

Trois Intermezzi

Three Intermezzi

Bassoon, harp, percussion

This trio was composed for the CNSMD (the Superior National Conservatory of Music and Dance) in Paris, as the 1988 Harp competition. It is part of a larger work for harp and instrumental ensemble : *Les Jardins d'autre monde (The Gardens of another World)*, composed by T n-Th t Ti t in homage to Hu , his birthplace, and the former capital city of Vietnam. The gardens are those of the valley of tombs, between the mountains and the exquisitely poetic *River of Perfumes*, in which every 19 th century Emperor had his tomb built like a palace for his future life. The three intermezzi give a fresh version of the Interludes to be found in *The Gardens of another World*.

The constant presence of the harp is counter-balanced with the percussions and the bassoon. The play of the percussions – tom toms, Temple Blocks, wood blocks and claves – is reminiscent of those heard in traditional Vietnamese music. The harmony is intertwined with an Indian r ga, the "*r ga todi*" or morning r ga. This music is ritualistic and meditative, rooted in the Asian way of thinking, as with the concept of yin and yang ; the bassoon is the static element, as opposed to the harp representing movement.

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