Athanasios Zlikas

REFLECTIONS

for orchestra

York, 2012
ORCHESTRATION

4 Flutes (also doubling 4 Piccolos)
3 Oboes
Cor Anglais
Clarinet in E flat
3 Clarinets in B flat (3d doubling Bass Clarinet in B flat)
3 Bassoons
Contrabassoon

4 Horns in F
3 Trumpets in C
2 Trombones
Bass Trombone
Tuba

Strings

duration: approximately 10 minutes

score in C

Piccolo sounds an octave higher,
double bass and contrabassoon sounds an octave lower
Composer's note

One interpretation of the word “reflection” renders to it an elusive quality: the reflection of an object on the surface of a lake, for example, is distorted when the surface is unsettled and creates ripples. When stillness returns, the image is restored to its original form.

A second meaning of the word has a geometrical, stricter dimension. It concerns the cohesion and soundness of the form, the logical correlation between abstract objects via specific operations.

My intention was to bring these two contrasting qualities of my concept of reflection together: the coherence of the symmetrical construction, on the one hand, with the acoustic sense of a music that flows and continually changes its shape, on the other.

Describing the work concisely, we would say that a micro-polyphonic sonic cloud emerges from silence and is transformed into a melodic line. Having passed through different processes, it gradually sinks back to the “cloud”, which, in its turn, dissolves again into silence.