



An All Nordic Musical Adventure

The Crash Ensemble invited the audience to an all Nordic concert, with a program presenting composers from all five Nordic countries. A post show party ensured an informal atmosphere and aligned the concert with popular music from the same region.

Background

The Crash Ensemble, Founded in 1997 by composer and Artistic Director Donnacha Dennehy, is Ireland's foremost contemporary music ensemble – a group of world-class musicians devoted to contemporary music.

The concerts of the Crash Ensemble are characterised by a variety in pieces and programme, and by an energetic and vibrant atmosphere. The concerts are always amplified and often has a visual element or electronics involved.

Concept

The Crash Ensemble wanted to make an all Nordic evening, inviting the audience for a musical trip to the vast, beautiful landscapes of the northern shores, asking the question; Does Nordic music have a specific 'Nordic sound'? The ensemble presented music from all five Northern countries including a World premiere of a new piece by Icelandic composer Valgeir Sigurðsson, who co-curated the concert.

An aim of the concert was to erase some of the barriers to 'contemporary' music as a difficult form of classical music and place it in the realm of interesting new music – new as in terms of time-frame rather than genre.

This was pursued by working with Valgeir Sigurðsson from the Bedroom Community record label and Greenhouse Studios Iceland, who has a wide audience base including fans of indie, metal, electronic, folk etc.

The Crash Ensemble also wanted to bring a more social aspect to the concert, and arranged a post show party where musicians, composers and audience mingled, drank Nordic style drinks and listened to music from Nordic countries. Rune Glerup, the Danish composer of the work from the NewAud database, attended the concert. The playlist of the post show party aligned the context of the concert with popular and alternative music of other genres from the same countries, and the playlist was available for the audience to take home with them.

This document is a product of the New Music : New Audiences project, coordinated by The Danish Composers' Society with the support of the Culture Programme of the European Union and The Nordic Council of Ministers. For further information or to contact us, please go to www.newaud.eu

Alongside new music and culture fans this concert was specifically targeted at Nordic expats, it was advertised to them through the Norwegian, Danish and Finish embassies.

Facts

Ensemble: The Crash Ensemble (11 musicians involved)

Date and time: November 29th 2013, 8pm

Venue: Project Arts Centre, Dublin, Ireland

Programme:

Rolf Wallin: The Age of Wire and String

Valgeir Sigurðsson: Nebraska

Rune Glerup: Dust Encapsulated #2

Tobias Brostrom: Arena

Kaija Saariaho: Serenatas

Valgeir Sigurðsson: Ghosts

Valgeir Sigurðsson: Past Tundra

Further information: www.crashensemble.com