Simon Holt: Ellsworth 2 (2012)

Für Orchester

Bemerkung: Simon Holt: I've been very strict with myself in this piece. The model for it is 'Painting for a white wall' by Ellsworth Kelly, a painter I've long admired for his rigour, attention to detail and clarity of thinking. The material stems from music that I wrote in an earlier piece, Troubled Light (2008), composed for the BBC National Orchestra of Wales where I was Composer in Association for 4 years. The third movement of Troubled Light is called 'Ellsworth'; essentially the slow, central, meditative section of the whole piece. Some of the material from this movement re-appears in the final movement, at which point it has become hugely loud and abrasive and it's this music that I took as a starting point for Ellsworth 2. The painting by Kelly is in 5 distinct sections, all exactly the same size; both width and height. Each one is a separate, clearly defined colour: black pink orange white blue. It's precisely this kind of clarity that I have tried to aim for in my piece: 5 distinct sections of orchestral colour, each of which lasts exactly 3 minutes (or should do!). They're all distant cousins of each other, material-wise, running without a break. Clearly, the piece should last exactly 15 minutes.
https://www.wisemusicclassical.com/work/48115/Ellsworth-2--Simon-Holt/.

Kunstwerk(e):

Kelly Ellsworth: Painting for a white wall

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