

Reflections III

Contemporary Works for Flute solo

Liza Lim

Luis Fonseca

Antonio Covello

Dominik Kariski



Alessandra Rombolà

Flute & Alto Flute



“Reflections is a collection of recordings that combine pieces for solo instruments from major composers of the 20th and 21st centuries. Composers that have marked or changed the history of music or are about to do it, through the quality and brightness of their works. These works are the reflections of their music seen through the perspective of an unaccompanied instrument.”



Liza Lim (Australia, 1966 -)

Bioluminescence for flute solo (2019)

*“Bioluminescence... a living light
the camouflaged counter-illumination”*

“While sailing in these latitudes one very dark night, the sea presented a wonderful and most beautiful spectacle. There was a fresh breeze, and every part of the surface, which during the day is seen as foam, now glowed with a pale night. The vessel drove before her bows two billows of liquid phosphorus, and in her wake she was followed by a milky train. As far as the eye reached, the crest of every wave was bright, and the sky above the horizon, from the ferulected glare of these livid falses, was not so utterly obscure, as over the rest of the heavens”.

- Charles Darwin, Journal (1832-1836)

*“Pick any path of concerte or
crock to this spitited place
whose orchard-body belongingly
offers that flickering, altered aroma
- groves on fire”*

- Sappho/ Petrucci version (2008)

Edited by G. Ricordi & Co. Bühnen- und Musikverlag

World première recording

Luis Fonseca (Brazil, 1974 -)

Mohr code for alto flute solo (2019)

“Mohr code is based on the drawing “band-structure” (1969) created by Manfred Mohr (1938 -), a german artist pioneer in the algorithmic art. Alfred Mohr developed an equation (code), with an high probability to move from left to right and a small one, to move backwards; where different vertical and horizontal elements, zig zags, 45° degree lines as well as loops with different dimensions can be formed. The drawing is afterwards plotted by a computer, based on the results from the equation, creating an unique art object.

Mohr code translates the ideas from the original drawing into a musical piece using the Mandelbrot set equation to simulate the lines of the drawing by creating a sequence of measures with different lengths.

Added to that, the compositional elements are also based on the drawing, creating motives and gestures from it. The high number of zig zags, fallings and non-proportional loops are used to form five main motives, using a center-tone and movements going up and down from quarter-tones until one and a half tones inspired on the zig-zags. The structure of the piece is the growing of these zig zags and back again. The main motives are contrasted with gesture material, such as the pitch bends to represent the 45° lines; flutter tonguing representing the vertical zig zags, etc. The end score makes also a visual reference to the drawing, where exactly eight lines inside each page are established, in which the barlines and time signatures are removed, in order to let the music flow as the drawing does.”

- Luis Fonseca

Edited by Da_sh editions

Alto flute version (from original Kingma system) dedicated to Alessandra Rombolà

World première recording

Antonio Covello (Italy, 1985 -)

I can't breathe for alto flute solo (2015)

“In I can't breathe the flute stays for an individuality which gets lost in its memories, until they overwhelm it. Their nostalgic acceptance is translated into a significant use of minor thirds and minor seconds; and they turn into a narrow space, where the individuality moves hardly, without any kind of hope about the possibility of coming out of this condition. The use of the same polarized harmony in the whole piece and the obsessive use of the low register of the flute, with the exception of two high notes recurring as a sort of warning; are here the elements generating claustrophobia”.

- Antonio Covello

Edited by Da_sh editions

World première recording

Dominik Karski (Poland/Australia, 1972 -)

The Unquenchable for amplified alto flute (2016)

"Writing for the flutes has been at the centre of my creative journey as a composer, thanks to unforgettable collaborations with outstanding flautists, without whom this journey would not have been possible. Written in 2016 for Carlton Vickers, The Unquenchable is a major stepping stone along this path. It happened shortly after another milestone event: a CD with my complete flute works to date, recorded by Ewa Liebchen and Rafał Jędrzejewski, and released the same year. The CD brought a range of reflections at the time, oscillating between both a sense of accomplishment and an intensified hunger - a thirst for a greater understanding of the flute, for being more with the flute. I felt that only the surface of this instrument's boundless sound universe had been scratched, and this was the point of departure for The Unquenchable: the idea of a burning desire, impossible to quench. Thus, the work delves into the depths of this type of emotional state, which means that, as a musical process, it exists in a space that is far from a comfort zone. Essentially, it explores an extreme situation, as it tries to find the limit of that which is desired, and to exist in that limit in order to modify it, push it further... a dangerous threshold between coherence and unpredictability: a turbulent revelation".

- Dominik Karski

"The Unquenchable" is the winner of the 2nd Da_sh editions International Composition Competition

Edited by Da_sh editions

World première recording

Alessandra Rombolà - flute & alto flute



***Alessandra Rombolà** is an interpreter and an improviser, involved in different aspects of music making. A classical trained musician, (Conservatoire studies in Italy, Postgraduate and Master in Performance at Trinity College of Music in London, Specialization in Contemporary Music at Strasbourg Superior Conservatoire); her main activity lies in the field of contemporary music and free improvisation.*

She is a versatile musician with a chameleonic personality; a specialized interpreter of notated, graphic and highly complex scores and an improviser with a unique language. Throughout her career, she has collaborated with dozens of interdisciplinary projects which include dance, storytelling, video, electronics, circus, performance and contemporary opera.

Born in Calabria (south of Italy), Alessandra trained in Italy, Switzerland, England and France, where she specialized on extended techniques, notation and contemporary repertoire for flute. She settled in Madrid for twenty years, where, in addition to teaching at the Conservatoire, she became one of the most requested interpreters for the classical-contemporary repertoire. In Spain she has collaborated with various ensembles, premiering dozens of chamber music and solo works. She has played with some of the most important improvisers in the European scene.

She has been invited to festivals in different countries in Europe, Scandinavia, Lebanon, Mexico, US and Australia. She has released on the record labels: Confront, Teñidos, Sillón, Sofa, Another Timbre, Al-Maslakh, con-v, Stradivarius and Da_sh recordings.

She is now settled in Oslo, where she is working as a freelance musician, focusing on her solo projects.

Da_sh recordings is the musical label of Da_sh music, strongly interested in bringing contemporary music from any style or precedence to the spotlight, where the general public is able to appreciate and get to know new music and extraordinary composers and works that are not often played or as recognized as they deserve.

Da_sh music nevertheless realizes all of this work as a private enterprise, using funds raised by the generation of its own work.

If you enjoyed this album and would like to help us continue to record, edit and realize digital art (videos), please donate any amount to our account:

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This album was recorded between October 22nd and 23rd, 2022 in Madrid / Spain.

Sound Engineer - Luis Fonseca

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Liza Lim

1 *Bioluminescence for flute solo* (06:51)

Luis Fonseca

2 *Mohr code for alto flute solo* (06:35)

Antonio Covello

3 *I can't breathe for alto flute solo* (08:06)

Dominik Karski

4 *The Unquenchable for amplified alto flute* (16:11)

Total time: (37:43)