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By Horst Hollmann

(Translation: Julia Hertäg)

About music landscapes inside the mind

WORLD PREMIERE Quartet for volcano sand and strings by Ellen Fellmann

Formations animate the fantasy. An audiovisual quartet quickens in the Edith Ruß-Haus.

OLDENBURG - Music landscapes are created in your imagination, inspired by the respective composition. With Ellen Fellmann it's different. For her the landscape creates itself in reality, being projected on three screens next to each other. But the curves, surfaces, lines and formations don't restrict imagination. They rather quicken it at the world premiere inside the Edith-Ruß-Haus.

For the classical instrumentation of a string quartet, one of the violins is missing in the half an hour performance of the video artist and composer, who is internationally paid attention to. Besides Johannes Haase (violin), Jessica Rona (viola) and Katrin Langewellpott (cello), the image-sound-instrument as a third voice joins the quartet.

This instrument forms the swinging movements or resting surfaces from the movements of the volcano sand in black and white. Inside your imagination is arising a mixture of broad brush strokes, top views on strange planets, flights of swarms of birds or just the gliding of volcano pebbles. The electronically generated music makes you think about wind and waves, the vehemence of which is capable to increase severely.

When the violin with a shaving that cannot be located brings itself into play, when the viola scrabbles and the cello scratches, then hierarchies are dissolved. The unusual fourth voice does not illustrate, it is equal to the others, it inspires its "colleagues", lets itself pull by them. That works within a delicately tuned rhythm. The projection only keeps silent when the three conventional instruments within their dialogue set a point of silence.

Once upon a time days of New Music like those in Donaueschingen or Witten were determining trends. But since long ago the stress of being original blocks musical inspiration. New Music is unfolding in more silent places like here within the framework of the oh-ton-project "klangpol". Here Ellen Fellmann is allowed to trust in her own musical voice and show: There are many ways open to New Music, perhaps even to a broader public.
