

for Enno

Wound (2022)

for ensemble and orchestra

wound /wʊːnd/

- n.* 1. an injury to an organism, usu. involving division of tissue or rupture of the integument or mucous membrane, due to external violence or some mechanical agency rather than disease.
2. an injury or hurt to feelings, sensibilities, reputation, etc.
- v.* to inflict a wound upon (someone or something); injure; hurt.
[Pre-10C: OE *wund*; O.Frisian *wunde*; OG *wunta*; ON *und*; Goth. *wunds*]

Wound

Cut, tear, break, rip open, pierce the skin or flesh; mortify, grieve, offend. Of violence, disfigured and defaced.

A lesion ingrained on the skin - marred, a mark of difference.

The imperfect surface, frayed edges, cracks in the veneer.

The implication of vulnerability: the exquisite fragility and imperfection that makes us human.

Silence is the canvas on which the weight of sound leaves its mark.

Sound rips open the surface of silence, or peels back its skin, zooms in, and falls into the netherworld, seeking that which lies within.

" This corporal revenge. A genuine, concerted and systematic undoing of grace. Every promise discovered too late to be a fucking lie told badly. The promise of intimacy and the promise of beauty ripped away to reveal a gawping, hyperreal brute...

Every follicle a valve or a thin brass pipe in some vast, breathing instrument....

I wanted to speak of a cursive comprised of a single, sweeping line - written in skin, on skin and under skin; a line of dead, tinted, coiled skin, drawn on to the most sensitive ground. Held in place in raw, dermite proximity."

Air for Concrete, A primer for Cadavers by the British artist Ed Atkins

Commissioned by Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Ensemble intercontemporain, Casa da Música Porto & Radio France
first performance by Ensemble intercontemporain, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande conducted by Jonathan Nott
at *musica viva - räsonanz* concert at Prinzregenttheater Munich on 29th September 2022