

Traditional Music – Modern Sound¹⁾

Music – everyone has an idea of it – the word music has no plural. Music is unique, and it is only in the singular. If a classical composer, for example Bach, came back to us, he would find a largely different world of language and culture, but what hasn't changed is his composition, his instruments, not even his musical intentions – a proof that there is only one music.

Indeed, our system of music is ancient, has a tradition of thousands of years. Is this true? Certainly yes, if you are considering the common, conventional music world, enjoyment of music as an intoxication by hearing traditional works continuously repeated, and music as intermediation of a wonderful world – “It's a wonderful world.” Is there anything else? Yes, indeed. In this century (we mean the 20. century), research hasn't only taken place to explore unknown areas of the universe, but also unknown realms of the micro-world where there are oscillations which can be transformed into audible sound.

Today, it can be produced in modern sound generators (in the proper sense you should say “musical instruments”) which so far was inaudible: sound sampling, frequency modulation, additive sound synthesis, Fourier synthesis and so forth are the new principles which Bach would probably find strange, although they always have been substance of the physical reality.

When something changes, many things change, or even everything changes. So the new producers of sound have changed humans too, listening habits, forms of presentation, and everything that is connected with it.

The classical system of music is perfect, and that is to say, no longer changeable, and what you can no longer change, is past and therefore perfect.

The new sound productions are not perfect, they sound to us like something from the future, we are approaching them, and moving towards them, we are open enough to recognize and to accept their open-endedness.

The new electronic music (we call it now music) doesn't cause ecstasy, neither sedation, nor edification, but the one: recognition how elements are combined in nature, in many forms, unpredictable, unsure, statistical, probabilistic, but never perfect.

We don't believe that our work, here in our region, is perfect, but we hope that it is possible to continue it in the future.

1) Klaus Weinhold, „Elektronische Klanginstallationen“ Emmendingen-Wasser, 1996