

Rive-Gauche Concerti

November 19, 2006

Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea (GAM), Torino, Italy

presents

composer & pianist

CURT CACIOPPO

in a program of music on the theme of

“*DEDICATIONS*”

Part I

music written for & dedicated to Curt Cacioppo

About the clouds (2006)

Massimo Iamone (b. 1958)

Massimo Iamone is from Casaleggio Novara, Italy. He studied guitar with Alirio Diaz, Leo Brouwer and others, jazz with Giorgio Gaslini, and composition with Riccardo Piacentini. Among his works are three for the stage, including *La Chiave a Stella*. He also pursues music as a healing medium for the mentally afflicted, to restore their sense of ability and worth, and overcome feelings of prejudice and isolation. This new piece brings together impressionistic and archaic contrapuntal aspects in an appealing way.

Ritorno (2005)

Ingrid Arauco (b. 1957)

Ingrid Arauco is a composer and professor of music at Haverford College in Pennsylvania. She studied with Robert Hall Lewis, George Crumb, Richard Wernick, and George Rochberg. Her compositions are published by Theodore Presser Company, and she serves on the board of the Network for New Music in Philadelphia. Curt has performed Ingrid's music widely both in the U.S. and abroad, giving first performances of at least three of her works. Her *Triptych* is recorded by him on Capstone Records.

The Realm of Possibility (2006)

Mark Hagerty (b. 1953)

Mark Hagerty lives in Wilmington, Delaware. He studied at the Oberlin Conservatory with Richard Hoffman, and at Brandeis University with Seymour Schifrin. As a young tenor, he pursued a career in Boston and with the opera company of Geneva, NY. Like Charles Ives, he keeps his creative activities separate from his business affairs in human resources management. Four movements drawn from the much larger cycle *The Realm of Possibility* have been selected for this program, making a suite of movements slow, fast, slow, fast.

Divina Commedia, VIII Cerchio: VII Bolgia (2005)

Marino Baratello (b. 1951)

Marino Baratello is a native born Venetian who continues to live and work in that picturesque city of canals and bridges. He has written a series of “Bolge” based on the circles and ditches of hell as described in Dante’s *Inferno*. This piece deals with the bolgia reserved for the thieves. It is snake infested, and the condemned are sentenced to forever being bitten and inflamed by them, disintegrating, then rising again reconstituted, only to repeat the metamorphosis again. One of them, Vanni Fucci, speaks sarcastically to Dante, and ultimately curses God. The performer is asked to recite two lines in Dante’s mediaeval Italian, and make the sign of the “figs” at the Almighty, acting out Fucci’s curse.

Four Short Sonatas

George Rochberg (1919-2005)

Poco allegro piacevole
Molto rubato
Allegro assai
Presto

George Rochberg was one of the most important American composers of the twentieth century, ushering in the “new romanticism” mid-stream in his career. His music was championed by Isaac Stern, George Szell, Lorin Maazel, to name a few. George and Curt were close friends and aesthetic allies from their first meeting in 1976. Curt gave the premiere of these pieces in 1985 at Merkin Concert Hall in NY. Like Scarlatti sonatas in proportion, each one however ties to the core of Rochberg’s monumental symphonic and chamber music output.

- Intermission -

Part II

*music composed by Curt Cacioppo and dedicated to others
(musicians, friends & relations)*

Glück auf! (fanfare-prelude, 2004, to Lyle Roelofs)

One still hears the expression "Glück auf!" today in the Harz Mountains of Germany. It originated in the silver mines of the area, as workers encouraged each other that there was "fortune above." This fanfare-prelude is dedicated to my friend, the American physicist Lyle Roelofs, who introduced me to this region years ago during his laboratory research stay in Clausthal-Zellerfeld.

Homage to Diz (fantasy on the tune "Con Alma" by Dizzy Gillespie)

This piece originated improvisationally on a summer concert I did some years ago with my sons Charles and Nicholas, both of whom are jazz players. It honors them as well as their hero, Diz.

a Violetta (in the style of a Venetian boat song, 2002 - to Violetta Sumerano)

Violet Brown (maiden name Sumerano) and I have worked together on various projects for Haverford College for many years. Among these projects has been organizing alumni trips to Italy. Venice, of course, is a favorite destination, and this piece, while celebrating the city, also serves as a thank you to Violet, who always takes such good care of us. This piece is also the basis of a 35 minute long string quartet entitled "Impressions of Venice," composed for the Quartetto di Venezia.

Tuscan Folio (1991 – piano version)

America: a prayer
Capriccio leggendario
Sarbaggiu

The pieces in this set were all written in Italy. *America: a prayer* is a meditation on our country from a vantage point across the Atlantic. It develops into a plea, and ultimately finds repose in consonant and open sonorities. The idea of dedication is replaced with admonition, that our country use its wealth and power constructively and toward the general good. The *capriccio* I wrote while teaching at a summer music program in Siena. It was intended for a student there, as a way of inspiring her own creative abilities. *Sarbaggiu* is a word that in Sicilian dialect means "savage." This has both positive and negative connotations. On the one hand, it describes the way in which Sicily was trampled on by one invading force or another throughout its long history. On the other, it expresses the indomitability of the Sicilian spirit and the will to survive. The piece is in an ABA, fast-slow-fast form.

Additional titles for substitution or inclusion as of 2008: <i>Vaya con Dios</i> , <i>Au revoir</i> , <i>Beloved Emblem</i> , <i>Minute March</i> , and <i>Klavierstück I</i> by Charles Cacioppo.
--