Composer's Note

Triple Excelsis and Singel Excelsis were both commissioned by Susanne Kujala. We decided, that I would compose first a work for three organs and use the same material later for a solo work, which would be more practical to perform. Triple Excelsis was composed for the three organs of the Helsinki Music Centre. Singel Excelsis on the other hand is the solo work. The source of the material for Singel Excelsis is the solo part at the end of Triple Excelsis.

I am fascinated by the rhythmic characteristics of the organ. Many of the vibrations and rhythmic fluctuations derived from the overtone series are extremely interesting. Also the natural virtuosity of the instrument is utterly fascinating. In fast passages the rhythmic accuracy needs very quick attack. A slower attack on the other hand makes it possible to turn the attention to gestures and figures, while details get more blurred. Different "attack features" of the organ stops allow shaping of very diverse rhythmic figures in time and space.

Antti Auvinen

Translation Susanne Kujala

Antti Auvinen

In the music of Antti Auvinen (b. 1974), a modernist compositional language is fused with a powerful sense of drama and a charged intensity generated through the explosive clash of conflicting tensions. Auvinen's soundworld is multifaceted and employs unusual combinations of instruments and a wide variety of modern, often rough and noisy extended techniques. His rich and expressive use of rhythms extends from the meditative stasis of freely notated fields to the edgy, insistent energy of multiple superimposed rhythmic layers.

Auvinen's works regularly take their inspiration from the pressing issues and problems so ubiquitous in our modern lives. He does not write explicitly programmatic music, but his works always force the listener to ask questions and to take a stance. The titles of recent orchestral works like *Junker Twist* (2015), *Himmel Punk* (2016) and *Turbo Aria* (2017) conjure up strong images and suggest associations that are perhaps uncommon in the world of 'classical' concert music Awarded the acclaimed Teosto Prize, his opera Bliss (2015) rejects the traditional conventions of the genre and instead incorporates a strong multimedia element, which Auvinen exploits using, for instance, video material of analytical discussions surrounding mental illness to enhance the drama about a religiously motivated fratricide.

Kimmo Korhonen

Translation David Hackston

KL 78.62
ISMN 979-0-55016-662-2
PDF publication (includes a watermark with buyer's information)
© 2019 Fennica Gehrman Oy, Helsinki

Durata: 12 min
Recording: Susanne Kujala, *Organ Music of the 21st Century*
Alba ABCD440

SAMPLE

Singel Excelsis

for Organ Solo

Antti Auvinen
2012

SAMPLE

© 2019 Fennica Gehrman Oy, Helsinki

8

12

14

SAMPLE

16

freely

gliss.

gliss.

20

freely

gliss.

gliss.

26

4'

freely

bend down

bend up

bend down

bend up

bend down

bend up

p

f

SAMPLE

33

4'

p

36

trill with given notes
irregularly, quickly (ad lib.)

pp

on a different manual
4' (2')

mp

4'

pp

39

sim.

sim.

sim.

43

SAMPLE