

Static Motion (1992)

Static Motion - composed for the Nieuw Ensemble, is built up with the help of the number twelve. This cyclic work 'rotates' so to speak on the basis of a unit of twelve beat units and in particular at the beginning it can clearly be heard how each period is closed off with a 'cue' in the percussion announcing the next period. Jan Rokus van Rosendaal has already previously worked with number techniques but for Static Motion he consciously chose not to take an irregular number such as 9 or 21 but a number with countless possibilities in symmetry and subdivision. The number twelve dominates the form to its very details. The piece is not only on the highest level subdivided with the help of twelve into 'refrains and couplets', on the lowest, most detailed level the rhythm is equally determined by it. The paradoxal title itself betrays that opposites are explored in the piece: movement - rest; static - dynamic; linear - chordal; the number 3 - the number 4. Musically this is made audible by assigning dynamic events to wood (xylophone, marimba, woodblocks etc.), and static events to metal (glockenspiel, vibraphone, cymbals).