



New Music at the Jazz Club

The Dutch ensemble Lunapark brought new music to the audience at a jazz club in a relaxed, informal setting.

Background

Lunapark doesn't believe that the boundaries between high and low art are gradually disappearing. But they believe that there are areas in new music where there is room for a large variety of styles and that is what they find interesting to work with.

Lunapark aims to bring this wide range of music to the stage. The name of the group stands for the mechanical aspect in the works it performs. But also for excitement, adventure, fun, unexpected curves and loops, and a panoramic look at the blue sky.

The concept

Lunapark has a series of three concerts a year in Paradox, one of the most prominent jazz stages of the southern Netherlands, also branching out to other styles and genres.

The aims of this concert was to create a setting where a piece from the New Music: New Audiences database is musically embedded in a “real Lunapark” context, and to create a concert that appeals to a mixed jazz and new music audience.

Furthermore, the ensemble wanted to create a concert that enhanced the ensemble's series of concerts in Paradox and helped them in building a lasting relationship with an audience which is steady visitors of this venue.

The concert

The focus of the concert was on the New Music: New Audiences piece *Bulp* by Donacha Dennehy. This piece was embedded in a programme that counterparted the acoustic minimalism of Dennehy's work with the electric minimalism of Ryoji Ikeda.

The concert was moderated throughout by the ensemble leader, who spoke about the pieces and the links between them, since the combination of works could be slightly 'risky'. The ensemble tried to create a cosy situation where the audience felt at home and involved, and was well informed and entertained.

Conclusions

Diving into the New Music New Audiences database was really a fantastic thing to do for Lunapark. Among many things that don't fit the bill, this very active way of searching brings you a

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couple of pieces that you otherwise would never have found. It also gives a wide view on other ensembles' aesthetics and activities.

Lunapark was very happy with the work from the database and will certainly add it to their core repertoire.

The audience was presented with a very exciting musical cocktail in an informal “sit back and relax” setting. The contrast of the acoustic minimalism of Dennehy’s work with the electric minimalism of Ryoji Ikeda worked very well, and was well received by the audience.

The “sit back and relax” is a simple concept which should be as natural as a cup of tea, wonderful music and good conversation at home. But it’s not always like that! Lunapark will continue working with this concept. The concert at Paradox with Dennehy and Ikeda's music was a good stepping stone for Lunapark in building a lasting relationship with a new audience.

Facts

Ensemble: Lunapark (7 musicians involved)

Date and time: April 16th 2014, 8:30pm

Venue: Paradox, Tilburg, The Netherlands

Programme: Donacha Dennehy: *Bulb*

Attendees: 50

Further information: <http://www.lunapark.nu/>