

MUEN 581-002 (CRN 7532): Piano Ensemble Seminar, Winter 2009

URL (check for updates, assignments and schedule will be posted here):

<http://xeniapestova.com/MUEN581.html>

Class Description:

Concentration on the interpretation and performance of piano duet and two piano repertoire. 1 hour per week. Prerequisite: Piano Concentration 1 Examination or Audition, or permission of instructor. 1.000 Credit Hours. While during the Fall 2008 section we worked exclusively on pieces for piano four hands, the Winter 2009 class will focus primarily on two-piano repertoire. Schedule: Fridays 3:30 - 4:30, C-420.

Repertoire to be studied and performed in class:

Selections from the two-piano/two-keyboard works of J.C. Bach, Olivier Messiaen, Mozart, Stravinsky et al. New pieces for two pianos or piano four hands by McGill student composers will be prepared and premiered in a workshop setting in the presence of the composers.

Listening assignments to be chosen from the following:

John Cage - Three Dances for Two Prepared Pianos

(Listen online: <http://www.dramonline.org/albums/john-cage-music-for-two-pianos-double-edge>, Score: M214 C166 D3)

George Crumb - Makrokosmos III (CD: 19818, Score: M485 C78 M8)

György Ligeti - Three Pieces for Two Pianos (CD: 9157, Score: M214 L6 S8)

Olivier Messiaen - Visions de l'Amen (CD: 4377, Score: M214 M54 V5)

Steve Reich - Piano Phase (CD: 2486, Score: M214 R336 P5)

Readings:

Ferguson, Howard. 1995. Keyboard Duets: from the 16th to the 20th Century for One and Two Pianos: an Introduction. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press. ML700 F43

Bunger, Richard. 1981. The Well-Prepared Piano. San Pedro: Litoral Arts Press, 1981. ML697 B86

Bruhn, Siglind. 2007. Messiaen's contemplations of covenant and incarnation: musical symbols of faith in the two great piano cycles of the 1940s. Hillsdale, NY: Pendragon Press. ML410 M595 B784

Resources:

LAN online room bookings system: fill a request form for E-501 (two pianos): <http://zope.music.mcgill.ca:8080/LAN>

McGill Library Catalogue and access to E-Resources: <http://www.mcgill.ca/library/>

Chicago citation style guide (PDF): <http://xeniapestova.com/ChicagoNBStyle2007.pdf>

Assessment:

- Class attendance, participation and preparation: 50%
- Listening assignments, readings, presentations and discussion: 50%
- Each duo will give a 15-minute presentation on repertoire performed.
- Listening assignments are to be handed in as four-page papers (double-spaced) plus correct bibliography and citations (see above for style sheet; Wikipedia citations will *not* be accepted!).