

## **SYMPHONY NO. 3**

### **THE DISCOVERY**

**Philip Glass'** Symphony No. 3 is the origin of this new creation by Neander and v. Bodecker.

Every day we are surrounded by wonders of this world, but we rarely notice them. Major and minor events make us rediscover them. They make us stop and marvel. At the very moments when we do not expect it, creation offers its wonderful side.

A white sheet of paper, seemingly blank, insignificant, worthless, hides a powerful world between its lines. Images of the creation, of the elements, and of life rising before our eyes develop into a battle of powers and disappear into an infinite blackness. This is the way v. Bodecker and Neander perform their minimalist art of mime. Their theater of images focuses on the essential, drawing us into the phantastic world hidden behind it.

We are left with images in our mind, full of magic, imagination, and personal recollections of music.

*"Two pantomimes as enthusiastically cheered soloists."*

**- Herforder Kreisblatt**

*"A concert full of imagination and poetry"*

**- Neue Westfälische Zeitung**

*"Pantomimes gave sense and form to music."*

**- Westfalenblatt**

*The mime soloists performed this scene in cooperation with the Nordwestdeutsche Philharmonie in sold-out venues in Detmold, Herford, and Paderborn, Germany.*



with Philip Glass after the concert in New York

## DIVERTISSEMENT

### JEUX A DEUX

In 1999, a scenic and concert homage to the French composer, **Jean Françaix**, was created in cooperation with the Octet of the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra. The Divertissement is part of a concert where the musicians have to play a choreographic score in addition to the music.



Neander and v. Bodecker are directors and actors at the same time. In their "Play for Two" around a table, they take us on a journey through a sequence of optical surprises. A virtual game of cards turns real in a magical way, suddenly changing into a game of chess with chessmen of its own, and our protagonists become travellers on this ingenious transformation trip.

*"...a concert of chamber music and pantomime setting new landmarks for the future..."*

**Leipziger Volkszeitung**

*"...lots of applause, lots of fun, a most satisfying night..."*

**Sächsische Zeitung**

*The première took place at the Leipzig Gewandhaus concert hall, and a guest performance was given at the Dresden Semperoper State Opera.*

## IN THE UPPER ROOM

### ROMEO AND ROMEO

Dennis Russel Davies, conductor of the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, had the idea in 1999 to stage music with a visual complement. He thought of combining **Philip Glass'** composition "In the Upper Room" with a pantomime. He asked Philip Glass to revise his composition and Neander and von Bodecker created their choreography for it.

Alexander Neander and Wolfram von Bodecker, members of the "Compagnie Marcel Marceau", considered Philip Glass' composition just the right music for creating a magically visual intermezzo. Using a white sheet of cloth as a simple stage prop, a stage area of two square meters and the art of mime, they turn a



written story into an adventure reminiscent not least of Shakespeare's classics, while the title promises a humorous touch. *They performed it at the Expo 2000, at the Schleswig Holstein Musikfestival, the Mercedes Forum Stuttgart and, recently, on the occasion of a U.S. tour of the Orchestra, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York with the composer, Philip Glass, attending.*

# Théâtre MIMO Magique

ALEXANDER NEANDER &  
WOLFRAM V. BODECKER

first met in Paris during the three years` course at the "Ecole Marcel Marceau". After graduation, they both joined the "Compagnie Marcel Marceau", touring with their master since 1995.

In 1996 they founded their own theater, the Théâtre MIMO Magique, which promptly won the Berlin Audience Award for their first production, "SILENCE",



Alexander Neander

a mime show largely based on classical pantomime, but indicating that the team progressed to other visual forms of expression.

Their next productions carefully integrated object theater, image theater and magic as increasingly more important elements of the theatric atmosphere of their plays.

Music is one source of inspiration to Neander and Bodecker. In 1999, their first visual concert was created in cooperation with the Octet of the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra: "Concert visuel en Français." Jean François` compositions seemed to be absolutely the right music for a phantastic musical visual journey, which met with an enthusiastic audience response at the Leipzig Gewandhaus and the Dresden Semperoper State Opera.

As soon as their visual creations based on music, had aroused attention in the musical world, more visual concerts were staged with the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, the Arditti Quartet in London, and the orchestra Nordwestdeutsche Philharmonie.

"OUT OF THE BLUE" is the title of their latest creation premièred at the Berlin Academy of Arts in 2001, a play with cinematographic connotations, conveying magical visual effects, endless phantasy, fun, humor and poetic charm.

Thanks to the universal language of their visual theater, they have been on stage since 1997 in Belgium, France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, England, China, Japan, Taiwan, and in early 2003, they had their U.S. début with the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra at the New York Metropolitan Museum.



Wolfram von Bodecker