

Introduction

Daniel Robert Lahey returns to Cerebral Audio with Not Sure This Goes With Your Outfit. While the title is amusing, there is something of a statement that can go along with it.

There is a feeling that classical music belongs in certain environments, primarily a concert or performance hall (and sometimes in churches). This has been seen by many as being somewhat elitist. Or at least, having the implication of their being a class system involved in the production and performance of classical music.

It's not at all unlikely to attend performances of classical music where the majority (if not all) of the audience members are wearing suits or tuxedos (for the men), or fancy dresses (for the ladies). The performance has a set of

unwritten guidelines for how the audience interacts with the performers, as much as how they interact with each other. There is also a formality in terms of how the performers present the pieces, how the program is selected, etc.

Daniel has chosen to point rather humorously to the idea that really this music isn't intended for the stuffy environments of the perfomance hall. It's for everyone, no matter what clothes they are wearing. Even if they are making choices to appear as unique and individual as they can.

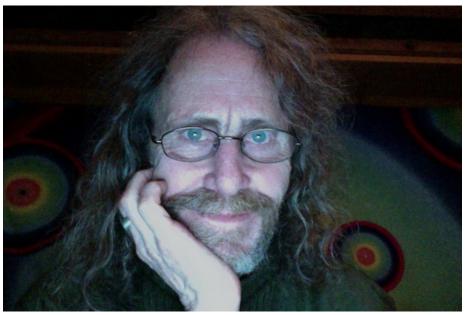
Classical music was never really intended to be the domain of the elitist. It was music for the people. Mozart proved this with his popular opera's written for the general public instead of being written for kings or royalty.

On another level, Daniel's selection of this title could be seen as a commentary on the musical establishment. The question isn't wether this is classical music, but rather a statment that "this" work doesn't fit with an "establishment" conception of style.

There's also a third layer of meaning to this title. Something of an internal joke. There are points at which you might be listening to this work and thinking, "how does that fit in?" That's when you will discover the playful side of Daniel, occasionally hiding little pieces of incongruous material as a joke for your ears. These tiny non-sequitur's could be seen as not going with the "outfit" of the composition as a whole.

But wether he had all of these ideas in mind, or none of them when he titled this work is something that we'll never know. However, it's interesting to consider them in all of these perspectives, individually and simultaneously.

Biography



Daniel started fiddling with the keys of a piano as soon as he could reach them and whenever he could get away with it. He took guitar lessons at 10 and got very serious about it by the age of 15. (Of course, he figured it would help him pick up girls.) He devoted 12 years to the classical guitar repertoire before he'd had enough of so much work for no pay.

Toward the end of his time as a guitarist, he started playing around with Synthesizers. He has been playing keyboards for over 50 years at this point. He grew up with a love for classical music, and has studied many of the great composition masters through the years. This knowledge classical music is what informs his current works.

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Credits

All selections composed, arranged and performed by Daniel Robert Lahey.

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