



BERNHARD LANG (1957 / Vienna, AU)

GAME 2-4-5: **The Mirror Stage**

Music Theater for 4 Singers, Electric Guitar, Ambisonics & lights



In Autumn 2016, I started a new series of pieces called "Series Six: Theory of Games", the first being GAME ONE: S.O.S (self-organizing systems); this series is based on the ideas of Game theory, as outlined in Neumann/Morgenstern's "Theory of Games and Economic Behavior". Since then I wrote 3 pieces: GAME ONE, GAME 3-4-3 and GAME 4-4-4.

Now **HYOID** and I are working on a continuation of this research in the context of music theater, involving the line-up of 4 Voices and one Electric Guitar with live electronics: *The Mirror Stage*.

The piece shall explore the notion of self-organization in both a musical and choreographic context: the musicians have to make decisions during the piece/game, creating open structures of narration. The texts are presently thought to be self-referential, using original quotations from game theory, from Wittgenstein's late writings on *Sprachspiel*, and psychoanalytical interpretations of *Sprachspiel* by Lorenzen.

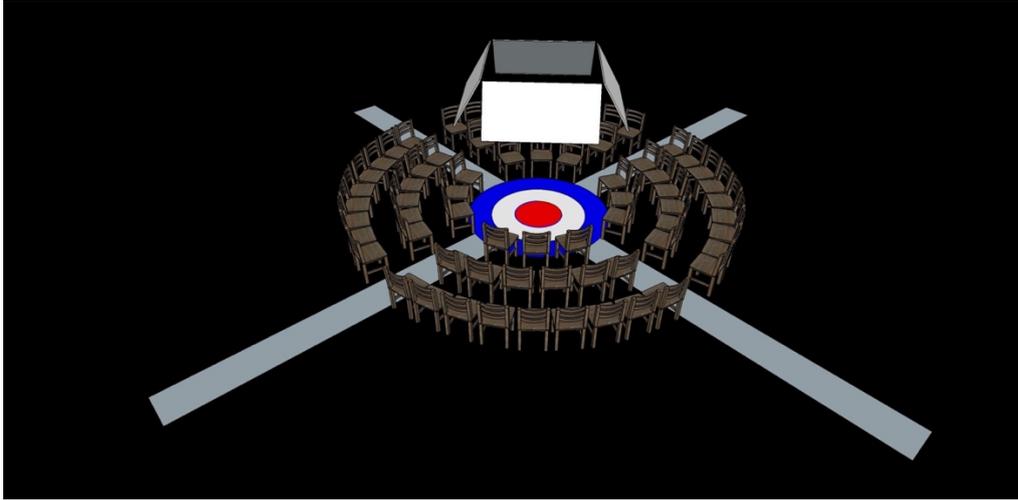
Since the music of *The Mirror Stage* is referencing to polyphonic music of the 15th and 16th centuries, there arose the idea to create **virtual cathedrals** by **composed lighting**, and furthermore by a sophisticated spatialization (**ambisonics**), **integrated thanks to our partnership with Robin Meier and IRCAM.**

Since most games include structures of repetition, this may be also be considered as a **continuation of our research into the essence of repetition, which we already had joined in within our work Difference/Repetition 26 "The Exhausted", based on Deleuze's "L'Épuisé"** (piece Fabienne Seveillac premiered with soundinitiative in Australia in September 2015).

Bernhard Lang, Vienna; May 2019

Duration: 48 minutes; due to audience capacity limitations, it can potentially be performed twice on the same day.

http://members.chello.at/bernhard.lang/blang_english/on_exhausted.html



HYOID

Sop: Els Mondelaers
Mezzo: Fabienne Seveillac
Tenor: Andreas Halling
Baritone: Tiemo Wang

Guest: Kobe Van Cauwenberghe, electric guitar

ELECTRONICS/AMBISONICS/SOUND

IRCAM, Robin Meier (computer music designer) & Sylvain Cadars (sound engineer)

LIGHTS/SCENOGRAPHY: Lucas Van Haesbroeck

PRODUCTION

creation: October 24, 2020, festival 20/21, STUK, Leuven;
next date: French premiere: June 2 & 3, festival Manifeste, le 104, Paris.

Co-producers: de Bijloke, Gent; festival 20/21; IRCAM/Manifeste, Paris.
Supported by the Vlaamse Gemeenschap.

