Fantasia Gismontiana

Composed by
Rafael Piccolotto de Lima

for Piano and Orchestra
dedicated to the Egberto Gismonti

Approximate duration: 12 min

Miami, FL / Campinas, SP - Brazil
April / May 2015
revised October 2015
Fantasia Gismontiana

Dedicated to Egberto Gismonti

Composed between April and May of 2015, Miami (FL) and Campinas (SP – Brazil)

Premiered June 17th, 2015 by Mauricy Martin (Piano) and the UNICAMP Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Rafael Piccolotto de Lima. Teatro Castro Mendes (Campinas – SP – Brazil)

Revised on October 2015

Instrumentation

2 Flutes
Oboe
English Horn
2 Clarinets in Bb
2 Bassoons

2 Horns in F
2 Trumpets in C
2 Trombones

Percussion 1
(Vibraphone, Glockenspiel and Tam-Tam)
Percussion 2
(Cymbal, Triangle, Marimba, Bass Drum and Caxixi)
Timpani

Piano
Strings

Approximate duration: 12 minutes
PROGRAM NOTES

Fantasia Gismontiana is part of a series of compositions by Rafael Piccolotto de Lima inspired and dedicated to some of the most important Brazilian musicians. It is a tribute to the Brazilian musical diversity personified by some of its greatest composers. The first piece is a tribute to the folk composer Luiz Gonzaga (Asa, Zóio e Matulão), premiered a few days before his centenary (2012). It was commissioned by the Henry Mancini Institute for a concert of music of the Americas for the same instrumentation as the original chamber version of Appalachian Springs by Aaron Copland, which was performed in the same concert. The second piece is a tribute to Antonio Carlos Jobim (Abertura Jobiniana). It was commissioned and recorded by the Costa Rica National Orchestra in the CD Bossa Nova Sinfônico. This composition was nominated for the Latin Grammy as best contemporary classical composition in 2013. Fantasia Gismontiana is the third piece of this series and it celebrates the work of a living composer, Egberto Gismonti. Different from the other two pieces, it has a featured soloist; the piano, one of the two instruments Gismonti has most works written for. Various musical elements from the pieces Maracatu, Loro, Palhaço and 7 Anéis were used as inspiration and motivic material for the creation of this Fantasia.

Egberto Gismonti

Egberto Amin Gismonti, 1947, is an accomplished Brazilian composer, arranger and performer born in a family of musicians near Rio de Janeiro. He is considered one of the greatest Brazilian instrumental composers of the second half of the 20th century. Conservatory trained in flute, clarinet, acoustic guitar and piano, Egberto developed at an early age the ability to crossover various styles of music, particularly Afro-Brazilian music and Western European classical music. Awarded with a scholarship to study in Vienna, Austria, at the age of 20, he refused it in order to delve deeper in the Brazilian folk music. He had even lived for a few months among the Xingu tribe in Brazil as part of his studies. Later he moved to France and studied contemporary compositions with Jean Barraqué and Nadia Boulaniger. Gismonti experienced many different musical aesthetics, developing a unique musical personality. His compositions reveal those various influences, from Brazilian native music to Afro-Brazilian styles, like choro and baião, and also the use of electroacoustic elements and atonal systems.

Rafael Piccolotto de Lima

Nominated for the Latin Grammy as a classical composer in 2013 at the age of 27, Rafael had works premiered and/or recorded by artists and ensembles such as the jazz legends Terence Blanchard and Chick Corea, rising jazz star Gregory Porter, rock and pop stars Steve Miller and Bruce Hornsby, the Metropole Orkest, Costa Rica National Orchestra, Henry Mancini Institute Jazz Philharmonic, Camerata Latino Americana and Campinas Symphony Orchestra. As a conductor Rafael was one of the two young conductors selected to participate in the Brazilian TV contest “Prelude” for classical musicians in 2010. He conducted many of the ensembles which have performed his works and lead 3 ensembles to win Downbeat Student Awards in 2013 and 2015. Other awards includes the first place in the “Ricardo Rizek Latin-American Composition Contest II” for young composers (2009), São Paulo State winner in the competition “FURNAS: GERAÇÃO MUSICAL III (2008-2009)”, ARS BRASILIS national arrangers contest (2012), JEN Student Showcase Award (2014), ASCAP Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer Award (2014 and 2015) and a total of 9 Student DOWNBEAT Awards: as a composer for large (2014) and small (2012 and 2015) ensembles, as a conductor for classical (2013) and Latin music (2013 and 2015), as studio recording engineer (2014 and 2015), and as live recording engineer (2015).
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