

Olga Neuwirth



Olga Neuwirth Photo © Priska Ketterer

SOLO INSTRUMENT(S) AND ORCHESTRA

locus...doublure...solus

(ensemble version)

2001

25 min

for solo piano and ensemble

2(l=picc).1.2(l=Ebcl).bcl.1(=dbn)-1(=mouth org).1(=piccpt).1(=mouth org).1(=mouth org)-perc(2):l=metal
spring(lg)/xyl/SD/crot(set)/2gongs/2cowbells/tam-t(lg)/tgl(med)/tamb/steel dr/thunder sheet(thin); ll=steel
spring(med)/vib/glsp/crot(set)/2gongs/2cowbells/tam-t(med)/t.bells/chimes/steel
dr/thunder sheet(thin)-sampler(elec.pft/cel)-strings(1.1.1.1.1; db=mouth org)

"...a distinctive vision of the piano concerto in the 21st century." (Tom Service, *The Guardian*, 09 May 2006)

"Neuwirth loves directness, obstinacy, clear-cut shapes ... in the seven-part locus...doublure...solus, Olga Neuwirth creates a labyrinth of fantastically growing tendrils and break-offs while her combinatorial way of dealing with sounds erupts into breakneck superimpositions of rhythmic gestures and changes of perspectives as fast as lightning." (Wolfgang Schreiber, *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 15 Oct 2002)

World Premiere: 08 Sep 2001

Hauptschule Sporthalle, Schwaz, Austria

Thomas Larcher, piano; Birmingham Contemporary Music Group

Conductor: Pierre-André Valade

locus...doublure...solus

(orchestral version)

2001

25 min

for solo piano and orchestra

4(l, ll=picc).2.4(l, ll=Ebcl).2bcl.2(1=dbn)-2(1=mouth org).2(1, ll=piccpt).2(1=mouth org).1(=mouth org)-perc(3):l=metal
spring(lg)/xyl/SD/crot(set)/2gongs/2cowbells/tam-t(lg)/tgl(med)/tamb/steel dr/thunder sheet(thin); ll=steel
spring(med)/vib/glsp/crot(set)/2gongs/2cowbells/tam-t(med)/t.bells/chimes/steel
dr/thunder sheet(thin);
lll=BD/vib/glsp/maraca(sm)/tgl(sm)/tam/gong-sampler(elec.pft/cel)-strings(6.6.6.4.4; db1=mouth org)

"In seven movements, Neuwirth explores a gamut of piquant sonorities and aggressive or quizzical relationships between solo piano and a novel array of instruments, including harmonicas, synthesizer and multiple percussion. The pianist seesaws between violence (arm clusters, stabbed notes) and delicacy (strings plucked inside the instrument). There is too much to absorb in one hearing..." (Donald Rosenberg, *The Plain Dealer*, 23 Jan 2004)

"Ms. Neuwirth's fits of depression are ingenious. Mistuned strings create foggy eeriness. Chord combinations grate forcefully on the ear. Shrill peeps and percussive explosions offer theatrical punctuation. Marino Formenti at the piano is all palms, fingers, fists and forearms. The results sting, and Mr. Formenti's balletic mugging of the instrument make the pricks sharper. If beauty in music is a standard that secures our attention and conveys a message, however unpleasant, directly to the listener's heart, then locus...doublure...solus is beautiful. We should store its impression in our minds...." (Bernard Holland, *New York Times*, 28 Jan 2004)

"Melodies and rhythms found in everyday life don't have a place in this writing. The piece has the whiff of music concocted in a petri dish instead of at the kitchen table." (Elaine Guregian, *Akron Beacon Journal*, 23 Jan 2004)

World Premiere: 08 Feb 2002

De Singel, Antwerp, Belgium

Thomas Larcher, piano; Flanders Philharmonic Orchestra

Conductor: Olari Elts

... miramondo multiplo...

(ensemble version)

2007

19 min

version for solo trumpet and ensemble

solo tpt(=piccpt);
1(=picc).1.1(=Ebcl, bcl).1-1.1.1.1-perc(2):l=cencerros(d1-d3)/tam-t(lg)/2t.bells(d2.g1)/tgl/
2gongs(g-d1)/SD/tom-t(sm)/SD/cym(sm);
ll=tgl(sm)/cym(med)/cym(set)/BD/glsp/tam-t(med)/plate-bell(d)/gong(A)/tom-t(sm)
-strings(2.1.1.1.1)

World premiere of version: 19 Oct 2008

Funkhaus am Wallrafplatz, Klaus-von-Bismarck-Saal, Köln, Germany

Marco Blaauw, trumpet; musikFabrik

Conductor: Christian Eggen

... miramondo multiplo...

(orchestral version)

2006

19 min

for solo trumpet and orchestra

solo tpt(=picc tpt);
2(l=picc).2.3(l=Ebccl,III=bccl).2-2.2.2.1-perc(3):l=cencerros(d1-d3)/tam-t(lg)/cym(med)/handbell(g2)/t.bell(d2)/gong(g); II=cym set/tgl(med)/SD/BD/concussion
cym(sm.lg)/gong(d1);
III=carillon/tam-t(med)/cym(sm)/handbell(d3)/plate-bell(d)/gong(A)-strings(8.8.6.6.4)

"... a brilliant rivalry between the elements... a precisely staged feast of orchestral colours."
(Wolfgang Schreiber, Süddeutsche Zeitung, 22 Aug 2006)

"Neuwirth has created a compact work for trumpet... [which] represents a multifarious observation and admiration of the world (miramondo multiplo). She lures the listeners into a skilfully joined, shimmering realm of random memory tableaux, where you meet, for example, Miles Davis, Berg, Mahler, Messiaen and even Handel." (Stefan Musil, Die Presse, 21 Aug 2006)

"In her 20-minute work for trumpet and orchestra, Neuwirth does not employ the concerto principle in the sense of rival friction. Rather, she creates, as in a kaleidoscope, a fulfilled ideal of peaceful cooperation, of coexistence based on freedom... The five movements draw the listener into a labyrinth of memories, where Handel's *Lascia ch'io piango* meets the fanfare out of Mahler's 5th symphony, and snatches of a Stravinsky march meet the jazz idiom of Miles Davis... the solo protagonist is led via numerous uncertainties, dangers and delusions to freedom." (Julia Spinola, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 23 Aug 2006)

"Each of the five movements, all called *Aria*, tells its own complex stories. Together, they create a multidimensional, richly faceted perspective. The dramatic eruption, over which the trumpet soars unperturbed, is followed by whirring and floating and an invocation of Mahler. The third movement is moving along with urgency, the fourth leads to a peacefully quiet, iridescent glowing, the last aria is characterised by an involved passionate dialogue with a fanfare finale." (Hans Langwallner, Kronen Zeitung, 21 Aug 2006)

9790202532133 Study Score (paperback)

World Premiere: 20 Aug 2006

Großes Festspielhaus, Salzburg, Austria

Hakan Hardenberger, trumpet; Wiener Philharmoniker

Conductor: Pierre Boulez

Remnants of songs... an Amphigory

2009

20 min

for solo viola and orchestra

2(l=picc).2.2(l=Ebccl,II=bccl).bhn.2-2.2.2.0-perc:l(1-2players)
=tam-t(med)/rattle(sm)/tgl(med)/SD/cymbal set/tom-t(med)/2gongs(A,f)/tmp(D)/vib;
II(1-2players)=susp.cym(med)/rattle(med)/glsp/t.bells/steel dr/2gongs(Bb,eb)/BD(with
cym)-harp-cel-strings(8.8.6.6.4); fl1,fl2,ob1,ob,bn2 also mouth org

"Remnants is essentially a 20-minute, five-movement concerto for viola and orchestra with a fiendishly difficult solo part, written especially for violist Antoine Tamestit and breathtaking in its virtuosic range. After long, lyrical high arcs on the viola, the orchestra jumps in with exotic percussive effects. Every now and then, a snatch of something tonal and vaguely familiar drifts in. The first movement builds to a glistening cha-cha. The shimmering, unearthly second movement is interrupted by huge, dissonant brass chords. The third movement features chimes, sirens, apocalyptic drums, and the feeling of the world collapsing set against snatches of rhythmic patterns and odd whiffs of tonality. The gorgeous fourth movement is dominated by a big, lyrical viola solo with a grab-holdable melody. The final section virtually follows traditional concerto form, with dialogue between soloist and orchestra, and builds to an audacious, richly-textured finale suggestive of Mahler at his most kitschy. But the work is entirely original, astoundingly complex and, ultimately, gloriously rewarding and uplifting." (Larry L. Lash, MusicalAmerica.com, 08 Dec 2009)

World Premiere: 10 Oct 2009

Helmut-List-Halle, Graz, Austria

Antoine Tamestit, viola; Radio-Symphonieorchester Wien

Conductor: Peter Eötvös

torsion: transparent variation

2001

16 min

for solo bassoon and ensemble

solo bn(lightly ampl); ob.cl(=bccl)-tpt(=picc tpt).trbn.tenor Wagner tuba-perc(1-2):steel
spring(lg)/vib/Turk.cym(sm)/3gongs/4cowbells/3crot-vln.vla.vlc-sampler CD player

World Premiere: 31 Jan 2002

Maison de Radio France, Paris, France

Pascal Gallois, bassoon; Ensemble intercontemporain

Conductor: Sylvain Cambreling

Zefiro aleggia... nell'infinito

(in memoriam Luigi Nono)

2004

17 min

for solo bassoon and orchestra

solo bn(ampl);
2(l=picc).2.2.bcl.asax.0-2.2(l=piccpt).2.0-perc(2):l=ttl/Turk.cym(sm)/steel
spring(lg)/vib/3gongs/3crot/4cowbells;
ll=ttl/Turk.cym(med)/1claves/3gongs/3crot-strings(4.4.3.3.0)-CD-player

World Premiere: 14 Oct 2004

Teatro la Fenice, Venice, Italy

Pascal Gallois, bassoon; Orchestra del Teatro la Fenice

Conductor: Bernhard Kontarsky