

DOUWE EISENGA

“Douwe Eisenga writes repetitive, lyrical music, weaving enchanting curls, with beautiful flights to the treble. This luminous music creates a harmonious labyrinth, of which I do not want to find my way out, listening on the edge of time.” – Inactuelles – Musiques Singulières

Pianist and composer Douwe Eisenga (1961) creates sparkling music for sparkling minds, a hypnotizing mix of rhythm, haunting melodies and compelling lyricism. Honest, *down to earth* peoples-music. Often subdued and sober with a generous force: the underlying melodies carve themselves into the soul of the listener.

For the last fifteen years, Eisenga has gained world-wide attention. He works with British writer David Mitchell, American choreographer Claudia Schreier, Italian harpist Assia Cunego, and the Russian Moscow Contemporary Music Ensemble. Closer to home, he writes music for harpist Lavinia Meijer, pianists Marcel Worms, Jeroen van Veen and Gerard Bouwhuis, Cello Octet Amsterdam, Slagwerk Den Haag, and many more. His music was and is performed on important festivals such as Oerol, Festival over 't IJ, the International Beethoven Festival in Chicago and the International Minimal Music Festival in Kassel. Eisenga belongs to the most important and most-played contemporary composers of the Netherlands and was asked many times to write music for special occasions, such as the commemoration of the Dutch Flood, and the National Liberation Day.

Eisenga doesn't confine himself to a single genre, which is portrayed by his works: a.o. a requiem, an opera, and a symphony inspired on the music of Pink Floyd. His musical DNA is rooted in rock, pop and world music. All these influences, combined with baroque and the minimalistic repetitiveness of Glass, find their way into the pieces of Eisenga.

In 2017, Eisenga recorded the eight-minute long *For Mattia*. He is commissioned to write this piece by the parents of a young lady who chose to end her own life. In this loving composition, he braids in Mattia's name, and the atmosphere of her favorite music. It unintentionally created a starting point for the lightning-fast development of his career as a concert pianist: a huge audience wants to see the beautiful piece performed by Douwe himself. This moving song without words ends up in 2017 (no. 53) and 2018 (no. 49) in the *Hart & Ziel Lijst*, a list of the 300 most popular classical masterworks according to Dutch radio listeners.

www.douweeisenga.com

Press:

James Fleming, recensent: Eisenga has crafted a record as spacious as the cosmos, a universe stuffed with wonders.

David Mitchel, schrijver: Deze muziek is prachtig, vrolijk, transparant en geeft me heimwee naar een plek waar ik nog nooit geweest ben.

Maarten Brandt, recensent; Een intrigerende mix van Simeon ten Holt's *Canto Ostinato* en de 'maximale' minimal-stijl van John Adams.

Herman van Veen, theatermaker; Douwe Eisenga's postminimalistische klanken wisten mij tot diep in mijn botten te raken.

Jurjen Vis, recensent; Zijn muziek is heel toegankelijk en van een gulheid die geen grenzen en einde lijkt te kennen.

Roemeense Radio; De compositie getuigt van een ongekennde mystiek. *The Food* kan nu al bestempeld worden als een van de grootste composities uit deze tijd.

Discography:

2001 Marcel Worms - More new blues for piano

2003 Super Librum - Thit was to there stunde

2003 Requiem '53

2006 Rose Road - City Lines

2007 Marcel Worms - Red, White & Blues

2009 Music for Wiek

2009 Cloud Atlas

2009 The Piano Files

2010 Clazz Ensemble - Delta Suite

2010 Jeroen van Veen & Friends - Minimal Piano Collection X-XX

2011 PADS - House of Mirrors

2013 Cloud Atlas (special edition)

2015 The Flood, Requiem

2015 Alternatives

2015 The Writer, his Wife, her Mistress

2015 Summary

2015 Westland Saxophone Orchestra - Fansaxtic

2016 Erika Tazawa - Rhythm of Silence

2016 The Piano Files II

2017 For Mattia - single

2018 Feico Deutekom - Feico Solo

2019 For Mattia – album

2019 For You Have Delivered My Soul

2020 Laura Scott – Beyond the Horizon