

Elizabeta Ilievska (born in 1982 in Skopje, Macedonia), graduated as a Theory major at UKIM FM in 2005 and continued her studies as a Composition major. At the moment she is enrolled in the third year of the undergraduate composition program, working with professor Goce Kolarovski. Her extant opus includes: Four miniatures for piano, Three miniatures for accordion, Four pieces for clarinet, *Izhe Heruvimi* for female choir, *Adagio* for violin and piano, *Passacaglia* for accordion trio, *12* for accordion, *Pechal* for mixed choir, the two songs *Spomen* and *Razdelenost*.

Her works have been performed at various occasions such as the festival *Days of Macedonian Music* in 2004 and 2005, *Skopje Summer Festival* in 2005, *National Competition for Chamber Music and Sight Singing* in 2005, *Musica Viva* concerts of the accordion students of prof. Zorica Karakutovska at UKIM FM. The accordion compositions play a particular role in her compositional interests.

Clowns (2006) for chamber ensemble (flute, clarinet in B flat, violin, cello, piano/accordion, xylophone, vibraphone and cymbals) is dedicated “to all those who I love and respect so much”.

The composition is based on the characters of five circus clowns – sad, joyful, cynical, jocular and drunk reflected in five different thematic materials. Although the “circus stage” as a static element creates a tonal center (B flat - C), the basic idea is to write an atonal composition presented through traditional notation. The major sixth is the dominant interval in the thematic structures. The intro features the rhythmical fragment which is interwoven through the piece. Consequently the form consists of five parts A B C D E, the basic tempo is *scherzando bene ritmico*, and the general dynamics is *forte*. All thematic materials are combined and reappear in the finale of the composition.

*...It was a pleasure to work with experienced performers of contemporary music.
Despite the short time for rehearsals, I am satisfied with the results of the performance...*
(Elizabeta Ilievska)

Written by Trena Jordanoska