

Aurore de Savoie

Daybreak in Savoy

violin, viola, cello soli and string orchestra

Daybreak in Savoy, for violin, viola, cello soli and string orchestra was composed to commemorate the 30 th anniversary of the Savoy Region Orchestra in 2014.

This work is not a concerto, despite its similarity to the genre. The solo instrumentalists are part of the orchestra itself ; now and then they leave their place in the orchestra to play solo, duo or trio, then return there when they are finished.

The score is structured round the four basic notes C, F, A and G, the fundamental notes of the series and scales chosen when the piece was worked out, the scales having come from a Hindu rāga. The C and A scales, particularly the latter, are made use of by the whole orchestra while the F and G series only appear in the soli.

According to the theory of the Five Elements in the Yi King or *The Book of Transformations* in Chinese philosophy, the notes too are linked with a whole set of symbols. The A note, the main axis around which the orchestra revolves, corresponds to the East, where the sun rises. Like daybreak, the Orchestra of the Savoy Region sheds its light over the whole area, igniting and spreading culture, whence the name of the work, *Daybreak in savoy*.

The Asian philosophies coming from India and China play a huge part in most of Tôn-Thât Tiêt's works, both a source of creation and a writing technique medium.

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