

Seung-Won Oh

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Praised as “Oh, a name to remember” in *De Volkskrant* (2005), native Korean Seung-Won Oh* (1969) is establishing herself quickly as a composer with an individual voice. Oh’s work has been commissioned by several international festivals and music academies like Tanglewood Music Center, Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival and November Music. She received fellowships from Munzer fellowship (Brandeis University) and Gaudeamus International Music Week. Her music has been played throughout the USA, Asia and Europe and was described as “...exciting... refined and sharply cut” (*De Volkskrant*, NL).

Oh intertwines her Korean musical heritage with a contemporary idiom in an organic way and displays a great sense of structural form and musical development. Her composition *JungGa, concerto for hobo/musette and chamber ensemble* (2009) won “best composition of the year 2009 written in The Netherlands”. The virtuoso oboe part resembles an indiosyncratic singing technique from old Korean Court music with ethnic vibrato and quartertones. Percussion takes a special place in her oeuvre. Her structural ideas as well as her affinity with Korean music are well represented in the versatility of percussion instruments. She wrote several works for percussion solo, quartet and sextet.

In her work for music theatre Oh searches for non-western topics. In the first part of the music theatre trilogy *Words and Beyond: Hwang Jin-Yi* (2008), Oh composed for mezzo-soprano (using traditional Korean vocal techniques), percussion ensemble in collaboration with dancers and an installation. Both public and connoisseurs were intrigued by this concept. It was revived three times by Slagwerk Den Haag after the initial performances in The Hague. Performances of the second part of the trilogy *Words and Beyond II: Nan Sul Hun* followed in fall 2014, again with Slagwerk Den Haag and a traditional Kemungo player (Korean 6-string zither).

Oh studied at Ewha Womans University (BA, MM), University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (doctoral study), Brandeis University (MA, PhD) and The Royal Conservatory of the Hague (MM). She previously taught at Brandeis University, Massachusetts, University of Florida at Gainesville, Institute of Technology and at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Ohio. Seung-Won Oh is currently Assistant Professor Composition at the University DePaul in Chicago.

*In 2015 Seung-Ah Oh changed her name to Seung-Won Oh.

LIST OF WORKS

SOLO/ DUO/ TRIO

Alone in the dark (2001) violoncello	5'
Bagatelle (Ode to Beethoven) (2012) piano	2'
Berceuse (2012) violin and piano	5'
Black Crow (2011) viola, bass-clarinet and percussion	12'
DePaul Prelude (2012) piano	3'
Dark Blue Horizon (2002) trumpet, trombone and piano	10'
Double Palindrome (2004) flute/piccolo, bass-clarinet and piano	11'
Intermixus (1999) saxophone in Eb	8'
Figures in Time for piano solo (2011) piano	4'
Non-Duet (2006) bass trombone solo and percussion solo	16'
Persistent Memory (2013) violoncello	11'
Reflections for kŏmungo (2015) kŏmungo (Korean 6-string zither)	11'
Ri III (2002) Alto Saxophone, accordion and double bass	10'
So-Ri I (2001) guitar and flute	10'
So-Ri II (2001) violin, violoncello and piano	10'
So-Ri III (2002) asax, accordion and double bass	10'
Study I (2005) bassoon and piano	8'
Two Moons (2004) violin and violoncello (amplified)	10'

CHAMBER MUSIC

Contrafact I (2010) recorder quartet and marimba	12'
“Crossing” (2006) string quartet no. 4	13'
Figures in Time for ensemble (2011) voice rec t pt pf fl/cbfl video (optional)	12'
Fragments (2009) asax egtr perc pf	13'
In den oneindig (2009) egtr 2sax tbn perc pf	1'
Nong Hyun Reflected (2011) string quartet	16'
Mixtures II (2018) four amplified violins	12'
PIRISoRI (2001) eight recorders	6'
Serenade for Four Strings (string quartet no. 3) (2005, rev. 2006) string quartet	15'
String Quartet nr. 2 (2000) string quartet	11'
Whey-Jun-Mok-Ma (merry-go-round) (2002) cl vn vc pf	11'

PERCUSSION

Canon Interrupted (2008)	12'
four percussion players	
Canonic Phase (2008)	12'
four percussion players	
Circle for One (2004)	13'
solo percussion	
Conversion (1999)	13'
prepared piano and percussion	
DaDeRimGil (2003)	14'
6 percussion players	
Tussenin (2012)	7'
violoncello and timpani	
Resonances for four percussion and sine tones (2016)	15'
percussion quartet and electronics	

SOLO INSTRUMENT(S) AND ENSEMBLE/(CHAMBER) ORCHESTRA

Aphonic Dialogue (2014)	16'
double concerto for voice, violoncello and chamber orchestra	
fl/picc ob cl/bcl bn/cbn - hn tpt tbn - 2perc - hp pf - 2vn va vc db	
Accordion Concerto (forthcoming)	20'
acn solo and chamber orchestra	
Cercitino for nine players (2001)	15'
fl/picc ob cl bn hn perc vn vc db	
Concerto for Hyun and Kwan for large Oriental/ Occidental Ensemble (2005)	20'
kayageum piri/taepyeongso fl/picc ob cl/bcl duduk sheng man gtr kanun	
zheng harp 2perc erhu kemenche vn va vc db	
Concerto for Piano, Percussion and Six Players (2005)	16'
pf perc solo- fl/picc cl/bcl hn tbn vn vc	
Concerto for Wood, Skin and Metal (2017)	20'
Cl, Perc solo - 2(l=picc ll= afl)3 (lll-ca)4(bcl)2 - 2231 - 2perc	
Concerto of Consonant Chord Catalogue (2006)	18'
solo piano and chamber ensemble	
pf solo - ob cl hn tbn perc vn va vc db	
Concerto for Wood, Skin and Metal (2017)	20'
Double concerto for Clarinet and Percussion with wind ensemble	
Cl, Perc - 2(l=picc ll= afl)3 (lll-ca)4(bcl)2 - 2231 - 2perc	
JungGa, concerto for oboe/mussette and chamber ensemble (2009)	17'
oboe/musette solo - fl/picc cl/bcl 2perc man gtr hp pf vn va vc db	
Mixtures, concerto for recorder, organ and string quintet (2017)	15'
rec solo, 2vn, va, vc, organ	
Procession (2011)	16'
trombone concerto	
tbn solo - 2222 - 2230 - 3perc - pf -str	
Shunt (2003)	11'
two pianos, two percussion players and two instrumental groups	
1(1)111 - 1110 - 2perc - 2pf - str(2.2.2.2.1.)	
Tainted Sculpture for Nine Korean & Western Players (2007)	12'
piri daegeum/sohgeum cl saenghwang kayageum 2perc gtr vc	

ORCHESTRA /LARGE ENSEMBLE

Schaduwspel (2012)	12'
2(picc/afl)01(bcl)0 - 2sax - 11(fl)21 - perc egrt ebgrt - pf	
Unsung Equilibrium (2005)	15'
ensemble of winds, percussion, bass guitar and piano	
fl/picc/bfl 3sax hn 3tpt 2tbn btbn bgtr pf	
Van Frisse Lucht (forthcoming)	15'
1111-1110-2 perc-hp pf-strings (2.1.1.1.)	
Yaw-Unn II (2003)	9'
fl ob cl perc hp gtr man vn va vc db	

VOCAL

ChoHee (2014) Chinese and sound fragments in Korean Ms - acn kōmungo 3perc vc db	20'
Na-Ya! (2003) voice (female) temple bell (Ko)	5'
Recollection for ChoHee (2006) 2SMsATB (Ko, En, Nl)	15'
Song of Regret (2002) S - fl cl perc pf vn vc (Ko)	8'
Suffering (2002) five singers and chamber ensemble (Ko)	5'
Yaw-Unn I (2002) S - rec perc vn (Ko)	7'

OPERA / MUSIC THEATRE

Lege Wieg/Bos Besik/Empty Cradle (2010) opera in 1 act, libretto: Anne Vegter (Nl) 2S Ms Ct A Bar, women's choir (S solo) - fl(afl/picc) acn perc vc db commissioned by Muziektheater Hollands Diep	90'
Trojan Women (2007) kayageum, daeguem/sohgeum, percussion and electronic music commissioned by Schauspielhaus Wien (Theater House Vienna), Austria	70'
Words and Beyond I: Hwang Jin-Yi (2008) music theatre for mezzo-soprano, four percussionists and a dancer on poems by Hwang Jin-Yi (Ko), commissioned by Slagwerk Den Haag Ms 4perc dancer	70'
Words and Beyond II: Nan Sul Hun (2014) music theatre on poems by Huh Nan Sul Hun(Ko/En) additional translation by Jerry Williams voice (Jungga - traditional Korean singing) kōmungo (Korean 6-string zither) accordion 3perc two dancers	81'

COMPACT DISCS

DaDeRimGil in: "New Works for Percussion" performed by Slagwerk Den Haag
So-Ri I in: "Sustenance", performed by Daniel Lippel, guitar and Erin Lesser, flute, 2008
Persistent Memory in: Cellomondo - global works for cello performed by Katharina Gross (cello), Concertello Records CR007, 2015

PUBLICATIONS

Seung-Ah Oh and Yannis Kyriakides written by Peter van Amstel. A publication by November Music Festival and BUMA Cultuur, 2011.
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