKOLAUS BRASS** was born in Lindau on Lake Constance in 1949. While studying medicine in Munich, Glasgow and Berlin he took private lessons in composition, first from Peter Kiesewetter at the Munich Conservatory, then with Frank Michael Beyer in Berlin and later with Helmut Lachenmann in Hanover. For several years he worked as a clinical physician and, from 1982, as an editor at a medical publishing house.

Following a commission from the Donaueschingen Festival (1988) his music was performed at the Musikprotokoll Graz (1991), musica viva in Munich (1997), the Wittener Tage für neue Kammermusik (2000) and the ECLAT New Music Festival in Stuttgart (2001). In 2003 his *structures of echo – lindauer beweinung* for 32 voices and orchestra was premièred by the SWR Radio Symphony Orchestra Stuttgart and the SWR Vokalensemble Stuttgart under the baton of Rupert Huber. This was followed in 2006 by the première of *VOID II* for Saxophone, percussion, piano and orchestra by the Berlin RSO under the baton of Roland Kluttig at the UltraSchall Festival in Berlin. Both works were released on CD by NEOS in 2007. That same year Alexander Liebreich conducted the Münchener Kammerorchester in the première of his commissioned work *Von wachsender Gegenwart* for 18 strings. Toward the end of 2007 his orchestral work *L'inferno* was premièred in Munich's musica viva series by the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Johannes Kalitzke. Four portrait concerts of his music were mounted at the Internationale Tage für Neue Musik Weingarten in November 2008. The Klangwerkstage in Hamburg focused on his work complex *VOID* in 2009, and the UltraSchall Festival devoted a portrait concert to him with the Münchener Kammerorchester in January 2010.

In 1999 Nikolaus Brass received a grant-in-aid from the City of Munich (Förderpreis Musik). In 2009 the same city awarded him its Music Prize for his compositional output (Musikpreis der Landeshauptstadt München).