2011

Encyclopedia of Music in Ireland: Rob Canning

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Recommended Citation

Canning, Rob. (*b* Dublin, 9 November 1974) Irish composer. He studied with Anthony Powers at the University of Wales where he graduated with a Bmus and in 1999 he obtained an M.Litt in Composition from UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN where he studied with SEÓIRSE BODLEY. He has been the recipient of a number of awards including the composer's class of the RTÉ Musician of the Future competition (1998), first prize in the international section of the New Music for Sligo Composition Competition (1999) and the Macaulay Fellowship (2001). He has lectured in the composition department of TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN and is currently pursuing doctoral studies at Goldsmiths College London.

Canning's compositional technique mediates between a systems based approach, which uses various mathematical models and computer assisted strategies to generate and structure material, and an intuitive approach which allows for a greater range of improvisational freedom on the part of the performer. For example *Melencholia* (2007) for string quartet and live electronics uses a magic square of musical fragments to control the works temporal parameters but allows its performers the freedom to predetermine their own path through the grid. He has also completed a number of sound installations and multi-channel electronic works.

Selected Compositions
"64c", Installation, 2007 (London 2007). el-ac.
Pyrophony Ia, Installation, 2008 (London 2008). el-ac.
Through Cages, 1997 (Dublin 1998). fl., cl., perc, pf., va.
Knoten, 1999 (Dublin 2000). fl., cl., vib., vc.
Creole, 1999. cl., ssax., el-gui., perc, 2vn, va, vc.
…and turn the mirror to the wall, 2000 (Dublin 2000). afl., bcl., pf., vn, vc.
Out of line, 2001. el-vn, pf.
Bunraku, 2001. 2 perc.
The Garden of Forking Paths, 2002 (Dublin 2002). fl., cl., bcl., tpt, trbn., perc, vib.+mar, hp, vn, vc., db.
Myriorama (Penelope Sleeps), 2004 (Dublin 2004). fl., ob., cl., hn, 2 perc. CD Contemporary Music Centre: Contemporary Music from Ireland, Volume 4, 2004, Susan Doyle, Síle Daly, Deirdre Doyle, Ian Dakin, Richard O' Donnell, Rhian McLeod, CMC CD04.
Melencholia I, 2007 (Dublin 2007). 2 vn, va, vc., el-ac.
Kyklos, 2009 (Sydney 2010). str. octet.
Untitled Work, 1997 (Dublin 1999). pf.
Mantra, 1999. pf.
5!, 2009. perc.
Ave Maria, 2004 (Belfast 2004). satb [div].
An Maighdean Mhara, 1998 (Dublin 1999). el-ac.
Continuum, 2000 (Galway 2000). bcl., el-ac.
Room Full of Mirrors, 2001 (Galway 2002). pf., el-ac.
Costruzione Illegittima, 2001 (Galway 2001). cl., el-ac.
Soundshapes I-IV, 2002 (Galway 2002). fl.+glasses, cl.+glasses, el-ac.
Mutations, 2003 (Dublin 2003). fl., cl., vn, accdn., pf., el-ac.
Clints&Grikes, 2004 (Canada 2004). fl., pf., zither, el-ac.
Interferences, 2008 (London 2008). el-ac.

Discography
Contemporary Music Centre: *Contemporary Music from Ireland, Volume 4* (Susan Doyle
(fl.), Síle Daly (ob.), Deirdre Doyle (cl.), Ian Dakin (hn), Richard O' Donnell (perc), Rhian
McLeod (perc): CD, CMC CD04, 2004)

Commissioned Word Count: 200
Word Count: 200
Word Count (with Work List etc.): 452

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