

York Höller



York Höller Photo © Thorsten Heidemann

PIANO(S)

Diaphonie

(Hommage à Béla Bartók)

1965, rev.1974

11 min

for two pianos

9790060065316 2 Pianos, 4 Hands

World premiere of version: 26 Feb 1984

Köln, Germany

Johannes Kalitzke & Richard Braun (pianos)

Monogramme

14 Charakterstücke für Klavier

1998–2003

35 min

for solo piano

9790202531853 Piano

World premiere complete: 25 Jul 2005

Harenberg City-Center, Amphi-Saal, Dortmund, Germany

Tamara Stefanovich, piano;

PIANO(S) 1

Partita

(Hommage à Bernd Alois Zimmermann)

1996

16 min

for two pianos

"The Partita is a kind of suite in six parts, 'indebted to the spirit of Bach and Debussy', as Höller writes in the program notes. His play with chords and metres, however, is less indebted to the strictness of Bach than to the sound world of Debussy, though he does not exaggerate the impressionist moods.

Starting from the key note D, which is at first repeated in a tender manner, reminiscent of the sound of a little bell, then surrounded with additional notes, Höller builds his structures. Gradually the harmonics and metrics become more complex, an excited Fugue is heard, or a sensual Fantasia, created out of broken chords in middle or high register. The concluding Gigue features a strong dramaturgical form, a presto movement with powerful dynamics of movement.

The performing ladies make a huge effort and, for all the accurate construction of this work, are always aware of the sounds, the rhythmic pulse and the harmonic subtleties of the music." (Martin Schrahn, Ruhr Nachrichten, 13 Aug 1997)

"The audience at the Ruhr Piano Festival liked York Höller's Partita. The composer received so much applause that the performers, Elena Bashkirova and Brigitte Engerer, had to give an encore of two of the six movements. Indeed a rare success for a contemporary work."

(Gregor Willmes, Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung Essen, 13 Aug 1997)

9790060113659 2 Pianos, 4 Hands

World Premiere: 11 Aug 1997

Folkwang-Hochschule, Essen, Germany

Elena Bashkirova & Brigitte Engerer

Piano Sonata No.2

(Hommage à Franz Liszt)

1986

17 min

for solo piano

9790060085512 Piano

World Premiere: 07 Jan 1989

Alte Oper, Hindemith-Saal, Frankfurt a.M., Germany

Ueli Wiget, piano;

Solo Play / Duo Play

2009

3 min

for piano two hands or four hands

9790202532331 Piano

World Premiere: 12 Jul 2010

Folkwang Hochschule, Essen, Germany

Pierre-Laurent Aimard, Tamara Stefanovich & student participants of 'Piano Book' project

PIANO(S) 1