



Anna Thorvaldsdóttir [b. 1977] frequently works with large sonic structures that tend to reveal the presence of a vast variety of sustained sound materials, reflecting her sense of imaginative listening to landscapes and nature. Her music tends to portray a flowing world of sounds with an enigmatic lyrical atmosphere.

Anna has composed a varied catalogue of works including a chamber opera, works for orchestra and chamber orchestra, works for various smaller ensembles, solo works for cello, harpsichord and piano, as well as choir music and a film score.

Anna's music is frequently performed internationally, and has been featured at several major venues and music festivals such as Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival in NYC, the Composer Portraits Series at NYC's Miller Theatre, ISCM World Music Days, Nordic Music Days, Ultima Festival, Klangspuren Festival, Beijing Modern Music Festival, Reykjavik Arts Festival, Tectonics, and the Kennedy Center in Washington DC.

Her works have been nominated and awarded on many occasions - most notably, Anna is the recipient of the prestigious Nordic Council Music Prize 2012 for her work *Dreaming*, and The New York Philharmonic's Kravis Emerging Composer Award 2015.

## ANNA THORVALDSDÓTTIR



year of composition: 2014  
duration: 12'30

### aequilibria for chamber orchestra

"Aequilibria is inspired by various states of balancing forces - the natural breath between expansion and contraction, and the perspectives of translucence and opacity.

As a composer I tend to be inspired by nature when writing music. I do not seek to imitate actual sounds, but rather search for natural proportions and natural movement and flow and allow the inspiration to resonate through me and teach me how to balance materials in the most organic way each time."

Anna Thorvaldsdóttir

Some of the orchestras and ensembles that have performed Anna's work and will feature her work in the near future include International Contemporary Ensemble [ICE], BIT20, the Oslo Philharmonic, the Iceland Symphony Orchestra, Yarn/Wire, The Crossing, LA Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, Ensemble Intercontemporain, the Aarhus Symphony Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Musiques Nouvelles, the NDR Symphony Orchestra, the CAPUT Ensemble, Either/Or Ensemble and the Philharmonia Orchestra.

Anna's portrait albums are: *Rhízōma*, released in October 2011 through Innova Recordings; *Aerial*, released by Deutsche Grammophon in November 2014 and *In the Light of Air*, released by Sono Luminus in August 2015. All three albums have been well received and all have been on numerous "year end lists", i.e. New Yorker Magazine, Boston Globe, iTunes Classical, New York Times, NPR Classical and Chicago Reader.

Anna holds a PhD from the University of California in San Diego.

When not engaged in music-related activities, she may be found doing yoga or walking in nature, seeking inspiration for music and life.

[www.annathorvalds.com](http://www.annathorvalds.com)



## REYKJAVÍK CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTOR: RÚNAR ÓSKARSSON

The Reykjavík Chamber Orchestra [RCO] was founded in 1974 and has since held regular performances of chamber music from the Baroque era to contemporary works. The ensemble has premiered a vast number of works by both Icelandic and international composers, many of which written especially for them. Moreover, RCO has given first performances in Iceland of many key works of last century, notably Schönberg's *Pierrot Lunaire* and Messiaen's *Quatuor pour la fin du temps* and *Des Canyons aux Étoiles* in addition to works by Pärt, Lutoslawski, Adams, Gubaidulina and Boulez.

The RCO has worked with a number of distinguished conductors, including Vladimir Ashkenazy, Paul Zukofsky, Jaap Schröder and Reinhard Goebel. The ensemble performs regularly, both in Iceland and abroad, and has recorded extensively for Icelandic Radio and Television. It is a frequent guest at the Reykjavík Arts Festival and has appeared at numerous international music festivals. In recent years, the RCO has made an effort to record the large number of Icelandic works that have been composed for the ensemble, resulting in a series of 24 CDs.

recording:

Recorded live 28/01/2017 at Dark Music Days Festival, in Harpa Concert House, Reykjavík

Recording producer and engineer: Georg Magnússon, RÚV

Copies of score: Iceland Music Information Centre, <http://shop.mic.is>

Copies of the recording: [Bergljot.Haraldsdottir@ruv.is](mailto:Bergljot.Haraldsdottir@ruv.is)