



MUSIC FOR THE MYSTERIES

contact: Hanne Tofte Jespersen
ensemble leader, composer
Maglekildevej 13 B
DK-4000 Roskilde
tel +45 4637 1387 / +45 2579 7687
hanne@musicforthemysteries.org
www.musicforthemysteries.org

Agnethe Christensen, mezzoalto- *Melangell* Teit Kanstrup, bass barytone - *Prince of Brochwell*
Bente Vist, soprano - Christian Berg, tenor - Kuno Kjærbye, violin - Ida Bach Jensen, double bass
Anders Hvidberg-Hansen, percussion - Hanne Tofte Jespersen, piano, alto

THE TESTIMONY OF MELANGELL

is a magical tale. A journey in music into ancient Celtic myth and early Christian legend.

MUSIC FOR THE MYSTERIES' singers, musicians & storyteller perform in an artwork, and the audience sits in the artwork together with the performers. The music stages the tale of the female mystic and hermit Melangell. She settled in a remote valley in Northern Wales around 500 AD.

Later years made her saint.

Her name means "honey angel".



"VERY exciting! The music holds both medieval, renaissance, folk music and the modern - and at no point does it turn commonplace..."

Castle organist Sven-Ingvar Mikkelsen after the concert in Frederiksborg Castle Church 4.9.11

Claus Røllum-Larsen reviewed the first performance during the Schubertiade 2011 (DK):

"ORIGINAL AND VISIONARY MUSIC -

...which one was gradually captured by, and which made up a perfect universe. The performers achieved a condensed atmosphere of almost ritual magic. Not the least Agneth Christensen's beautifully rounded and strongly formulated soli made a great impression. But it was of course Hanne Tofte Jespersen's desert that the performers had such original and visionary music to perform."

Dagbladet 22.8.11

Composer: Hanne Tofte Jespersen (DK)

Visual artist: Alison Michell (UK / DK) Author: Mike Harris (UK)

from 2012 also: Sara Ekman, choreographer (S) and Eva Sommestad Holten, (S/DK) scenographic adaptations



Melangell's tale is like a Celtic "knotwork" - labyrinthine circular rather than linear. The composer has adapted its inherent dramaturgy and unfolded it into a composition in 14 movements for 5 singers (SAATB), violin, double bass, piano, percussion and recital; duration 1 hour. [LISTEN..](#)

The artists all appear as soloists in DK & internationally:
Agnethe Christensen in Benjamin Bagby's *Sequentia* a.o.,
Teit Kanstrup pt in *Opera on Location*, Ida Bach Jensen in both her own cross over projects and those of others, Bente Vist in numerous first performances of contemporary music,
Kuno Kjærbye as a violinist with Kent Carter (F/US), with Kirsten Beyer-Karlshøj a.o., Anders Hvidberg-Hansen as percussionist within world music...[VIDEO..](#)

WEBINFO:

(English) www.musicforthemysteries.org/melangell_info-UK.html

