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Holon – *Due visioni olistiche per ensemble in forma di studio*

A *holon* (from greek *holos*, "whole") is something that is simultaneously a whole and a part. The word was coined by Arthur Koestler in his book *The Ghost in the Machine*.

My piece is closely inspired by his concepts and is divided into two parts, two sort of "etudes", about the search of the "whole" and the "single part".

Every section has an autonomous life, but are correlated between them.

The first part is very balanced, in terms of color, structure, relationship among the instruments. There is a sort of inner "dramaturgy", where every single part has a specific role, in order to create the "whole" sense; the prevailing metaphor is on a sort of "soul-aura" (the sound) that surrounds and wanders around the physical appearance (the instrumentalist).

On the macroformal level the piece is composed by only one arc described from the beginning to the end, through which works a continuous transition with a central, firm and hypnotic junction, on the contrary, in its embryo germinate, flourish and change into "microstructures", in which every element, every sonorous matter is being worked out according to a gradual process of timbric – harmonic "scattering".

Contrarily to the first part the second one is strongly unbalanced, where the figure of the soloist (the flute) – the "single part" – dominates the scene.

The piece lives of particular contrasts, of embankments that have to be crossed, in which shape and fragments are being perceived thanks to the construction and agglomeration of their same harmonic / disharmonic profiles, through an essential temporal space.

It is a "dance of essences", of lines that intersect each other, of sonorities that stand out hazy in delicate games of light/ shade, of figurative shapes that chase each other, overlap until they get mixed up.

Until when the sound, progressively disintegrates by itself and its articulations, becomes dust (the pulsation of the keys) and the harmonic field – on which the whole piece is fixed – through a slow metamorphosis becomes "pure" noise.

"Holon - *Due visioni olistiche per ensemble in forma di studio*" has been conceived and composed between 2008 and 2010.