International Rostrum of Composers

Tallinn – 2015



Into the Outer

Annie Hui-Hsin Hsieh



The original fascination that inspired *Into the Outer* was an exploration of notions of *push* and *pull*. Associating specific musical material with members and sections of the ensemble, I sought to create a landscape in which to explore the interplay between give and take, will and force, expansion versus contraction, and above all, propagation versus consumption.

A player possesses his/her material, and therefore is endowed with some sense of agency in the piece. Their material can propagate into the surrounding ensemble. This can be viewed both positively, as an exertion of influence, and negatively, as consumption and a loss of identity.

These ideas are manifest in the division of the ensemble into an *inner* string quartet and an *outer* nonet. Additionally, for every member of the string quartet, there is a quadrant, including the spatially corresponding members of the outer ensemble.

The string quartet is the heart of the system, a seed whose material propagates throughout the orchestra. It is tender and fragile, yet self-contained, content, and self-governing. As the piece progresses, this core gets extracted, borrowed, one-by-one, by their corresponding outer subsets. Its ideas and behaviour gradually submits, infiltrates into the mass, giving the noise-based larger force the 'nutrition' to grow and develop through this process of infusion.

Into the Outer was commissioned by Arcko. This recording by ABC Classic FM is of the world premiere performance.

Into the Outer by Annie Hui-Hsin Hseih. Composed in 2014. Duration: 9'49 Performed by Arcko Symphonic Ensemble, conducted by Timothy Phillips. Recorded 26/07/2014, Richmond Uniting Church, Melbourne Recording Producer: Lucas Burns; Recording Engineer: Christopher Lawson Copies of the score available from Anni Hui-Hsin Hsieh: <u>anniehuihsinhsieh@hotmail.com</u> Copies of the recording available from: Stephen Adams, ABC Classic FM GPO Box 9994, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia. Email: <u>adams.stephen@abc.net.au</u>

Annie Hui-Hsin Hsieh (b.1984)

Born in Taiwan and raised between New Zealand and Australia, Annie Hui-Hsin Hsieh is a composer whose music fuses myriad influences. Noted for her "sparklingly crisp" compositions and "skilful orchestration" (*The Age*), Annie was originally trained as a pianist and oboist before taking up composition via dramatic theatre, musicals and films.

Annie has been awarded the Dorian le Gallienne Composition award (2011), soundSCAPE Festival Composition Prize (2012), A E Floyd Memorial Scholarship (2013), as well as support from the Australian Music Council, Cybec Foundation, Besen Family Artist Program and Sorel Charitable Organization (New York), among others. Her works have been commissioned and performed by The Arts Centre Melbourne, Queensland Conservatorium Griffths University, Beijing Modern Music Festival, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Services Australia, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, The Song Company, Syzygy Ensemble, Kupka's Piano, Quartetto Maurice, Momenta Quartet, Thin Edge New Music Collective, Ensemble Paramirabo, Arcko Symphonic Ensemble and musicians from the Australian National Academy of Music.

Additionally, Annie's music has been featured in festivals including Metropolis New Music Festival (2010), OzAsia Festival (2012), Asian Composers' League's 'Music Taiwan' series (2012, 2013), soundSCAPE Festival (2012, 2013), Restrung Festival (Brisbane, 2013), The Arts of Migration Festival (2013), The Art Centre Melbourne *5X5X5* Project (2013), The National Gallery of Victoria 'Melbourne Now' exhibition' (2013-2014), Mise-en Festival (New York, 2014) and Omaha Under the Radar (2015).

Annie is currently a doctoral student at the University of California, San Diego, working with Lei Liang. Prior to joining UCSD, Annie completed her bachelor's (first-class honours) and master's degrees from University of Melbourne (2006, 2010), under the tutelage of Stuart Greenbaum and Brenton Broadstock.

Annie is represented by the Australian Music Centre. [current to April, 2015]

The Arcko Symphonic Ensemble was launched in June 2008. A flexible ensemble, built around a core of string and wind players, drawn from the ranks of Melbourne's new music specialists, its goal, is the performance and re-performance of overwhelmingly Australian repertoire from this and the last century. Implied in the name, Arcko is playing an important role in preserving works for future generations and in establishing a musical arc between Australia's wonderful heritage composers and the composers of today. Visit: www.arckosymphonicensemble.org.au

Arcko Symphonic Ensemble

Conductor: Timothy Phillips. **VIns:** Susan Pierotti, Zachary Johnson, Aaron Barnden, Philip Healey, Larissa Aguiar, Felicite Heine, Leigh Raymond, Naomi Durston. **Vlas:** Phoebe Green & Anna Webb. **Cellos:** Caerwen Martin & Jennifer Mills. **Double Bass:** Nic Synot