

Mara Zibens / TEKST AS AUDIO-CINEMA

Tekst ensemble was established in 1980 as a context within which to explore text/sound composition and to develop a collective musical imagination. The present members include Mara Zibens, Richard Truhlar, Glenn Frew and Keith Potts.

Ideas presented to the group by individuals are treated as raw materials, subject to any number of changes including electronic editing, tape manipulation, phasing and effect enhancement. The resulting compositions tend to be surprisingly eclectic: from gothic meta-music to extra-terrestrial invocations; from austere synthetic sound waves to rambunctious keyboard polyphony; from molecular bee-bop to electronic tone poetry; from lyrical vocals to staccato utterances trapped within the larynx. (The use of treated voice is quite distinctive, being given the status of a percussive, rhythmic and textural instrument.)

This eclectic nature has, in fact, been a process of synthesizing various elements: the application of high-tech to primitivism; the juxtaposition of found sounds and vocal events within (at times) traditional musical settings; the interaction between cerebral and sensual sonic images.

The creative work of Tekst is a personal document of experience, the film-music of our imaginations, an investigation into audio-cinema.

