

Portfolio

COMPOSITIONS

CLÉLIA COLONNA



BALLADS

COMPOSITION FOR 4 VOICES

BALLADS OF COMPLAINTS AND MURDERS is the temporary title I gave to the first draft of this work that is my first proper composition work. It's a composition for four voices and a small objects (matches, drums, cymbals...) This work takes inspiration in my experience with COBRACORAL, my practice of polyphonic singing and in minimal progressive music.

Using repetition and minimal progression as a system, I started from traditional songs and extracted what I understand as their harmonic and semantic "core" - on both music and language. Meaning that I striped down the song to minimal elements that repeat and progressively transform. By adding textures produced by either voice, object or instrument I created original songs that unfold / evolve around the original theme. For example *Sisters* is an interpretation of a traditional murder ballad that is present all through Europe under many different names, modes, versions. Twa sisters, Cruel Sisiter, Dvi Dochki... Tree is based on a Corsican complain...

Composed by Clélia Colonna inspired/based on
Oj Davno Davno, Dvi Dochki by Drevo (UKR), *Lamentu di u*
Castagnu by Paoli di Tagliu (COR) and *Ja żałobę noszę aż*
podłoga dudni (PL)

Performed by Caroline Decker, Clélia Colonna, Irene Coticchio,
Rotraud Kern

Supported by Residency@Im_flieger

Special thanks to Anita Kaya and EchoRaum

Songs (compositions in progress):

[DOLL IN A BOX](#) 03:26

[SISTER](#) 14:55

[MOTHER](#) 08:51

[TREE](#) 06:43

[VIDEO](#)

work in progress presented in EchoRaum in April 2023

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COBRACORAL

COMPOSITION IN COLLABORATION WITH ECE CANLI AND
CATARINA MIRANDA



COBRACORAL is a project that entwines the voices of Catarina Miranda (Portugal), Clélia Colonna (France), and Ece Canli (Turkey). Each brings their artistic vocal practice into the coil: Miranda's choreographic exploration of orality, Colonna's researches into Eastern and Mediterranean polyphonic singing, and Canli's extended vocal experiments. The resultant a cappella braid threads time into a structure that maintains the cohesion of a common pulse thru the variegated dynamics of reaction and adaptation.

Intricate hocketing, call and response, and layers of ostinati become the means with which COBRACORAL engenders their distinctive sonic texture—a latticework for the voice. While one voice may insist on a two-tone melodic fragment, another may occupy itself with the rhythmic spaces left unvoiced by the first such that a harmonic base is constructed for the third to shimmer. COBRACORAL further explores the potential of the voice by using sound effects and gesture to amplify the aural experience, suggesting that the limits of the voice extend out into electric and corporeal realms. The movements of the body also modulate the sound, as does as an artificial echo, a delay or a pitch shift. A modern vocal trio, Cobra'Coral is both electrified and electrifying.

Geometric pattern colours the surface that makes up COBRACORAL, like the group of snakes from which they take their name. Each song develops its own breathing pattern—a communal rite focusing in on the movement of air—where motifs of inhalation and exhalation become systems that unfold time onto vocalized expression. A careful observation of the temporal passage of respiration,

of its playful and life-sustaining dynamics, is their practice of communion. There is a common responsibility held in this spirited patchwork. Ritualistic chant, hypnogogic cycles, and contemporary vocal techniques shape the rhythmic, imagistic and narrative landscape that is COBRACORAL.

Released by Lovers&Lollypops on March 7, 2022

Composed and performed by Catarina Miranda, Clélia Colonna and Ece Canlı

Recorded, mixed and produced by José Arantes

Mastered by Jonathan Saldanha

Artwork and cover design by Anja Kaiser

Recorded at the studios of Escola das Artes | Universidade Católica Portuguesa

Supported by Programa Criatório by Câmara Municipal do Porto

Tracks:

[\[Ta-Tu \]](#) 08:51

[\[kabraf \]](#) 11:12

[\[gɔlfɪn \]](#) 12:35

[\[sta-ta-U \]](#) 06:17

Album available on [Bandcamp](#), [Spotify](#)

A SETTE GALERE

ARRANGEMENT FOR 4 VOICES

A SETTE GALERE is a complain from the 17th century transmitted orally and transcribed by Austin de Croze, based on the legendary story of a shipwreck linked to the history of Genoese Corsica. This theme is originally a monody and different polyphonic versions have been composed by Corsican singers. I kept the main melody, changed the bass line, added a second main voice and an upper drone. This version has been released on the album Polyphonic Tracks produced by galinella.records AT EG06 on 2018

[A SETTE GALERE](#) 07:24

Released by Gallinella records on July 12, 2018 on the album [Polyphonic Tracks](#) by cowbirds

Arranged by Clélia Colonna

Performed by Caroline Decker, Clélia Colonna, Irene Coticchio, Rotraud Kern

Album available on [Soundcloud](#), [Spotify](#)

OIME LUNA

COMPOSITION FOR 3 VOICES

OIMA LUNA is one of the compositions created for the dance piece THE BOSH EXPERIENCE PART I / PRELUDE PARADISE by Georg Blaschke, which premiered in the festival ImPulsTanz in 2014.

OIME LUNA 02:36

recorded @ Jet Lag All Stars Radio Show, ORF

Composed by Clélia Colonna

Performed by Caroline Decker, Clélia Colonna, Rotraud Kern