

**Gilead Mishory**

## **Cloches de joie et larmes de rire**

"Cloches de joie et larmes de rire" ("Bells of Joy and Tears of Laughter") is a third, joyous transformation of the bell motif in Messiaen's "Cloches d'angoisse et larmes d'adieu" ("Bells of Fear and Tears of Farewell" from *Préludes*). Tristan Murail uses it in his "Cloches d'adieu et un sourir" ("Farewell Bells and a Smile") from 1992.

What is the central element in the piece? Is it perhaps the rhythmic element, or rather the tension between the sound mix and the motif clarity? Is it the wild, unyielding laughter or yet the warmth of the tears and the calming elements which evoke familiar feelings? The answers to these questions remain up to the interpreter and the listeners.

The piece, commissioned by Pianohaus Lepthien, was composed for the Lepthien Wettbewerb 2007.

Recommendations for preliminary and/or supplementary reading and listening:

**Olivier Messiaen:** "Bells of Fear and Tears of Farewell"  
(*Préludes*)

**Tristan Murail:** "Farewell Bells and a Smile"

**Milan Kundera:** "The Book of Laughter and Forgetting"  
(primarily "The Angels")

**Maurice Sendak:** "Where the Wild Things Are"

**Alfred Brendel:** "Das umgekehrte Erhabene: Gibt es eigentlich lustige Musik?" in *Musik beim Wort genommen*