



An Informal Meeting with an Unusual Composer

The Cikada Ensemble gave a concert with a programme consisting entirely of works by the German composer Carola Bauckholt. The setting was untraditional and informal at Akershus – a 700 year old fortress in the centre of Oslo.

Background

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 Cikadas have created a strong ensemble identity as well as developed their highly acclaimed profile on the international contemporary music scene.

Concept

The Cikada Ensemble wanted to give the Norwegian audience a chance to experience works by the German composer Carola Bauckholt in an informal setting. Carola Bauckholt explores the borderland between music, theatre and everyday sounds. In fact her pieces include sounds like “a potato being dropped on the floor”, “organ pipes”(without the organ) and other not so ordinary inventions.

It may sound pensive, but actually Bauckholt’s works are very down to earth. And therefore, so was the concert. The concert was part of the Ultima Festival, which – considered that it is a contemporary music festival – has a broad audience.

The concert

The focus of the concert was on creating a pleasant atmosphere and an informal meeting between the audience and the music by Carola Bauckholt.

The concert took place at Akerhus, a 700-year old fortress in Oslo. As a way of enhancing the audience experience, the ensemble used various parts of the fortress: The main hall, the fortress chapel and the courtyard. In both halls the audience had the opportunity to sit on the floor in front, very close to the musicians.

As a part of the concert the audience was led through the maze of hallways connecting the two performance venues, giving them a feeling that the entire Akershus fortress was part of an ongoing concert. A sound installation by Carola Bauckholt was playing in the courtyard before and after the

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concert and during the break. The courtyard was furthermore used for social interaction and serving free food and drinks during the break, which also contributed to the wholeness of the experience.

Facts

Ensemble: Cikada Ensemble (10 musicians involved)

Conductor: Christian Eggen

Date: September 10th 2013, 6 pm

Venue: Akerhus Festning, Oslo, Norway

Programme:

Carola Bauckholt: *Sog for Ensemble*

Carola Bauckholt: *Laufwerk for Ensemble and Tape*

Carola Bauckholt: *Ohne worte zwei*

Carola Bauckholt: *Lichtung*

Carola Bauckholt: *Treibstoff*

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Additional information: www.cikada.no