Daniel Berg

Daniel Berg is a versatile marimba soloist, composer and educator. He holds the position as the percussion and chamber music teacher at the University Colleges of Music in Stockholm, Örebro and Gothenburg (Sweden).

In his passion to promote the marimba as a solo- and chamber music instrument, Daniel has worked intimately with a number of composers who have written original music for the instrument. This includes more than 200 world premiers for solo and chamber works. Daniel Berg plays Bergerault marimbas and use Elite Mallets.

As a composer Daniel has written a lot for percussion published by Edition Svitzer. Solo pieces for marimba like Fantasia & Toccata, Phoenix and Blue Memories and the series of Easy Duets and Easy Solos who become a best seller for young percussion players round the world.

Mistral

In the early 2000s, I had the pleasure of teaching and performing together with the American marimba legend, Michael Burritt at a couple of summer courses. In one concert, I remember him presenting his new solo piece ‘Scirocco’ with fast-moving and swirling melodic lines – inspired by one of the eight desert winds across the Mediterranean Sea. The year after, Michael played the first performance of his lyric ‘the Offering’ and both pieces are now standard works for marimba.

Almost twenty years later, I got the opportunity to write a solo piece for Michael Burritt and I want to catch the positive energy from his personality and his strong virtuoso and lyrical playing. And as a greeting to Michael and with a little humour, the piece gets name after another desert wind across the Mediterranean Sea.

The harmonies in ‘Mistral’ is chosen by overtones from the lower octaves of the marimba. Together, the notes in the chords form a tone colour that is unique to the instrument.

Credits

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