The Kitchen Center for Video and Music

press release

LUCIA DLUGOSZEWSKI

'SWIFT AND NAKED'
New Chamber Music

March 27-28, 8:30pm
$4.00 / $3.00 members / TDF Music

The Kitchen, 484 Broome Street
Reservations: 925-3615

On March 27-28, The Kitchen's Contemporary Music Series will feature 'Swift and Naked,' music of Lucia Dlugoszewski. 'Swfit and Naked' is a series of new chamber music for virtuoso soloists. Featured musicians will be David Taylor (bass trombone), Don Palma (string bass) and Linda Quan (violin), with Chris Finkel ('cello), Lewis Paer (string bass), as well as Jaime Austria, Joseph Tamosaitis and Michael Willens (string basses), Peter Sacco (violin) and Lois Martin (viola). The composer herself will perform at timbre piano, a piano with a bowing mechanism and new bowing techniques, invented by Dlugoszewski.

Three pieces will be presented both nights: Triple Swift Leap, for bass trombone; Now Tilting Naked and Swift and Naked, both for string quartet, string bass, bass trombone and timbre piano. On March 27th, Elusive Pierce for 4 string basses, bass trombone and timbre piano will be included; on March 28th, the fourth piece will be Pierce Sever for timbre piano solo. With the exception of Pierce Sever, all the works are premieres.

The pieces in 'Swift and Naked' have two co-existing realities of sound. The composer notes that, "What is explored at first is energy, mystery and stillness--more specifically, immediacy, the strange risk of hearing whose moment in time is always daybreak. This Joycean inspired 'quidditas' involves new composing and performing disciplines of kinesthetic recklessness, great dislocations of constant surprise. The second simultaneous aim is an alternative elegance, neither predictable continuity nor chaotic discontinuity. The three points of reference are Einstein's definition of energy ("In cosmic terms, an effect whose cause eludes us completely") and the almost severed, inexplicably continuous line of the late Schubert sonatas--a kind of elusive courage for the delicacies of daring constructions."

Lucia Dlugoszewski (born Detroit, 1931) studied physics and mathematics in preparation for medical studies before becoming a professional musician. She studied with Grete Sultan (piano), Felix Salzer (analysis), Ben Weber and Edgard Varese (composition). During this time she was also active in writing poetry and in collaborating with philosopher F.S.C. Northrop. In her music, Dlugoszewski has always been concerned with sounds from traditional instruments and from percussion instruments of her own creation, which number more than 100. Virgil Thompson, in American Music Since 1910, wrote that her compositions were "Far-out music of great delicacy, originality, and beauty of sound, also ingenious with regard to instrumental virtuosities and of unusually high level in its intellectual and poetic aspects." Writing in the Village Voice, Leighton Kerner noted that, "The music of Lucia Dlugoszewski breathes a kind of super-oxygen that would burn up the product of most other contemporary composers." Recordings of her music have been released on labels which include CRI, Vox/Candide, Nonesuch and Folkways. The composer has received numerous awards, including grants from CAPS, NYSCA and NEA and Guggenheim and Thorne fellowships, as well as commissions from the New York Philharmonic and the American Symphony Orchestra.