

BULGARIAN NATIONAL RADIO



> WORK: "*Time Etudes*" for orchestra, two female choirs and voice solo

> COMPOSER: **Peter Kerkelov**

> PERFORMERS: Reut Rivka Shabi (soprano), Female voices of Bulgarian National Radio Mixed Choir, Bulgarian National Radio Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Dragomir Yossifov.

> "*Time Etudes*" does not attempt to musically deal with the subject of time as a deep philosophical question – infinity, stillness, immensity. Instead it uses the idea of "human" time – measurable, cyclical, finite... But human in time is far beyond the numbers he creates. It is about observation, childhood memories, rituals – all kinds of vital acts, that need time to unfold and thus we to unfold through them. And that merging of needless measure and foolish emotion is what gives time a true paradoxical beauty. The (close to) equally long studies of this composition are like six identically sized canvases, in which same spaces of density and emptiness are rearranged in different ways. It is a trial of a hopeless plea to understand what to do with "all this time", to find the connection. But may be at the end of all this Hamlet awaits and retorts: "The time is out of joint".

> "*Времеви етюди*" не се опитва да описва чрез музика времето като дълбоко философски въпрос – безкрайност, статичност, необятност. Вместо това етюдите се разгръщат по "човешкото" виждане за качествата му – измеримост, цикличност, крайност... Но човек във времето е много отвъд числата, които създава. То за него е наблюдение, спомени от детството, ритуали – всевъзможни видове жизнено важни активности, които имат нужда от време, за да се разгърнат и така и ние да се разгърнем чрез тях. Именно сливането на ненужното мерило и наивната емоционалност е това, което придават на времето неговата истинска парадоксална красота. Почти еднакво близките по времетраене етюди в тази композиция са като шест еднакви по размер платна, в които едни и същи пространства на гъстота и празнота са пренаредени по различни начини. Това е опит за един безнадежден апел към това да се разбере, какво да се прави с „всичкото това време“, да се намери връзка. Може би на края на всички тези въпроси Хамлет очаква и отвърща: "Времето е разглобено".



> **PETER KERKELOV** (b. 1984) is a Bulgarian composer. His compositions still preserving their pure musical charm, very often cross the limits of mere sonic games and aim to the fields of philosophy, to those art forms, whose elements he integrates in his conceptions. His composition "*Attempt at screaming*" (performed by the "Musica Nova"

Sofia ens. under Dragomir Yossifov) is the winner in the "under 30" category at the 59th International Rostrum of Composers in Stockholm, 2012. Other awards include a scholarship from the British Music Society; a scholarship from the Wagner Society and a scholarship for classical music from the Raina Kabaivanska Foundation (twice).

Kerkelov's music has been performed in Bulgaria, The Netherlands, Germany, Austria and the USA at such venues/events as Konzerthaus Wien, Gaudeamus Music Week (The Netherlands) and the annual New Bulgarian Music Review (Bulgaria) performed by Asko/Schoenberg Ensemble (The Netherlands), "Bang on a Can All-Stars" (USA), Ensemble PHACE (Austria), Ensemble "Musica Nova" (Bulgaria), Ruysdael Kwartet (The Netherlands) a.o. He has participated in masterclasses with Louis Andriessen, David Lang and Kaija Saariaho. Recent projects include the recording of "*Time etudes*" for orchestra, two female choirs and a voice solo, commissioned by Bulgarian National Radio; a musical theater piece in collaboration with the Russian/Israeli director Masha Nemirovsky for the 2019 European Capital of Culture Plovdiv, Bulgaria; an accordion solo composition for Krassimir Sterev (Klangforum Wien). Previously Peter Kerkelov has been commissioned by The Royal Conservatoire (The Hague) on the occasion of opening year 2011/2012; Duo Cajon and Ruysdael Kwartet on the occasion of Dutch Chamber Music Society's 100th anniversary. His scores have been published and recorded by Union of Bulgarian Composers, Bulgarian National Radio, "BalkaNota" and AMDFA. The first CD of his music was released by the independent Ukrainian label da_sein_rec. Currently P. Kerkelov follows PhD in Ethnomusicology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. He holds a Master's degree in composition from The Royal Conservatoire in The Hague, The Netherlands, where he studied under Martijn Padding and Guus Janssen; Master's degree in composition under prof. Dimitar Tapkov and Bachelor degree in classical guitar under Milena and Valentin Valchevi from Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts (AMDFA) in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Kerkelov has specialized composition with prof. Dan Dediu at the National Music University in Bucharest, Romania, 2006/2007, graduating with distinction.

> WEB: <http://peter-kerkelov.wix.com/1>