



Hochschule für Musik Basel
Musik Akademie Basel

Abt. Forschung und Entwicklung

Dienstag, 15. November 2011
19.00 Uhr, Z. 6-348

colloquium 48

Chaya Czernowin: Development shift change and breach as modus operandi of moving forward

Dealing with time is of course a primary engagement in any music writing. In this talk this will be discussed not only as a force within a piece but also as a force motivating a long term unfolding of a whole decade in my recent work. A special accent will be given to very recent music in the light of older work.

Chaya Czernowin was born in 1957 in Israel and studied composition at the Tel Aviv Rubin Academy of Music, in Germany, the USA and Japan. During these years she was able to concentrate on forming her musical language and thought. Her main teachers were: Abel Ehrlich, Izhak Sadai, Dieter Schnebel, Eli Yarden, Joan Tower, Brian Ferneyhough and Roger Reynolds.

Czernowin's chamber and orchestral music has been played by festivals all over the world and include commissions by major ensembles, orchestras, and festivals (Ensemble Modern, Arditti quartet, Klangforum Wien, Ensemble Intercontemporain, IRCAM, ELISION, Recherche, San Francisco Contemporary Players, SWR Orchestra, and Munich Philharmonic to mention but a few). Characteristic to her work are attempts to find alternative temporalities, changing perspectives and scale, fragmentation, examination and stretching of identity; all are coupled with a strong physical imprint and high emotional intensity. In recent years her work has focused on the orchestra, and on creating spaces luminous shapes and intricate continuities which are more nature oriented and less psychological.

Czernowin sees composition teaching as directly connected to her compositional work. She has taught composition at the Yoshiro Irino Institute, Tokyo and at the Darmstadt International Summer Courses and was professor of music composition at the University of California, San Diego, at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna and at Harvard University. Since 2003 Czernowin has directed the Summer Academy for Composers at the Akademie Schloss Solitude. Guest professorships, presentations and master classes include Tokyo University for the Fine Arts, Yonsei University, Korea, Gothenburg Music Academy, Sweden, Helsinki Sibelius Academy, Finland and many others.

In addition to numerous other prizes, Czernowin represented Israel in the international unesco composer's Rostorum. She was awarded the Kranichsteiner Musikpreis, IRCAM reading panel commission, a few scholarships of the SWR experimental Studio Freiburg, the composer prize of the Ernst-von-Siemens Music Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Fromm Foundation Award. Her work is exclusively published by Schott.