

"in between (IV)" for two violins (2004/7)

Duration: ca 14 minutes

### Introduction

At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century New Music (classically grounded experimental music) finds itself once again, or rather still, in a crisis in respect of both the public and musicians. The commercialisation of music hardly allows for individual experiment; openness and tolerance disappear before retrograde perspectives and ways of life. For the most part improvisation is a foreign word to classical interpreters; as before one comes across familiar frameworks from the past and few risks are taken.

In January 2003 as Composer of the Year in Finland I stayed as Composer -in - Residence in Kaustinen, Finland and there got to know the Swedish-German violin duo Cecilia and Martin Gelland. I noticed immediately that here in every way were two unusual musicians. I sensed openness, extreme curiosity, courage, willingness to take risks and above all a high technical ability; both possessed an artistic mastery.

At the instigation of the Gellands I was invited in Summer 2004 to give a Masterclass at the Festival FESTSPEL I PITE ÄLVDAL ÖJEBYN in Sweden, and I was able to realise a project with young Swedish composers and the Duo Gelland. Here everything was possible: improvisation, changes in staging, the inclusion of electronics, high technical standards, and no stylistic or aesthetic limitations. Again and again the shoots of openness, curiosity, tolerance and risk were to be seen in both the public and the composers and interpreters.

In 2005 Cecilia and Martin were in Leipzig as guests of the University and the Conservatory, working with students and above all with children. Once more I marvelled, and the children and students were entranced!

I dedicate my composition "in between (IV)" to these two wonderful musicians and continue to wish them enormous curiosity and above all great energy for all their future projects!

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Leipzig  
August 2007