

ArtifexMusic is ready for transformation of wind orchestras.

Born and bred in Limburg the Netherlands, musician Ad Lamerigts is convinced that electronic music is going to play an increasingly important role in music for winds. With his publishing company ArtifexMusic he wants to respond to the upcoming transformation of wind orchestras. Because, according to the publisher, this transformation is only a matter of time.

TEXT: BY OUR EDITORIAL STAFF

PICTURE: IVAR JANSSEN

Concerto for Contemporary Music Ensemble is the title of a futuristic composition. The work mixes acoustic sounds of wind orchestras with electronic elements. It evokes memories of the cross-over between the heavy metal band Metallica and the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra in the classic "Nothing Else Matters". Concerto for Contemporary Music Ensemble is written by Mauritz Kop from Roggel. The Ambient Society is electronic music based on orchestral influences. Ad Lamerigts arranged this composition for the fanfare orchestra. "When I heard it for the first time, a world of tone-colours opened up to me. That inspired me to incorporate elements of this music in the arrangement. The result is a futuristic work with an amalgamation of electronic landscapes with the acoustic idiom of fanfare orchestras."

The idea to mix the sound of electronic instruments with compositions for wind orchestras did not come out of the blue. It is a theme that Lamerigts occupied on his mind for a longer period of time. "There is no doubt that the wind orchestra in its present form and occupation is on the eve of transformation. In what form is hard to say, but that something will change, is without any doubt." Several developments reinforce his conviction. These are, in the first place, demographic changes which will inevitably arise and which everyone in Holland will have to face. Lamerigts: "Developments like dejuvenation and ageing will inescapably result in a decreasing number of orchestra members. There is no escape. That asks for an adaption of the compositions." But shifting interests of young people as well oblige wind orchestras to transform, that is the conviction of Lamerigts. "Young people sure want to make music. As a secondary school teacher I experience that every day. But young people choose for another form of making music instead. They are more interested in instruments like the electric guitar, keyboard or drums." A link between these popular instruments and traditional instruments is an irreversible process. "Of course, traditional orchestras will remain to exist. I sincerely hope so. But some woodwind instruments, will face a hard time to survive. Which is equally true for some brass instruments."

According to Lamerigts culture always refers to the spirit of times and according to him there inherently should be openness to new ideas. "If you are open to new ideas, you have to be able to offer something. That is the reason why I started this project and that is the reason why I established ArtifexMusic. Because of a decreasing number of orchestra members, orchestras will in the future no longer be capable of playing large-scale compositions that they used to play. Yet a repertoire should remain available for these orchestras. This is where ArtifexMusic plays a leading role.

ArtifexMusic publishes, apart from Pop, Latin and Jazz, sheet music of music arrangements and compositions in which the connection of electronics with the acoustic sound of the wind orchestra has been brought together. For now, Concerto for Contemporary Music Ensemble is the only original

composition on the webshop [www.artifexmusic.nl](http://www.artifexmusic.nl). But when it comes down to Lamerigts, the supply will significantly be expanded within a few months. Via the internet, Lamerigts searches for sympathizers and like-minded people. He discovered that he is not alone. It surprised him that so many people share his ideas and thoughts. I am currently working to build a network of composers and arrangers who join my vision. From all over the world I am receiving responses. From Italy to Australia and from Cuba to the Ukraine. These are all composers and arrangers who are strongly appealed by this initiative. Artistically gifted people. People who have affinity with wind music and people who are, like me, convinced that this sector is going in a different direction. Many of them have already written pieces with electronic elements, often combined with choir, symphony orchestra and music for wind instruments. They consider my initiative as a great opportunity to publish their work through ArtifexMusic. Artifex is a Latin word, meaning “artist or craftsman”. Freely translated, ArtifexMusic means “maker of artistic music”. The name is a well-considered choice, with which Lamerigts wants to make clear that his publishing company strives to deliver quality custom-made products. “ArtifexMusic does not aim to be a supermarket, but a shop which distinguishes itself from others by offering tailor-made products where the personal wishes of the customer are taking into account.”

Information: [www.artifexmusic.com](http://www.artifexmusic.com)

Inscription

Ad Lamerigts: “I am absolutely certain that the wind orchestra will transform.”

Streamer

A world of tone-colours opened up to me.