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# György Ligeti

Contemporary

# György Ligeti



György Ligeti wurde am 28. Mai 1923 in Dicsöszenmárton (Rumänien) geboren. Er studierte Komposition an der Budapester Musikhochschule 1945–1949 und war Theorielehrer an derselben Hochschule 1950 bis 1956. 1956 verließ er Ungarn und war 1957 bis 1959 freier Mitarbeiter im Studio für Elektronische Musik des WDR in Köln. Er ließ sich 1959 in Wien nieder und war seit 1967 österreichischer Staatsbürger.

In den 60er Jahren war Ligeti alljährlich Dozent bei den Darmstädter Ferienkursen und Gastprofessor an der Stockholmer Musikhochschule. 1969 bis 1970 hatte Ligeti ein Stipendium des Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienstes in Berlin und war 1972 »composer in residence« an der Stanford University, Kalifornien.

Von 1973 bis 1989 unterrichtete er als Professor für Komposition an der Hamburger Musikhochschule. Er entwickelte unter anderem mit seinem *Requiem* (1963-65) einen neuen musikalischen Stil, der durch eine überdichte Polyphonie (»Mikropolyphonie«) und statische Formabläufe gekennzeichnet ist. Im Laufe der 70er Jahre wurde seine polyphone Schreibweise durchsichtiger und melodischer.

Schließlich entwickelte er eine komplexe polyrhythmische Kompositionstechnik, auf der seine Werke der 80er und 90er Jahre beruhen.

Im Alter von 83 Jahren verstarb György Ligeti am 12. Juni 2006 in Wien.

György Ligeti was born on 28 May 1923 in Dicsöszenmárton (Romania). From 1945 to 1949 he studied composition at the music conservatory in Budapest and taught theory at the same institution from 1950 to 1956. In 1956 he left Hungary and worked from 1957 to 1959 as an associate in the Studio for Electronic Music of the WDR in Cologne. In 1959 he settled in Vienna and took Austrian citizenship in 1967.

In the 1960s Ligeti taught every year at the Darmstadt International Summer Courses for New Music and was guest lecturer at the music conservatory in Stockholm. From 1969 to 1970 Ligeti lived and worked in Berlin after having received a scholarship by the German Academic Exchange Service and in 1972 he was »composer in residence« at Stanford University, California.

From 1973 to 1989 he taught composition at the music conservatory in Hamburg. With his *Requiem* (1963-65), among other pieces, he developed a new musical style marked by an extremely dense polyphony (»micropolyphony«) and static and shifting textures. In the course of the 70s his polyphonic writing became more transparent and melodious. He finally developed a complex polyrhythmic composition technique which he applied to his works of the 80s and 90s.

György Ligeti died in Vienna on 12 June 2006 at the age of 83.

## Instrumental Music

### Concerto for Violoncello and Orchestra (1966) 16'

vc solo - 1.1.2.1 - 1.1.1.0 - hp - 8.7.6.5.4

First performed 19 April 1967, Berlin, by Siegfried Palm and Radio-Sinfonie-Orchester Berlin, cond.: Henryk Czyz

EP 5936 (study score)

EP 5936a (solo part)

### Volumina (1961-62) 16'

for organ

First performed on tape 04 May 1962, Radio Bremen, by Karl-Erik Welin

First performed live 10 May 1962, Amsterdam, Westerwerk, by Karl-Erik Welin

EP 5983

EP 5983a (English version)

## Choral Music

### Lux aeterna (1966) 9'

for 16-voice mixed choir a cappella

First performed 02 November 1966, Stuttgart, by Schola Cantorum Stuttgart, cond.: Clytus Gottwald

EP 12835

### Requiem (1963-65 / revised 1997) 29'

for soloists, mixed choir and orchestra

soprano solo, mezzosoprano solo - mixed choir (min. 120 singers) - 3.3.3.2 - 4.3.b-trp.3.1 - perc(3) - cel - hrp - str (min. 12.12.10.8.6)

First performed 14 March 1965, Stockholm, by Liliana Poli (sopr), Barbro Ericson (mezzo) and choirs and orchestras of the Swedish Radio, cond.: Michael Gielen

EP 10925 (Full Score)

EP 10926 (Vocal Score)

## Stage Works

### Aventures (1962) 11'

for 3 singers and 7 instrumentalists

soprano, alto, baritone - fl - hn - perc - hrp - pf (cel) - vc - db

First performed 04 April 1963, Hamburg, by Gertie Charlent (sopr), Marie-Thérèse Cahn (alto), William Pearson (bar) and Ensemble 'die reihe', cond.: Friedrich Cerha

EP 4838

*Concert performances may also be given.*

### Nouvelles Aventures (1962-65) 13'

for 3 singers and 7 instrumentalists

soprano, alto, baritone - fl - hn - perc - hrp - pf (cel) - vc - db

First performed 26 May 1966, Hamburg, by Gertie Charlent (sopr), Marie-Thérèse Cahn (alto), William Pearson (bar) and members of the NDR Symphony Orchestra, cond.: Andrzej Markowski

EP 5913

EP 5935 (libretti of Aventures & Nouvelles Aventures)

*Concert performances may also be given.*



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