

Unsus Chin



Unsus Chin Photo © Woenki Kim

FULL ORCHESTRA

Rocaná

(Room of Light)

2008

21 min

for orchestra

3(I=af, III=picc).3(III=corA).3(III=bcl).3(III=dbn)-6.4.3(I=tenor trbn, II&III=bass trbn).1-timp-perc(4);2 anvils/BD/bass marimba/cencerros (chromatic)/crot/cyms/3 susp.cym (sm, med, lg)/2 dobachi/glass wind chime/glsp/hi-hat/2 Japanese temple bells/5 Javanese gongs (pitches: C#2, D2, A2, Bb2, G#3)/jingles/lithophone/maracas/marimba/mark tree/4 metal blocks/sandbox (fine)/3 SD (sm, med, lg)/3 tam-t (sm, med, lg)/2 tgl (sm, med)/tubular bells/vib/whip/xyl-harp-pft/cel-strings(16-14-12-10-8)

* crotales, cymbals, tam-tams and vibraphone are all bowed as well as struck

"...a continuous 20-minute score Chin has crafted as a field of unquiet aural dreams. She is fascinated by the volatility of orchestral sounds and how they evolve into other, seemingly unrelated musical events, travelling in waves as light does. Her huge orchestral palette is laced with all manner of percussion, including Japanese temple bells and a xylophone of stones. At times, she employs it as sparingly as a neo-pointillist painter; at other times, violent chords ricochet around the brasses, turning the ensemble into a mechanistic juggernaut." Chicago Tribune

"The piece is a knockout. It begins with a gnarly, clattering, explosion...Then comes a pattern of background harmonies, always simmering, eerily quiet and pervasive. But throughout the work, jolts of energy keep happening: leaping lines, ominous 12-tonish themes that pierce the tranquil background buzz, outbursts of wailing brasses and metallic strings that come at you like a musical flamethrower." New York Times

World Premiere: 03 Mar 2008

Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier de la Place des Arts, Montreal, Canada

Orchestre Symphonique de Montreal

Conductor: Kent Nagano