

Copenhagen October 2002 *review* : translation by Jens Hesselager

... *Maps at the Institute of Musicology in Copenhagen is a cooperative project between composers Juliana Hodkinson and David Young and scenographer Louise Beck. (Photo: PR)*

PERFORMANCE:

Among younger composers there is a significant desire to perform in new contexts

Institute staged

By Eva Hvidt

There is a to do, these days, in the canteen at the Institute of Musicology in Copenhagen, where composer Juliana Hodkinson has joined composer David Young and scenographer Louise Beck in staging a performance called ... *Maps*. On the upper floors musicians play, using maps for scores, with violins and splashes of water from bowls.

... *Maps* is a journey through the building. In Melbourne, Australia, where the concept was first realised, the town hall was mapped out through performance. This time a university building in central Copenhagen is being staged, from basement to top floor. The building originally functioned as a Freemason's temple, a fact easily appreciated when one sees the building from the outside. It is a hefty house, dusty and only rudimentarily maintained. It is really quite refreshing to be able to see the more remote corners of this building. What is really being done in here, they ask, rhetorically.

Shadow images along the corridors and young people dressed up, solemnly rehearsing, appear as we pass. In one room one hears an immaculate lecture on the history of maps, rhetorically perfected with an exactly timed slide show, as the actor, Cynthia Troup, puts on her glasses or takes them off at decisive moments. Form takes precedence over content and one listens to the lecture as if it were a piece of music. The *clou* of the evening is the pianist, Katrine Gislinge, who makes her first appearance as a VIP walking down a red carpet and at the end plays a sonata by Schubert, competing fiercely with reproductions of the same music, on taperecorders and grammophones. All in all, ... *Maps* is more performance than a concert.

Generally, among young composers, there is a significant desire to perform in new contexts. Perhaps this tendency will also show when the composers Juliana Hodkinson, Carsten Bo Eriksen and Morten Skovgaard Danielsen each arrange their concert under the heading *Composers' Choice* at the Musikhøst festival in Odense in November.

The last run of ... *Maps* will be at Institute of Musicology in Copenhagen on 26 October at 5 pm.