Spill Stereo: an adaptation of Memory piece

Memory piece is a series of compositions for amplified piano and four-channel playback and explores shifting sonic realities by superimposing past and live performances. The title bears reference to Alvin Lucier 's Memory Space.

Magda Mayas started this work series in 2016 while exploring performances in a multi speaker set up with the amplified piano placed in the middle of a room and the audience around it, 4 speakers in each of the corners of the room. Documenting the process of performing, led to the idea of Memory piece: recordings made in this quadrophonic set up are used as a sound protocol, as a playback to improvise with in a new quadrophonic performance.

The piece is superimposing piano maps and memories, juxtaposing them, interacting with them. Memory piece becomes a research method, to document, track and transform (past) performances.

There are many different versions of the piece, as the recordings and playback material are constantly evolving; consequently, the pianist is constantly confronted with new sound environments and a performance within them. It enables and encourages listeners to compare perceptions of "the same work", under different listening conditions and contexts.

Spill is the Duo of Tony Buck, drums and percussion, and Magda Mayas, piano and clavinet, founded in 2003. While on a residency at Villa Aurora LA, USA, the duo took the concept of the Memory piece descried above and composed a multi-channel playback made out of past performances and played life with it, presenting a first version at the residency. This Memory piece playback was then used later on in 2017, and Spill recorded a life version with it in the studio. This recording (among other pieces) turned into the LP "Stereo" and released in November 2018 on Corvo Records Berlin. The result creates a music with a sense of space and depth and an internal logic, sounds move from the fore to the background, sweeping across the stereo image in a teeming world of action and reaction, interwoven timbres and fluid resonance.

Record publication and release November 23rd in Berlin and life performances in London, Le Mans, Prague and Sydney.

https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/382024/493806/4/4