

Sergej Newski: 3rd String Quartet – Work description of the composer

Every time I write a piece of chamber music, I regard it as being a possibility to feel out, experience and even invent both the sound and the instrument. So I wrote the 3rd String Quartet with violin in hand, trying to document my initially purely tactile experiences, and to develop structures out of this catalogue of experiences of sound and touch. The piece begins with the simultaneous entry of two elementary gestures: a tremolo on the left hand is played along with *arco saltando* in the right hand. Then the two gestures are further developed independently of one another. So the tremolo turns into a melody (split between the instruments), the melody becomes a plane, the plane becomes a texture, and ultimately everything ends up the way it began. Through all this, the transformation of the material clearly has greater significance than the material itself, and one could almost consider that the material only becomes apparent and audible through its alteration.

Sergej Newski