

Brief description of then collaborate Work between Turkar Gasimzada

The cooperation between the composer **Turkar Gasimzada** and the flutist and sound artist **Avital Cohen** started in 2014, while Avital was working on Turkar's piece *9 Rubai* for the performance at the *Qara Qarayev — Internationales Festival für zeitgenössische Musik, Baku, Azerbaijan* with the support of the Pro Helvetia, swiss arts concil. The concert took place in the Erlöserkirche, Baku, at 21. April 2015. By then, and long before the Covid-19 pandemic, Turkar and Avital started to work together remotely online and ever since they continued to collaborate.

on March 17th, 2022, Cadenza Contemporary Orchestra, together with the flutist and sound artist **Avital Cohen** and under the artistic direction of **Turkar Gasimzada**, performed live on the morning show through the *MƏDƏNIYYƏT TV* - "Culture TV", a national TV channel, broadcasted across the entire country. This performance took place two days after playing a recital at the prestigious International *Mugham Center Concert Hall* in Baku on March 15th, 2022. At this concert, Avital played, among other pieces, the concerto for flute and orchestra by Arif Melikov.

The last movement of *9 Rubai* by **Turkar Gasimzada** is a solo flute part in which the composer indicated a notation for indeterminate Sounds that inspired the flutist Avital Cohen to invent a new *breathing language*. Avital's invention of such language served as a segue for collaborating on another piece. Turkar composed the three-movements mono-opera for a flutist, lights, and electronics, Breath, based on this newly-invented sound language. The first movement of the opera received performances three times in Switzerland, the first time being in the presence of the composer on May 28th. 2016 (Hauptbühne Hochschule der Künste Bern, Theater).

on August 20th, 2021, the entire piece was performed in full version for the first time. This was executed in the composer's presence and as a part of the *Soapbox* concert series framework by *PAKT BERN / Progr. room 013*, Bern. In this event, another new piece, Pain(t), was performed as well, also in Progr. room 13 (in front of the Bern Art Museum). Turkar and Avital worked together intensively for more than five years to bring both projects to light. More about this collaboration you can find at the Index about our Project Flux.

In May 2023, Avital Cohen & Company were invited to perform at the International Contemporary Music Days in Baku mit der Unterstützung von Pro Helvetia, swiss arts concil. The ensemble was invited to perform again in May 2025 mit der Unterstützung von Stadt Zürich.