sumtone

luis antunes pena

très quadros sobre pedra

for percussion and electronics
Luís Antunes Pena

Três quadros sobre pedra

2008

Commissioned by Nuno Arosa
Three Pictures on Stone was created during an artistic residency at the ZKM | Karlsruhe (Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe) in Germany with the percussionist Nuno Aroso.

In 2007 Nuno Aroso played a piece of mine called Musik in Granit during an European initiative from the German Music Council ensemble perspektiv. In the third movement I used two granite stones that are played crashed against each other until a granule drops on the bass drum. After this piece Nuno Aroso challenged me to compose a solo piece using essentially granite stones. So we went to studio with these instruments but without knowing exactly what kind of sounds we would find. The starting idea was to work with instruments that are not part of the common percussion family such as stones of different kinds, sizes and textures. Having defined the setup, we started to search for sounds, rhythms and musical structures associated to this specific instruments. It was a fascinating work to discover such rich sounds and to spot the possible structures connected to these singular sounds. The piece was composed in an constant exchange with Nuno. There are parts that were improvised and later written other parts were written first.

Three Pictures on Stone is dedicated to Nuno Aroso.

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Três Quadros sobre Pedra para percussão e sons pré-gravados foi realizada em Março de 2008 durante uma estadada artística no Centro de Arte e Mídia de Karlsruhe ZKM | Karlsruhe.

A peça foi sendo construída a partir de uma ideia de trabalhar com instrumentos e sons que não fazem parte do instrumental comum da percussão, nomeadamente, pedras de diversos tamanhos, formas e constituições. Tendo o instrumental, foi feita uma pesquisa de sonoridades, ritmos e possíveis estruturas musicais associadas particularmente às pedras. For érito, a partir dessa procura, ora sistemática, ora improvisatória, que surgiram os primeiros sons e ideias que levaram à realização da peça.

Três Quadros sobre Pedra é dedicada a Nuno Aroso.

Luís Antunes Pena, September 2010

Instrumentation:

- 6 granite stones
- 6 ceramic bars
- 1 wood block
- 1 guiro/shaker
- 1 tom-tom (small)
- 1 cowbell
- 1 thai gong (dampened)
- 1 Chinese opera gong (dampened)
- 1 cow bell (dampened)
- 1 cymbal 18" (suspended)

Setup of the concert at Villa Concordia Bamberg, Germany | July 2010 |
Nuno Aroso, Percussion | Luís Antunes Pena, Electronics

about the granite bars: (please note that these are approximate pitches and are not necessarily tuned)

about the ceramic bars: (please note that these are approximate pitches and are not necessarily tuned)

about the notation of the first and third movement – Quadro I / III

the notation of the first and third pictures use a space notation. These are an approximate indication for performance.

In the first picture take special attention to the timbre that should always be very rich varying the position of the granite bar, in the middle, at the edge, with full surface or just using a corner.

Quadro II is to be played precisely as notated in the score.
Quadro I

Luís Antunes Pena

move the brush using the whole surface
and also the edge to achieve a constant timbre variation

keep constant contact with the surface:
no pauses between the changing of stones,
always legato.

Timeline [s]

Granit Bars
soft brush

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 |

G. Bars
(soft brush)

G. Bars
hard brush

G. Bars
percussive sound played with the stone

G. Bars

G. Bars
percussive sound played with the stone

G. Bars
always increasing the velocity through the bars ca. 30 seconds

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Quadro II

with stone beaters or with simply with river stones

\[ \text{Granit Bars} \]

\[ \text{pp sempre} \]

\[ \text{f} \]

\[ \text{pp} \]

\[ \text{pp} \]

\[ \text{f} \]

\[ \text{pp} \]

\[ \text{e= 96} \]

\[ \text{e= 96 (non ritenuto)} \]

\[ \text{e= 96 (without changes)} \]

\[ \text{e= 96} \]

\[ \text{ca. 12 s} \]

\[ \text{ca. 9 s} \]

\[ \text{ca. 7 s} \]

\[ \text{ca. 9 s} \]

\[ \text{pp ca. 3 s} \]

\[ \text{ritenuto -->} \]

\[ \text{ritenuto -->} \]

\[ \text{ritenuto -->} \]

\[ \text{ritenuto -->} \]

\[ \text{e= 48} \]

\[ \text{cresc al} \]

\[ \text{cresc al} \]

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Quadro III

Start Tape III

Timeline [s]

Cymbals
- Tape Solo -

Cowbell

Tom-tom

Woodblock

Guiro

Ceramic Bars

Granit Bars

ceramic bars: if nothing else indicated play it p and l.v.

\( \text{I} \)
\( \text{II} \)
\( \text{III} \)
\( \text{IV} \)
\( \text{V} \)
\( \text{VI} \)

\( \text{F} \)
\( \text{p} \)
\( \text{sempre} \)

\( \text{P} \)
\( \text{l.v.} \)
\( \text{(beaten)} \)

\( \text{mf} \)
\( \text{p} \)

\( \text{mp} \)

\( \text{seco} \)

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