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Dr Daria D. Kwiatkowska MA, DMA

Teaching Fellow

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About

I am a composer of instrumental and vocal music, interested in timbre and the use of unusual instruments. I teach composition, tonal theory and 18th century counterpoint.

Qualifications

MA I. J. Paderewski Academy of Music in Poznan, Poland.

DMA Cornell University, USA.

Biography

Originally from Poland, I joined the University of Birmingham in 2004, first as a Visiting Lecturer, and from 2010 as a member of staff. Previously I taught at the Academy of Music in Poznan, Poland, before continuing the studies in Holland and the United States.

Teaching

I teach first year modules in composition, tonal theory and analysis, and advanced modules in 18th century counterpoint.

Research

As a composer, I focus my research on writing for acoustic resources, but often employ unusual instruments, such as Javanese gamelan, Japanese koto, as well as Western quarter-tone flute. With my husband and fellow lecturer, Dr Scott Wilson, I co-created a music/puppet theatre show “Shuttle Dreams”, in collaboration with puppeteer David Powell from Toronto, Canada. My music has been performed in Poland, Canada, the Netherlands, US, Japan, and Great Britain.

Other activities

Notable Performances:

- London, Shoreditch Church, November 28, 2009: *W ciemnym koszu mego brzucha* (In the dark basket of my belly) for quarter tome alto flute and piano; commissioned and performed by Carla Rees and rarescale.
- Vancouver, BC, April 28, 2007: *Winter Games*for orchestra; commissioned and performed by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Bramwell Tovey (performance repeated in North Vancouver on April 30, 2007).
- Musica Polonica Nova (Festival of Polish Contemporary Music), Wroclaw, Poland, February 24, 2006: *Cascadilla Waterfalls*for chamber orchestra, conducted by Robert Kurdybacha.
- Toronto, ON, February 20 and 21, 2004: *Shuttle Dreams*, a music/shadow puppet theatre show, performed by David Powell (puppetry), Scott Wilson (computer, percussion), and Daria D. Kwiatkowska (piano).
- Tokyo, Japan, December 5, 2003: *The Ghost of Urashima*for koto, oboe, parcussion, and narrator, commissioned and performed by Ryuko Mizutani (koto).
- Toronto, ON, November 12, 2002*: Prologue and Epilogue*for clarinet, violin, cello, and piano (2 players), performed by Continuum Contemporary Music.
- Festival of new music Poznańska Wiosna Muzyczna (Poznań Musical Spring), Poznań, Poland, April 25, 2002: *The Summer Soundscape*for chamber orchestra, performed by “Kamerata Nowego Wieku”, conducted by Dariusz Tabisz.

Publications

- Portfolio of Three Compositions (Part I) The Symbolism of Night and its Musical Representations in the Works of George Crumb (Part II), D.M.A. Diss., Cornell University, 2002.
- “Czy Szymanowski się pomylił?” (Was Szymanowski mistaken?), *Monochord*, Vol. III/1994, Toruń, Poland: Wydawnictwo Adam Marszałek.
- “Symfonia olfaktoryczna czyli Dicka Higginsa sposób na sztukę” (An olfactory symphony or Dick Higgins’s take on art), *Monchord*, Vol. XII-XIII/1996, Toruń, Poland: Wydawnictwo Adam Marszałek.

CD recordings:

- *Tryptyk jesienny*(The Autumn Triptych) for female voice choir a cappella; recorded by Chór Żeński "Polirytmia", published by Carbo Media Sp. Zo.o. (CD), 2006.

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