

INTRODUCTION

Jeu: Stille Kost. Caprice II

Jeu: Stille Kost. Caprice II for flute (doubling piccolo, alto-flute), clarinet in Bb (doubling bass clarinet), piano, violin and violoncello was written in 2011/2012. In July 2011 I read the book *Wahrheit ist die Erfindung eines Lügner* (Truth is the invention of a liar) by Heinz von Foerster and Heinrich Poerksen, which provided a philosophical theoretical support for my ideas of (compositional) cause and effect in the form of the principle of circular causality.

On the one hand the title of the work refers to the compositional relationship to my first *Caprice* (for string trio), where the main concept was the lack of any conceptual plan, on the other side to the game "Stille Post" (chinese whispers) which is based on the principle of circular causality. The game "Stille Post" works as follows: One person whispers a word into the ear of another person, this person whispers this word (or better: what he understood) into the ear of another person, etc. The last person in this chain says the word out loud. Normally this word doesn't have anything in common with the word the first person said. In my eyes this game represents the principle of developing variation (which plays a crucial role in my compositional work) as well as the principle of circular causality: The word, that is heard, is on the one hand cause, on the other hand effect. The game (and also the word) „Stille Kost“ is – in the sense of (developing) variation – a modification of „Stille Post“ – a game that doesn't exist in reality, but was performed in a cabaret show.