

Žibuoklė Martinaitytė

Sort Sol (2016)

For 2 string quartets

Duration – 11'

“Sort Sol” translated from Danish means “black sun”. It is a name for the phenomena when approaching a huge flock of birds covers the sun. Banded together birds flutter in a synchronized manner creating a seamless moving figure, which is visibly expanding or shrinking. In the piece a multiplicity of small micro-movements or motifs form one larger entity. To mimic the trajectory of the movement of the bird’s wings, the instruments join one after another, creating delayed synchronicity and audio symmetry between the two quartets. The approach and drifting of the flock here is an acoustic illusion – the initial ephemeral motive of natural harmonics transforms into a more and more tangible audible formation, which eventually disappears into silence. The layout of instruments in the space alludes to the expanded wings of a bird.