

Gregers Brinch

I draw my musical inspiration from many sources. In particular I am inspired by the qualities of the musical intervals, which, by association, make me commit to a sense of tonality in general. But also the timbre of voices and instruments drives my musical ideas resulting in my experiencing the instruments and the elements of music as being human expressions without intellectual content, more like concentrated soul-expression and soul-experience undergone by the human being. In my composition I aim to invite the listener to anticipate and yet I allow the music to challenge as well. In a compositional process I experience an interplay between myself and 'the will of the piece itself'. I have the experience of an entity that wishes to express itself and yet does not dictate. It is at one and the same time a riddle and a guide. In turn, my task is to discern its nature and reveal this to the audience. As a result of my study into the basic elements of music and my appreciation of all genres of music, my tonal language is a synthesis of various genres.

In addition, my inspiration is stimulated by my passion for drama. As well as being an aspiring painter in my teens, I was a keen actor. Before devoting myself to composition at age 20 I appeared in a number of Shakespeare plays (including appearing in Macbeth at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival) leading to a life-long love of the Shakespeare's works. Playing the part of Peer in Ibsen's 'Peer Gynt' in 2011 has given me a new boost in that direction.

My native Denmark, with its coastline of long beaches and rolling sand dunes that were the joy of my childhood, provides me with a feeling for a wide natural landscape. It was here I developed a lifelong love of birds and nature. These elements find their way into the music, I suppose, but I don't consciously attempt to portray them. Upon completing an intensive period of autodidactic training with the help of Cecil Cope and Louis Alvanis, I entered the Musikseminar in Hamburg, Germany to study composition with Elmar Lampson ([now called Alfred Schnittke Akademie International](#) <http://www.schnittke-akademie.de>). Here I graduated with diplomas in composition and piano in 1992 and went on to teach in adult education both in Hamburg and at Emerson College, Sussex, England. During this time I continued to devote more time to developing my compositional direction. In 2001 I gave up my secure post there in order to pursue composing more fully, and my compositional output has increased from this time onwards.

I am member of Brighton New Music in the UK and Komvest in Copenhagen, Denmark.

My works have been performed frequently in the UK (including the Wigmore Hall) as well as in Denmark, Germany, Italy, France and Australia. I am a founder member and artistic director of [International Concert Series](#) at Rudolf Steiner House in London since 2014. And 3 CDs of his works featuring Rohan De Saram, William Hancox, Julie Groves and Jonathan Trusscott have been issued on [Claudio records](#). In addition the [CD Harmonious Dissonance](#) was released on the [Navona record Label](#) in the USA.

My professional activities range from composing for professional musicians, organizing concerts for International Concert Series in London, teaching children and adults, performing a singer and as a pianist, directing local ensembles, and writing about music and the human being.

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