

Programme Notes

Sweep

by
Abigail Richardson

This piece was created by recording flute sounds that were played in the recording studio by Patrick Gallois. Key clicks, flutter tonguing, whisper tones and singing and playing are among the sounds recorded. After processing, these resulted in icy, metallic sounds that ranged from a sound similar to a helicopter, to the characteristic sweeping motion, and finally towards gentler sounds like a warm "*purr*". There is some degree of drama in this piece, and the flute part begins timidly in comparison to the dense and dominant tape. This changes however, as the flute gradually works its way into a frenzy of virtuosity and overpowers the tape. The two elements play off of each other, imitating and answering each other as the piece progresses. The result is a sort of tranquil coexistence once they have seen each other's true colours. The flute and the tape frequently answer each other with a sweeping motion, which gives the piece its title of *Sweep*.