

## L8Nite Performance

**Breaking Boundaries of Pianist's Corporeality:  
"Impressions" by Māriete Dombrovska and "Prophecy" by Anitra Tumševica for Piano and  
Choreography**

The human body can create, perceive, and express music. Generally, the bodies of professional musicians and dancers have been trained in the respective field since childhood (Ako Mashino and Elina Seye, 2020). Despite that, dance and music are closely related to each other, as they are movement-related arts and subjects of temporality. This investigation is dedicated to multi-sensory integration of body movements and sound in contemporary music specially written for musician (pianist) who can dance and express music in various ways. Thus, movement of musician can turn into a sound, visual and kinesthetics phenomenon.

The research method includes the collaboration with like-minded composers, visual artists and choreographers to create multimedia works of art as well as autoethnographic reflection afterwards. The results of this research can help to expand habitual routines in instrumental performance practice and improve modes of expression and performative identity integrating special dance classes for musicians. For musical performers it can advance understanding and intensity of phrasing and rhythm, as well as some features of instrumental technique.

Two contemporary Latvian composers Māriete Dombrovska (1977) and Anitra Tumševica (1961) have some features of synesthetic perception, as they try to embody the synthesis of music, visual and plastic arts in their works.

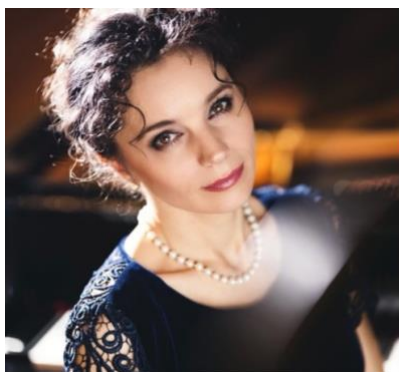
**"Impressions for Piano and Electronics"** (2018) by Māriete Dombrovska includes a fragment of the pianist's dance (choreography by Gunta Liepiņa). The choreographic cadenza of the pianist, accompanied by electronic music, is the dramatic climax of the work, depicting desperation and the desire to break away from reality.

About her music, the composer says: "And still there is a driving force that makes me display my feelings of the world, my passions, my longing for the unfulfilled and the unattainable. Immersing myself into music is like finding a natural hideaway that protects me from the negatives of the real world."

The **"Prophecy" for piano and choreography** (2022) by Anitra Tumševica explains the care about social and environmental justice and depicts the biblical parable of virgins with lamps. "It's time to get your lamp ready and get serious! Those who are not ready will not have time to prepare. Don't put it off any longer, don't take it lightly! This is your time!", is the composer's significant epigraph, which transforms idea of a historical text into modern language, expression and understanding. Moreover, the main dance movements are fixed in the score of "Prophecy" by Anitra Tumševica.

This work was premiered at the Great Hall of Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music by pianist and dancer Diāna Zandberga and soloist of Latvian National Ballet Baiba Kokina. The multimedia artist Elīna Brese prepared the score of lights in video projections, but choreographer Milana Komarova created a spectacular dance episode for two dancers illustrating the except from Bible (Matthew 25:1-12).

Both multidisciplinary artworks, commissioned and performed by pianist and researcher Diāna Zandberga, display the results of artistic research and collective creative work.

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**Diāna Zandberga**
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Diāna Zandberga is a pianist and musicologist specialising in Artistic Research and history of Latvian piano music. Having obtained a master's degree in piano performance at the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, she completed her PhD in 2014. Diāna has studied with Lazar Berman at the European Academy of Music in Erba, Italy, and improved her performance with Alicia de Larrocha at the Granados Marshall Academy in

Barcelona. Since 1996 Diāna Zandberga has won acclaim for a succession of recitals in European countries, Russia and the USA. Her discography includes eight solo albums. Since 2015 she has been a faculty member of the Piano Department and from 2021 a Researcher at the Scientific Research Center of Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music and the Director of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in Arts.

<https://dianazandberga.com>

Relevant video recordings of the performer:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DtsqcXqe1hg>

M. Dombrovska "Impressions", dance episode 4:25

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akUAmTRBjnY>

A. Tumševica "Prophecy"

Dance episode 7:20 with soloist of Latvian National Ballet **Baiba Kokina**


**Baiba Kokina**
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Baiba Kokina is a prima ballerina of the Latvian National Opera and Ballet Company. She has participated at the project Butterflies in Denmark (1999), the International Bartolin Ballet Seminar in Denmark (2001), as well as at the festival Baltic Ballet Star in Italy (2000).

In 2006, she became an award winner at the International Ballet Competition Arabesque in Perm, Russia. In 2013, Baiba Kokina

received Latvian Theatre Award as a Best Ballet Dancer of Season.

She has performed main roles with the LNO Ballet company in Italy, Japan, Germany, Russia, England, Finland, Netherlands etc.

<https://www.opera.lv/en/artists/the-latvian-national-ballet/ballet-principals/baiba-kokina>