

Aleksandra Damnjanović: *Anastasima*

for clarinet, violin and piano

Alexander's composition *Anastasima* (from the Greek *Anastasis*: resurrection) for piano, clarinet and violin is based on the *Paschal Troparion*, the Serbian Orthodox hymn "Christ is risen" sung on Easter Sunday. For Damnjanovich, there are two ways of setting the words to music, which represent two ways of seeing the Resurrection. One is rhythmic, lively and chanted, symbolizing the tumultuous moment when the great stone is rolled away from the entrance to the tomb to release the Resurrected Christ. The other is slow, melodic and melismatic, suggesting a temporality that transcends earthly time and enters into eternity. *Anastasima* belongs to this second tradition. After a brief introduction marked by a steady swaying melody and the ringing of far away bells (a sonic illustration of the simultaneity of cosmic and earthly time), the music segues to a mood of processional solemnity, and the three instruments take turns intoning the theme.

Dragana Jovanović on *The East Side of Heart* (for clarinet, kaval, violin and piano)

"I have composed and dedicated *The East Side of Heart* to the ensemble Trio Pokret. The East is where the Sun is born (rises)...Every day of our lives begins with the Eastern light...The part of the world where I have lived my entire life is the East side of Europe... It is the East wall of a house where the Family Saint Icon is hung in all Serbian households. The distinct sound of *kaval* adds to my Eastern music devotion as a composer and combines the violin with the piano in a way that creates a really unique symbiosis.

The folk elements are the foundation of my existence, and my heart. The Trio Pokret is comprised of superb musicians with whom I have extensively collaborated, both individually and in an ensemble setting. It is my pleasure and an honor to continue this collaboration. The Trio Pokret has performed this composition many times domestically and abroad."