

Samir Odeh-Tamimi: *Ahinnu II*– Work description

for seven instrumentalists (2001) Sy. 3653

Ahinnu II (2002), composed for flute, oboe, clarinet, percussion and string trio, is the companion piece to *Ahinnu I* (2001) for seven instrumentalists. *Ahinnu* ('I yearn') is how the Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish (1941-2008) begins his poem *Illa ummi*, which he wrote during his youth and has now become very popular in Palestine. *To My Mother*, a poem of love, farewell and longing addressed equally to mother and homeland, establishes Odeh-Tamimi's piece as a (childhood) memory, as reflection, as an idea: without creating a musical programme, without being set. The sounds – sustained, vibrating and unstable textures, microtonal melismas picked up from Koranic chant, punctuated by sharp percussion accents – flow forcefully towards a sudden condensed finale: an outcry, a self-siting.

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