

Eliminations (2022)

"like a cloud my soul..."

"kaip debesis mano siela" (jonas mekas)

Commissioned for the project "Jonas Mekas' Musical Milieu"

Composer's note

Encountering Jonas Mekas in any context - whether meeting him in person in New York or seeing his face in his multitudinous films, at exhibitions or reading his writings always had an unmistakably joyful first impression. This particular feeling would be accompanied by an inner warmth and some kind of lightness of being which reminded of ephemeral substance of ever-changing cloud formations. That inner transparency was contrasting to an overall density of phenomena found in New York City. I wanted my piece to reflect this quality. Somehow Mekas' personality brought unexpected associations with C-major which is the most elemental and at the same time an essential point of reference in music similar to sunshine that makes everything grow.

The title is a found word from J. Mekas diaries where he said, "Rimbaud wrote Illuminations, I have a big book of eliminations". In this piece I use the process of elimination of pitches and gestures that gradually transforms musical texture from tangible to almost transparent.

Duration 9' 15"

Premiere on November 12th, 2022 at the Lithuanian Theater, Music and Film Museum in Vilnius by the "Apartment House" (UK).