

TURO

ballet in three acts, opus 44

ACT I

1. Introduction
2. Sin
3. Bleeding
4. Fall
5. Loss

ACT II

6. Duality
7. Vanity
8. Demolition

ACT III

9. Introspection
10. Enlightenment

acknowledgement

Music: Marijn Simons. Title, script and choreography: Joost Vrouwenraets.

commissioned

by the Parade Festival & Orlando Festival

composed

between 2nd October 2007 and 14th January 2008

duration

ca. 33 min.

premièred

on 10th July 2008 in The Netherlands by Matangi Quartet & Gotra Ballet

published

by Donemus

scoring

2 Violins
Viola
Violoncello
Pre-recorded audio tracks

technical specifications

Audio requirements for TURO:

1. Two over-head microphones or four DPA Miniature Microphones to amplify the string quartet
2. Four ear-monitors
3. Several monitors for the dancers and musicians
4. PA system
5. Mixing desk located in the auditorium
6. Effect box for reverb on the string quartet
7. Professional software to play the audio tracks
8. Sound technician(s)
9. Assistant to read the score and cue the sound technician when to start the audio tracks

String Quartet

The string quartet must be amplified. This sound source must be routed to the PA system and to the monitors. A little bit of reverb must be added to the string quartet's sound source.

Pre-recorded audio tracks

The audio tracks have two channels.

The right channel (the click track) must be routed to the ear-monitors of all the string quartet musicians.

The left channel must be routed to the PA system and monitors.

The sound source of the string quartet together with the left channel of the pre-recorded audio tracks must be mixed into (and be heard through) the PA system and monitors.

The ear-monitors have only the right channel (click track) of the pre-recorded audio tracks. Do not mix the right channel into the PA system or the monitors, because the click track must not be heard by the dancers or the audience.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The extreme dynamic range of the audio is intentional. The volume level between the tracks should hardly, or preferably not at all, be changed. The volume and reverb of the string quartet must be adjusted to the pre-recorded audio.

Joost Vrouenraets on *TURO*:

The title has been taken from Esperanto, an international artificial language which has especially been designed for communication between people from different cultures. A full language in which all the nuances of human thinking can be expressed. Turo translated into English means 'tower'.

For this work's script I have been inspired by Genesis 11, 1-9 The Tower of Babel. Geographically Babylon represents the crossroads where the worlds of East and West meet.

TURO is in 3 acts and 10 movements. The title of each movement is dramaturgically defining. From heavenly atmospheres it descends to Earth where it finds apotheosis in the enlightenment.

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English translation by Marijn Simons