

Press Release – November 2009

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Crash Ensemble

presents

an intimate, unplugged evening of contemporary music

Lo Spazio Inverso

Crash Ensemble goes back to basics with music, candles and a fireplace in an old Georgian house

December 11, 8pm | 12 Henrietta St, Dublin 1

"Crash [is] undoubtedly Ireland's foremost contemporary music outfit, [its]concerts always ones to look forward to on the musical calendar...they consistently attract a large audience for contemporary classical concerts – Saturday's concert was sold out, with a crowd outside the venue hoping for cancellation tickets – Crash's outlook is exemplary and to be commended." Liam Cagney, www.musicalcriticism.com

'Lo Spazio Inverso' means 'inverted space' and this December Crash Ensemble will be inverting its normal, amplified, space by performing an intimate and atmospheric, candle-lit, unamplified concert in the upstairs living room of a beautiful Georgian house - No. 12 Henrietta St, Dublin 1 (right next to Kings Inns).

The concert will feature music by Italian composer **Salvatore Sciarrino** (a first for Crash Ensemble), Irish composer **Gerald Barry**, Australian composer **Michael Smetanin** (Irish premiere of work written for the ensemble) and UK composer **Christopher Fox** (world premiere of a work especially written for the ensemble).

Sciarrino likes to boast that he was born free and not within a particular school of music. There is something truly special about his music: it induces a different way of listening, projecting a thrilling awareness of reality and of the self. And, as his publishers say, after forty years his huge catalogue of compositions is still in a phase of astonishing creative development. The concert will include the works: 'Le Voci Sottovetro', 'Codex Purpureus' and 'Lo Spazio Inverso'.

Crash Ensemble commissioned Australian composer Michael Smetanin to write them a piece to be premiered at the Canberra International Music Festival in 2008. The piece, "Shatter", was hugely successful and broadcast on ABC radio. For the first time Crash is bringing this work back to home shores for an intimate performance.

Crash Ensemble first collaborated with Christopher Fox in 2008 when they performed "Straight Lines in Broken Times" at the 'World View UK' concert at O'Reilly Theatre. Since then Christopher has been writing a new piece for the full ensemble, called 'Extended Play', that will be premiered at this concert.

Finally, Crash Ensemble are very much looking forward to performing Gerald Barry's string quartet commission "First Sorrow". First premiered at the 10 year anniversary 'Shindig' in 2007, it has fast become a Crash favourite.

As Artistic director and founder of Crash Ensemble Donnacha Dennehy said: “It is always our desire to let new pieces shine through repeated performances, and we are specially happy to be presenting this intimate and intriguing work in the context of this very special, unamplified concert.”

Crash Ensemble is looking forward to celebrating the end of a successful year of sell-out concerts and exciting collaborations and toasting the oncoming year which includes a US tour, a concert in Kings Place in London, recording for Nonesuch Records and the world premiere of a new work by Donnacha Dennehy commissioned by Grammy award-winning soprano Dawn Upshaw, to be performed at the end of 2010.

LISTINGS INFORMATION

Lo Spazio Inverso (*cond. Alan Pierson*)

Friday 11th December, 8pm

No. 12 Henrietta St, Dublin 1

Tickets €22/18 from www.tickets.ie tickets will also be available at the door (small capacity venue)

PROGRAMME

Sciarrino – Lo Spazio Inverso

Sciarrino – Codex Purpureus

Sciarrino – Le Vocci Sottovetro

Fox – Extended Play (world premiere, written for the Ensemble)

Smetanin – Shatter (Irish premiere, written for the Ensemble)

Barry – First Sorrow (written for the Ensemble)

FOR MEDIA INFORMATION, TICKETS AND PICTURES CONTACT:

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