



CIKADA

A concert with Cikada - Premiered at Donaueschingen

Agata Zubel new piece (15-20)

Klaus Lang new piece (15-20)

Rolf Wallin new piece (30-35)



This program is commissioned for the Donaueschingen Festival 2018.

Established in 1921, the Donaueschingen Festival is the world's oldest festival for New Music and the most renowned of its kind in Germany. The festival has hosted the world premieres of many famous composers of the 20th century. The festival has commissioned three pieces for a Cikada concert, from Agata Zubel, Klaus Lang and Rolf Wallin.

The pieces by Zubel and Lang are under production. Wallin's piece is based on the same idea as his percussion concerto *Das war schön!* inspired by Mozart's pet bird, Herr Stahr. His idea is to further explore the field of bird song by making an "aviary" of instrumental solos, using a different bird for each instrument. The solos could then, following specific rules, be put together in any combination: duos, trios, etc. Thus, the Cikada project would consist of 9 solos and a chamber ensemble piece.

About the composers:

Agata Zubel, composer and vocalist. Known for her unique vocal range and the use of techniques that challenge stereotypes, Zubel gives concerts throughout the world and has premiered numerous new works. As a singer and composer, Agata Zubel has collaborated with several dozen festivals and philharmonic companies, as well as the world's leading ensembles. Her discography consists of more than a dozen titles, including albums dedicated to her own music. Agata Zubel's compositions have been commissioned by prestigious music institutions.



Klaus Lang (1971 Graz/ Austria) lives in Steirischn Lassing (Austria). Klaus Lang loves tea and dislikes lawnmowers and Richard Wagner. Klaus Lang's music is not a means to convey extramusical contents, such as emotions, philosophical or religious ideas, political propaganda, advertisement etc ... His music is no language used to communicate non-musical content. Music is seen as a free and



selfstanding acoustical object. In his work he is not using sound, sound is explored and given the opportunity to unfold its inherent rich beauties. Only when sound is just sound it is perceivable as that which it really is: a temporal phenomenon - audible time. Klaus Lang sees time as the genuine material of a composer and at the same time also the fundamental content of music. In his view musical material is time perceived through sound, the object of music is the experience of time through listening.

Rolf Wallin (1957) is one of the leading contemporary Nordic composers, widely performed and commissioned internationally. His musical background spans from jazz, avantgarde rock and early music to traditional classical training, and this versatility is reflected in an exceptionally many-faceted list of compositions. Wallin's compositional output covers a wide range of techniques and expressions: from strictly absolute music to music theatre and installations, from elaborate computer-aided composition in his instrumental music to strongly intuitive music for the stage.



Cikada

The Cikada ensemble was founded in Oslo in 1989, and has from the very outset consisted of flute, clarinet, piano, percussion, string quintet and conductor Christian Eggen.

As permanent members, the ten Cikada's have created a strong ensemble identity, and developed their highly-acclaimed profile on the international contemporary music scene synonymous with the Oslo Sound of fresh, vibrant, warm and virtuosic interpretations of consciously selected, contemporary repertoire. In concerts at major international festivals and on numerous albums, Cikada's distinct ensemble profile manifests itself in strong programming. Central to Cikada is a devotion to develop close, long-term collaborations with composers and to build composer portraits with both existing and commissioned works over time.

Aesthetically unbiased, Cikada is open to a manifold range of repertoire in combination with a passionately refined approach to concert programming. Each concert is carefully programmed to create a present and welcoming musical flow. In recent years, the ensemble has enjoyed close collaboration with James Dillon on the commission The Oslo Triptych as well as with Carola Bauckholt, Richard Barrett, Laurence Crane, Asbjørn Schaathun and Eivind Buene, who over time has conceived the cycle Possible Cities / Essential Landscapes for the ensemble. Cikada has also been at the forefront in numerous recording projects. In collaboration with the Norwegian Radio Orchestra, Cikada recorded the first ever complete studio recording of Morton Feldman's The Viola in My Life I-IV on ECM. Further CD projects include a portrait of Danish composer Bent Sørensen, where Cikada joined forces with the Oslo Sinfonietta and the trombone player Christian Lindberg on the ECM CD Birds and Bells.

The Cikada musicians also form three formations within the group: The Cikada String Quartet, the Cikada Trio (flute, clarinet, piano) and the Cikada Duo (piano, percussion) work as independent units, adding to the ensemble's dynamic and diverse identity.

Cikada was awarded the prestigious Nordic Music Prize in 2005.

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