

Composer Biography : KAO Kai-yi

KAO Kai-yi (Taiwan 1984~)

She graduated in 2009/10 with distinction- Artist Diploma for piano and composition from the Vienna's Franz Schubert Conservatory, as well as master degree for composition (with prof. Michael Jarrell) in 2014 from the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna. She works as composer and musician in Vienna and has also been teaching piano, composition, music texture and ear training at the Vienna's Franz Schubert Conservatory since 2011. In 2019, KAO joined the "We Art Together Project" organized by Taiwanese art curatorial platform Studio Acht, expanding the international network and starring in different projects.

Her compositions include solo pieces for various instruments, chamber music pieces, vocal music pieces and works for large orchestra. Her piece was selected as an assigned piece of Vaduz international masterclass 2007 in Liechtenstein. In 2009 she was a finalist of the International Music Prize for Excellence in Composition in Greece and also received the Special Award. In 2014, she won the 2nd prize for the 14th Carl von Ossietzky Composition Competition Oldenburg and also won the 2nd prize in 2016 of the Hearing Orpheus Today composition competition in Malta. In the same year, she was selected as the composer for the program TMI (Master Disciples and Companion) of the National Center for Traditional Arts, as well as the Gender-Projekt Holz-Blech-Schlag in 2017 and 2018 commissioned by the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna. In 2017, She won the 3rd prize for the Voice of the New and Brilliant-Composition Competition 2017- NTSO (National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra) in Taiwan. In 2019, she won the 1st prize for the Augusto Massari Competition in Italy. The piece was also published by the publisher Diaphonia Music Edition. In the same year, her piece was published by the publisher Redshift Music in the CD-album "Lutalica", which was played by the flutist Mark McGregor, as well as the other pieces were published by the publisher Doblinger. Her compositions have been performed in Austria, German, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Greece, Italy,

Malta, England, Canada, Japan and Taiwan.

Program Notes: *Counterpoint*

The main content of the text score is “counterpoint”. I would like to present a work with imagery counterpoint as a basic method in three phases. Not the counterpoint on the score with notes, but directly with sounds in the entire space where we exist. Not only break away from standard music texture and notes, also incorporate the elements of improvisation and uncertainty possibility of sounds.

Performers make sounds according to the guide text. Some of them with movable instrument have to move in the space according to the instruction while playing. Through the sounds made by performers, to interlace different lines in the space as counterpoint with vertical, horizontal and slash, etc. Using the combination of the space and the sounds, a dialogue generated between each performer, which based on the imagery counterpoint.