



ANGELO

Annette Scholten *lame sonore*
Nanke Flach *piano*



Exclusive musical performance on CD

On this CD classical music is played on the lame sonore 'classique', a unique musical instrument. Unique are also the two compositions especially written for lame sonore and piano.

What is a lame sonore 'classique'?

This instrument is related to the musical saw. The name 'lame sonore' means 'sounding blade'. It consists of a saw blade without saw teeth. Vibrations are produced by using a bow on the blade. By bending the blade with its handle you can vary the pitch. A special handle was designed for the lame sonore 'classique', in order to provide more precision in intonation and more possibilities in dynamics.

Contrary to a normal lame sonore a sound box and tripod have been added. The sound box amplifies the vibration of the blade. Because of this there is more volume and a richer sound, with the result that the instrument can be a full partner of a piano or an orchestra. The tripod allows more freedom of movement while playing the instrument.

Development of the lame sonore 'classique'

Ever since Annette started playing the lame sonore in 2011 she has been busy with developing the instrument and playing techniques. She worked together with several people. Pianist Nanke Flach has been involved from the beginning in investigating the possibilities of this unknown instrument. There were also important contributions by the following people: Eddo van der Hoog, who gave the initial impetus to developing the handle, and the instrument maker Dirk Jacob Hamoen, who could advise because of his great knowledge of string instruments. With their help the woodworkers Fons van der Meulen and Henk Dirks have designed and made the sound box, tripod and handle.

You can book a workshop 'Playing the lame sonore'

for which you can find all information at www.annettescholten.com. There you can also find an extensive reportage of the construction process of the lame sonore.

Annette Scholten, Nanke Flach and the lame sonore

Since 2009 Annette and Nanke have formed a duo. Initially they played music for cello (Annette) and piano (Nanke), but since 2011 Annette has also been playing the lame sonore. Their mission is to draw attention to this instrument, nationally as well as internationally. In the summer of 2014 they participated in the Ibla Grand Prize, an international music contest on Sicily. They received a special mention for their concerts and were subsequently invited to the winners concert tour through the United States in May 2015, where they made their debut in Carnegie Hall. They performed a.o. in the Dutch Radio 4 broadcasts 'Spiegelzaal' (live from the Royal Concertgebouw Amsterdam) and 'De Klassieken'. With this CD Annette and Nanke want to draw attention to this unique instrument.

Composers and the lame sonore

At present there is still not much repertoire specifically composed for the lame sonore. It is a privilege to present on this CD two new compositions written for lame sonore and piano. The Dutch composers Tjalling Wijnstra and Hans Bakker have been inspired to write music for this combination. Besides these new compositions you will also hear music originally written for other instruments or vocals, but very suitable for lame sonore.



Annette Scholten

Annette has played the cello from the age of 9. From 1985 till 1992 she studied the cello (performance, education and chamber music) at the Groningen Conservatory. She participated in master classes with Anner Bijlsma, Colin Carr, Taco Kooistra and others. Since 2011, besides the cello, she also plays the lame sonore. She often performs in orchestras, such as the North Netherlands Symphony Orchestra (NNO), the Noordpool Orchestra and the Filharmonie Noord. In the opera 'Mariken' by Calliope Tsoupakí (performed by the Asko|Schönberg Ensemble) she performed the solo of the musical saw. Annette teaches cello in Leeuwarden and Groningen. Recently she played 'Casanova' (for cello and wind orchestra) by Johan de Meij and with her lame sonore she performed solo with orchestras multiple times, e.g. the Filharmonie Noord and with several musicians of the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra and the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra.

More information: www.annettescholten.com

Nanke Flach

Nanke started playing the piano when she was 12. She studied classical piano at the Utrecht Conservatory, during her bachelor with Alan Weiss and during her master with Hans Eijsackers. She graduated as a pianist and teacher, with cello as a subsidiary subject. Besides she studied Educational Science at the Groningen University. Her thesis about dyslexia and reading music was published in the International Journal of Music Education. Nanke took masterclasses with Frank van de Laar, Maria João Pires, Paolo Giacometti and others. Nanke has a great liking for chamber music. With Trio Gaudi (2003-2005) she won the third prize at the Princess Christina Concours and she took part in the Orlando Festival. Since 2006 she has been a piano teacher. Nanke is highly experienced in accompanying instrumentalists at contests, festivals and exams.

More information: www.nankeflach.nl



Tjalling Wijnstra

Tjalling started his career as an accordionist. He studied at the Groningen Conservatory, where Egbert Spelde was his teacher, and at the Royal Conservatory in Copenhagen. At the Conservatory in Amsterdam he graduated as a conductor and a choirmaster. He worked for Opera Zuid and at present he is the conductor of Opera Spanga and of the opera choir Amadeus. Tjalling is the permanent conductor and the artistic advisor of Filharmonie Noord. Tjalling composed a number of works for various orchestral instrumentations, chamber music as well as works for choir and orchestra. Under the authority of Grendel Productions he composed music for the serious game 'Underground'.

More information: www.tjallingwijnstra.nl



Hans Bakker

After having finished his studies of the piano, church organ and choir conducting in Utrecht, Hans Bakker started as a teacher in piano and organ at music schools in Bussum and Hilversum. Moreover he conducted two choirs and he practised in improvised music. After he finished his studies Sanskrit at the University of Amsterdam, he became completely engrossed in music again. In the beginning composing music was only a sideline. Since 1997 he made it his daily activity. He wrote a great number of works for chamber music and choir, among which the ten-part choir cycle Prasasti. He composed six pieces for carillon and a few pieces for orchestra, e.g. Canzona I, II and III. Of this composition a cd will be released in the course of 2018 on the label of Navona Records. His last great commission is the concert for violin and orchestra 'Kairos'.

More information: www.hansbakkermusic.com

Angelo

God said to the Angel
– Go over to that child quickly
and stay close to him.
Don't ever leave him.

– Lord, what will I tell him
if he asks me who I am?
– Tell him: I'm a gift
of God. I'm the friend.

– And what can I do if he cries?
– Do as the little shepherd does.
That little child is a lamb
and you take it in your arms.

– And what if he plays?
– You'll play with him
Innocent children
are happy with some
glistening little pebbles.

– And when he's sleepy,
what will I do?
I'm so clumsy.
– Put him in a basket
and cradle him to sleep

The Angel flew away,
and he was already far,
high in the sky,
when he suddenly turned back,
asking in a whispering voice:

– And what if he gets ill?
If he dies?
– Return him to God.

Renzo Pezzani
translation: Marina Fermo

A word of thanks

The 'special mention' we got during the 'Ibla Grand Prize' on Sicily and the subsequent tour through the United States, encouraged us to proceed our 'mission'. With this CD we want to bring the lame sonore further to the attention of the public. Without the support of so many dear, committed people, this CD could never have been made. We like to thank warmly everybody who was in one way or the other involved by providing a platform, coaching, thinking along, showing emotions at hearing the sound of the lame sonore, and stimulating us to go on researching.

This CD is the starting point of exploring further possibilities with the lame sonore 'classique', and we hope that it enthruses composers to write new compositions for this unique musical instrument.

Annette and Nanke

Colophon

Recording: AE audio productions, Muntendam
Technique: Arnoud van der Laan, www.ae-audio.nl



Graphic design and Art: Gea Zwart, www.geazwart.nl
Painting 'Sea level 2': Gea Zwart, www.geazwart.nl

Pictures: Peter Flach, Meredith Kennedy, Fons van der Meulen
English translation booklet: Maud Busz-Lörtzing