

Innanzi

Innanzi, my first piece for large orchestra, was commissioned by the Zurich Tonhalle Society in 1977. It was premiered however, in Hamburg on 20 January 1981. It has since been performed in Brussels, Berlin, Stuttgart and Paris. In Stuttgart programme notes I wrote as follows: "A motor pulse and a constantly changing linearity are the two key elements stamping and determining the piece's progress. I intend to reconstitute these two complementary elements -unalienable constituents of our musical tradition- into a new context and thereby achieve a personal kind of musical expression. The generating idea is to simultaneously fulfil these two elements during the whole piece: in part one, the solo doublebass's simple motor pulsion against the complex and hardly tangible linearity of the orchestra, and in part two, the doublebass's simple linearity against the orchestra's dense and complex motor pulsion. The musical material is mainly provided by the use of open strings and their natural harmonics. Almost all the strings play with a loosened fourth string, except for the soloist who in contrast to this, tightens his strings into a new relation: G sharp (1st string)- E-A sharp - F sharp (4th string). The whole piece is tinged with the more or less concealed echo of the aura and colour of this chord."