

Michael Jarrell Assonance II (1989)

Assonance II, a piece from Michael Jarrell's cycle of the same name, is one of the most interesting and influential compositions of new music for bass clarinet solo. Like no other, it shows which forms of expression and playing techniques the bass clarinet makes possible due to its considerable range and its broad tonal range.

Manuela Meier iterate no trace (2015)

Both my compositional practice as well as my theoretical research is based on the study of musical timbre, spectrum and the ephemeral nature of music, in the context of auditory perception, process philosophy and systems theories, and their interlinkage with temporal structures. Complex sonic contrapuntal thinking, which goes much beyond conceptions based solely on pitch, plays a fundamental role in the creation of multidimensional architectures of sound. One of the basic principles of this approach is the potential that I see in engaging with sonic worlds that take the fleeting and ephemeral artifacts that underly much of music's nature and sound production as the entry point for the navigation of complex systems of dependencies and interconnections, and, ultimately, the shifting of a listener's perspective – both in music and beyond.

ITERATE NO TRACE is the attempt to create a composition which imitates and experiments in analog form with the aforementioned aspects during all stages of engagement, including the process of composing, rehearsing, performing, perceiving of and listening to the work. Within this contextual framework, the piece is concerned with the inner workings of a sonic intelligence of some kind. Possessing the ability to learn and adapt, this intelligence is also confronted with the concomitant "overriding" of its own properties as it keeps evolving.

Petra Stump-Linshalm MADAME PELE (2021)

Pele means "molten lava" in the Hawaiian language. Pele is also the name of the goddess of volcanoes and fire and this is also affectionately called Madame Pele by Polynesian peoples. Her manifestations are manifold. Sometimes she appears as a young, seductive woman and then again, she is depicted as a ghastly and capricious woman of middle age, whose hair is usually made of solidified lava. Various volcanological phenomena are also named after the goddess, such as Hair of Pele or Tears of Pele. Pele is a goddess of destruction as well as a goddess of creation, because lava also creates new land and life. Many legends surround the fiery Pele, but it is said that she can be calmed and negotiated with through gentle chants. In any case, Pele brings fire to people, makes passion ignite in us, makes us discuss heatedly or argue in rage. Pele gives courage to assert one's will and to live a creative, passionate life with enthusiasm.

David Lang press release (1992)

I wrote press release in 1991 for Evan Ziporyn. When you compose for one person, you can't get all the colors that you'd have with an ensemble or orchestra, so you have to imagine some sort of interesting problem. I wanted to do something that was really rhythmic. The original idea behind this piece was that of a high melody alternating with a low bass line, so that you get a high pop and a low pop switching back and forth as fast as possible, and these two worlds coexist. I wanted the upper melody to be recognizable and the bottom bass line to be recognizable, to be a real bass line, a driving funk thing. In classical music, the bass is only there to support the melody, which is where the action is. But the bass line is the place where funk music really shines. Because of the way the bass clarinet works, I thought you'd have to press the keys down to make all the low notes, and you'd release the keys to make the high notes.... press release. I was really proud of myself because I thought I had made this funny joke, and then of course Evan said, "You know, a lot of those high notes you play with all your fingers down, and a lot of those low notes you play with all your fingers up " But I didn't think it was worth it to change the title. (David Lang)