"ELEMENTA ULTRA"

Music for Large Wind Orchestra and Electric Guitar/Loops

(Version 1)

Erik Wøllo



All Rights Reserved www.wollo.com **ELEMENTA ULTRA** is minimalistic and rhythmic music, with tonal melodic elements blended together with modern electronic loops and electric guitar. The piece is a continuous changing voyage, all the time with a set focus inside of the same musical landscape. More than ever, this piece reflects my background in psychedelic and progressive rock styles, which again was influenced by the earlier impressionists and the minimalists.

It starts with a pre recorded Drone loop that has a very etheral multi dimensional sound, soon joined with the pastoral english horn presenting one of the main melodic lines. The ensemble is gradually building up a mosaic of rhythmic intensity, and the drone becomes more and more "unvisible", hidden but still very important. Electric guitar joins in with melodic lines forming long sustained tones with the ebow (electric feedback generator device), as well as playing a repeated rhythmic echoed patterns together with the marimba. The music builds up to a higher rhythmical and dynamic level of intensity. Gradually reaching a climax, before coming back to the themes from the beginning. Together with the same mesmerizing Drone, almost as if it has been there all the time.

The idea of using electronic elements in Elementa Ultra is to expand the listeners phsycial time and space, moving out of and beyond the actual concrete room where the ensemble and the audience is seated. Emphasising on the changing focus on the musical material, and on the foreground and background. Like an illusion of the Leonardo DaVinci's Mona Lisa painting, where the landscape behind her is sometimes more focused than her, and she becomes secondary and out of focus. Or in Indian raga music, where the tanpura could become more important than the soloist. *- Erik Wøllo*



"Minimalistisk og repetativ rytmisk musikk i kontinuerlig forandring. Melodisk og tonal musikk bygget opp på repeterende sykluser av varierende lengde. Det akkustiske og jordnære i blåseensemblet blir satt opp mot abstrakte og luftige klanger fra loops/elektrisk gitar, og motsatt. Hvor verkets karakter blir påvirket av skiftende fokus mellom disse. Men bakgrunnen her er ofte det viktigeste elementet, selv om forgrunnen av akkustiske instrumenter er dominerende. Som i et imaginært Mona Lisa maleri, der hun er utydelig og det egentlige primære fokus er bakgrunnen og landskapet bak henne"

INSTRUMENTATION:

- Piccolo Flute
- Flute
- Oboe
- English Horn
- Clarinet 1 (Bb)
- Clarinet 2 (Bb)
- Clarinet 3 (Bb)
- Bass Clarinet
- Bassoon
- W Horn
- Alt Saxsophone
- Tenor Saxophone
- Trumpet 1
- Trumpet 2
- Trumpet 3
- Trombone 1
- Trombone 2
- Trombone 3
- Tuba
- Contrabass
- Electric Guitar with E-bow/Electronics and pre recorded loops*
- Percussion 1: Bass Drum, Snare Drum, Ride Cymbal, China Cymbal, Gong
- Percussion 2: Marimba

*Electric Guitar and Electronics:

Electric amplified guitar uses Line 6, POD HD as effect/pre amp unit. (special preset programmed for use with e-bow and muted technique). This is run through a stereo PA system with one loudspeaker on each side of the stage, mounted behind the ensemble. The pre recorded Loops are also played back on these speakers. The Loops are either operated by the guitarist from stage, or by a PA engineer. The two pre recorded Loops have all the levels and dynamics pre mixed and adjusted, therefore it is very important that the ensemble plays in accurate tempo.

Adjust the overall level of the Electric Guitar and the pre recorded Loops so that they blend naturally into the sound of the acoustic ensemble.

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