

Alwynne Pritchard

Try Angle Performing Arts Laboratory publication for Marseille-Provence City of Culture 2013

By Claudia Galhós

Art from a different constellation In the world of Alwynne everything is connected. She would refer to it as “different constellations”. And word everything really means everything, even the less obvious subjects, materials and inspirational elements are brought into the process of art creation. She is as connected to her art world with the same wonder as that which makes her eyes shine with enthusiasm as she speaks of it. In one moment we were discovering a life dedicated to the study and practice of the most experimental and complex music composition, coming directly from the line of the vanguards and post-war music experimentation that revealed a completely new world of possibility of organisation of sounds with names like Stockhausen, Pierre Boulez or John Cage...She is not just an experimental or improvisational composer, she is a festival director, she is a writer – specialized in writing about music but also writing the musical-theatre pieces she directs. She is also trained as a singer and studied both piano and violin. And when we think that is enough, she will tell you that she constructs instruments from very diverse objects she finds and works with video. In each artistic gesture she engages with, there is this strength and a force of life that exults all of her being. Her artistic personality matches her appearance. Somewhat wild, penetrating, somewhat threatening until the moment you see her smile and the passion that lives inside her comes out with softness and endearment. Some of her work is like that. Never simple, never obvious, never meaning just one thing. Her music promotes the encounter between artists from different constellations and maybe unexpected instruments, but it usually isn't a simple concert, they have a very physical expression and that is an aspect of her work that has been each time more present. Sometimes it seems she is speaking from a strange world that only she inhabits, but that attracts many of us. There is this more recent revelation of photography and taking portraits of people as an artistic medium she has fallen in love. First there is a strong impression she gets from some stranger she finds in a strange environment, maybe a mighty face, and with that pretext she enters other people's worlds. And then she might tell you about this unusual musical score she is doing inspired by John Cage, and she will tell you that, when commissioned to do a score for a book dedicated to John Cage, she decided to do a piece of clothing that is a musical score...It is impossible not to want to travel to Alwynne Pritchards enigmatic world.