

CURRICULUM VITAE - CHIEL MEIJERING

Michael Maria "Chiel" Meijering

Dutch Composer

Born: June 15, 1954, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Website: www.chielmeijering.com

Publisher: Donemus Publishing, The Netherlands

PROFILE

Chiel Meijering is one of the most performed and versatile contemporary composers in the Netherlands. With an oeuvre of over 1,000 compositions for virtually every instrumentation imaginable, his work bridges the worlds of contemporary classical music, pop, jazz, funk, folk and avant-garde. His music is known for its high artistry combined with direct accessibility, spontaneity, and provocative, humorous titles.

EDUCATION

Sweelinck Conservatory / Conservatorium van Amsterdam, Amsterdam

- Composition with Ton de Leeuw

- Percussion with Jan Labordus and Jan Pustjens

- Piano

Left the conservatory early in his career to play in a rock band, an experience that fundamentally shaped his cross-genre style.

CAREER & COMPOSITIONAL OUTPUT

A prolific output focused on chamber music and theater:

Meijering has written over 1,000 works, primarily for small ensembles. His works are performed regularly in the Netherlands and internationally and have been written for renowned ensembles such as:

Aurelia Saxophone Quartet, Amsterdam Loeki Stardust Quartet, Mondriaan String Quartet, Matangi String Quartet, Cello8ctet Amsterdam, Sinfonietta Amsterdam, Amsterdam Guitar Trio, AskolSchönberg Ensemble, Spark (ECHO-Klassik Winner 2011), and The 12 Cellists of the Berlin Philharmonic.

Major Projects:

2012-2015: Transcribed 55 recorder concertos, originally written for virtuoso Dan Laurin, for bassoon and string orchestra. Recorded on CD Rock that Flute.

2016: Whatever Lies Ahead for 12 cellos - premiered on October 29, 2016 in Amsterdam by The 12 Cellists of the Berlin Philharmonic.

2016-2018: Composed 117 bassoon concertos and chamber concertos for bassoonist Kathleen McLean, Professor at the Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University Bloomington, and co-principal bassoon of the World Orchestra for Peace. These one-movement works shift styles within each piece and draw material from his operas.

2017-2018: The Reed Which Bends in the Wind for 12 bassoons and strings, commissioned with support from FPK Holland. Premiered March 31, 2018 in Bloomington, Indiana and at the International Double Reed Society Conference in Granada, Spain.

OPERA & MUSIC THEATRE - Selected Works

His breakthrough with a large theatre audience came with the overwhelming success of his Alzheimer Opera, premiered in January 2006 at the Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ, Amsterdam.

Other operas include:

- The Last Days of Mankind (1988)
- St. Louis Blues (1995)
- Blauwbaard (2013) - Holland Opera
- Who's Afraid of Orfeo: The hellfaire from As (2016) - Orkest de Ereprijs

MUSICAL STYLE & TITLES

A strong characteristic is stylistic diversity and spontaneity. Meijering moves effortlessly between musical worlds. He is also famous for his outrageous, programmatic titles, a conscious reaction in the 1970s against dry titles like "Sonata No. 33".

Famous titles include:

- I Hate Mozart (for flute, alto saxophone, harp and violin)
- I've Never Seen a Straight Banana (for alto saxophone, marimba, piano, harp, and violin)
- If the Camels Don't Get You, the Fatimas Must! (for solo violin)

- Background-Music for Non-Entertainment Use in Order to Cover Unwanted Noise (for four saxophones)
- Candybox / Caixa de dolços - his hit piece, arranged for many ensembles
- NightbeastCry (for toy piano) and The house with paper walls (for viola and harp) - examples of his more recent poetic titles

RECOGNITION

- His music was commissioned for a celebratory concert on the occasion of the 60th birthday of Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.
- Works regularly broadcast and performed internationally.
- Published by Donemus