



DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
香港中文大學 音樂系

Colloquium

21 November 2014, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Rm G03, Hui Yeung Shing Building, Chung Chi College,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

‘Soliloquy Cycle – Sweet and/or Sour?’

Professor Thomas Simaku

(Reader in Composition, University of York)

In this lecture, Professor Thomas Simaku, Reader in Composition, University of York, will discuss the genesis and processes involved in his Soliloquy Cycle, including the award-winning work Soliloquy V - Flauto Acerbo, and more!

Thomas Simaku (b.1958) gained a PhD in Composition from University of York where he studied with David Blake. Winner of the coveted Lionel Robbins Memorial Scholarship in 1993, Simaku also was the Leonard Bernstein Fellow in Composition at Tanglewood, USA (1996) studying with Bernard Rands, and a fellow at the Composers’ Workshop, California State University (1998), with Brian Ferneyhough.



Published in England by University of York Music Press and Emersion Edition, Thomas Simaku's music has been reaching audiences all over Europe and the USA for more than two decades, and it has been awarded a host of accolades for its expressive qualities and its unique blend of intensity and modernism. His works have been selected by international juries in nine editions of ISCM World Music Days. Other festivals where his music has been performed include Huddersfield, Tanglewood, Avignon, Miami, Zagreb-Biennale, Weimar, Munich, Rome, Viitassari (Finland), Alea III Boston, Innsbruck (Austria), Warsaw Autumn etc.

Performed by renowned ensembles and orchestras, his music has been broadcast worldwide, including radio stations such as BBC Radio 3, SWR2, MDR, Deutschlandfunk (Cologne), Amsterdam Radio 4, ORF (Austria), Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), RNE (Spain), RTP (Portugal), etc. His CD, released on Naxos 21st Century Classics series in 2008 has met with much critical acclaim, and reached the best of year list in the USA. Prestigious awards include the First Prize of the Serocki International Competition (2004), Leverhulme Fellowship, and a three-year fellowship from Arts & Humanities Research Council in London. In 2009 Simaku received a British Composer Award with Soliloquy V - Flauto Acerbo, which the judging panel described as ‘visionary and entirely original’. In 2013 he won the first prize of the International Competition for Lutosławski’s 100th Birthday with Concerto for Orchestra, chosen from 160 compositions submitted anonymously from 37 countries.