

For immediate release

RESULTS of the 2008 International Rostrum of Composers

Dublin, June 13, 2008. *L'Heure Bleue* (2007) for orchestra by Japanese composer **Misato MOCHIZUKI** (born 1969) and *Mémoire du vent* (2006) for orchestra by young French composer **Florent MOTSCH** (born 1980) are the works selected by radio music producers participating in the 55th International Rostrum of Composers (IRC) held at the RTÉ studios in Dublin, June 9 to 13, 2008, organised by the International Music Council and hosted by RTÉ lyric fm.

Having pursued its mission to promote contemporary music creation through broadcasting for more than half a century, the annual Rostrum has over the past few years reinforced its role as one of the most important “rendez-vous” for professional exchange between radio producers. Its initial objective remains fostering the exchange of performances of contemporary music between broadcasting organisations. For example works chosen at the preceding Rostrum (2007) were given over 500 broadcasts by participating networks as well as affiliates of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU).

The 2008 Rostrum gathered representatives from 29 national radio networks from four continents, which presented 51 works composed within the five years preceding the Rostrum. CBC Senior Executive Producer David Jaeger (Canada) chaired the sessions. After the listening sessions, the assembly of delegates selected and recommended the most distinctive works in two categories: general and “young composers under 30”. These and other works will be presented in concerts and broadcast after the Rostrum by the participating and other interested radio stations.

In the general category, *L'Heure Bleue* (2007) for orchestra by Japanese composer **Misato MOCHIZUKI** (born 1969) was selected by the delegates as most outstanding; René Bosc, head of musical creation at Radio France, had presented it in a recording of its world premiere performance by the Orchestre philharmonique de Radio France, conducted by Reinbert de Leeuw.

Concerning *L'Heure bleue*, Misato Michozuki writes ‘The French entomologist Jean-Henri Fabre (1823-1915) gave the name “the blue hour” to the fleeting moment between the end of night and the start of the next day. The nocturnal beasts and birds fall silent, and the first birds of day are just about to awake; and for a few brief instants there is a deep silence, when life itself seems suspended. It is an instant outside Time, where death and birth interlock and pass the torch. At the moment when the light forces its way through the gloom, blue is the first colour to appear. This is the interface between the light and the dark. [...] My piece is a kind of meditation on this privileged moment which heralds the day, and perpetually turns around the Earth.’

.../...

In the “young composers” category, the work selected as most worthy for worldwide broadcasting was *Mémoire du vent* (2006) for orchestra by French composer **Florent MOTSCH** (born 1980); the work had also been presented by Radio France in a recording of the world premiere performance by the Orchestre philharmonique de Radio France, conducted by François-Xavier Roth.

Mémoire du vent takes on two fundamentals in the writing of music. In the first place is the inspiration, and here it is the wind. It was that stimulus, whether or not sonorous, which gave birth to the work, its avowed point of reference. Next is Memory, which in playing with perception, makes possible the necessary poetic distancing which separates the work from its origin. The arching shape of this work is easily plotted through the changes of tempo: an acceleration leads to a vigorous climax before the return to calm of the finale.

In addition to the selected works, ten other works (see list further) were recommended for broadcasting and concert presentation after the Rostrum by the participating and other interested radio stations.

The results of this year’s Rostrum were announced at a RTE lyric fm live show press conference held at the National Concert Hall on June 13. The producer of the selected works was presented with the UNESCO Picasso-Miro medal; it will also be awarded to the composer of the general selected work. The young composer selected will be receiving the “Guy Huot Bursary for Young Composers”, named after the late Secretary General of the IMC who passed away in 2002.

During their visit to Ireland, the Rostrum delegates were offered opportunities for knowledge sharing during a workshop related to the topic of ‘New Models for the Distribution of New Music’. The itinerary for the week also included concert performances by The Crash Ensemble, Concorde and the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, as well as a presentation on Irish Contemporary Music hosted by the Contemporary Music Centre.

The next edition of the International Rostrum of Composers will take place in Paris, June 8 to 12 2009.

The International Music Council is the world’s leading professional organisation dedicated to the development and the promotion of diverse music and musical rights. It aims at contributing to the development and strengthening of friendly working relations between all the musical cultures of the world on the basis of their absolute equality, mutual respect and appreciation. Founded in 1949 upon request of the Director General of UNESCO as the advisory body to the agency on musical matters, it functions as an independent international NGO maintaining a formal associate relationship with UNESCO.

The mission of IMC is to provide exceptional value to its membership by building knowledge, creating networking opportunities, supporting and enhancing the visibility of initiatives that help sustain people’s participation in music and cultural life.

CATEGORIE GENERALE / GENERAL CATEGORY
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OEUVRE SELECTIONNEE / SELECTED WORK

Misato MOCHIZUKI (Japon/Japan)
(Présentée par / Presented by Radio France)

L'HEURE BLEUE

OEUVRES RECOMMANDEES / RECOMMENDED WORKS

Damian BARBELER (Australie/Australia)

Exquisite Blood

Vladimir GORLINSKIY (Russie/Russia)

Ultimate Granular Paradise

Perttu HAAPANEN (Finlande/Finland)

Ladies Room

Nicole LIZÉE (Canada)

This will not be televised

Ole-Henrik MOE (Norvège/Norway)

Longer

Pawel MYKIETYN (Pologne/Poland)

Symphony N° 2

Mayke NAS (Pays-Bas/Netherlands)

La belle chocolatière

Santa RATNIECE (Lettonie/Latvia)

Saline

Jésus TORRES (Espagne/Spain)

Concierto para acordeón y orquesta

CATEGORIE DES COMPOSITEURS DE MOINS DE 30 ANS COMPOSERS UNDER 30 CATEGORY
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OEUVRE SELECTIONNEE / SELECTED WORK

Florent MOTSCH (France)

MEMOIRE DU VENT

OEUVRES RECOMMANDEES / RECOMMENDED WORKS

Daniel BJARNASON (Islande/Iceland)

"all sounds to silence come"

Vladimir GORLINSKIY (Russie/Russia)

Ultimate Granular Paradise

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