

## Klaus Ib Jørgensen: Moon-pain (2003-8)

### Facts about the work

*Moon-pain* is a cycle of six works, based on poems by the Portuguese poet *Fernando Pessoa* (1888-1935). Pessoa grew up in South Africa and was bilingual in Portuguese and English, and the five poems for *Moon-pain* are taken from the English collection *The Mad Fiddler* (c. 1915-17).

### Instrumentation

The music is composed for an ensemble consisting of mezzo-soprano and six instruments (flute, clarinet, piano, violin, viola and cello), and all of the movements of the cycle are written for combinations of these instruments. The 6th movement is purely instrumental.

### The individual works (or movements) are:

- 1 *Moon-bound*  
2003-4 • duration 12:45  
Voice + fl, cl, pno, vl, vla, vlc  
Original title of the poem is *The Island*  
Commissioned by Radio France / Festival Présences,  
World premiere February 4, 2004, La Maison de Radio France, Paris  
Katalin Varkonyi (mezzo-soprano) and Ensemble Alternance
- 2 *Moonlit*  
2006 • duration 8:30  
Voice + fl, vl, vla, vlc  
Original title of the poem is *Lycantrophy*  
Commissioned by Ensemble Alternance  
World premiere May 10, 2006, Salle Cortot, Paris  
Suzanne Otto (mezzo-soprano) and Ensemble Alternance
- 3 *In Silence and Moon*  
2007-8 • duration 10:30  
Voice + cl, pno, vlc  
Original title of the poem is *Dream*  
World premiere April 4, 2008, Casa da Música, Porto  
Iris Oja (mezzo-soprano) and REMIX under the baton of Paul Hillier
- 4 *Spirit Beams*  
2007-8 • duration 4:45  
Voice + cl, pno, vla  
Original title of the poem is *Spell*  
World premiere April 4, 2008, Casa da Música, Porto  
Iris Oja (mezzo-soprano) and REMIX under the baton of Paul Hillier
- 5 *Lunar Land*  
2003-4 • duration 6:00  
Voice + fl, cl, pno, vl, vla, vlc  
Original title of the poem is *Not Myself*  
Commissioned by Radio France / Festival Présences,  
world premiere February 4, 2004
- 6 *Still. Moon*  
2008 • duration 3:45  
Fl, cl, pno, vl, vla, vlc  
Instrumental epilogue  
World premiere April 4, 2008, Casa da Música, Porto  
REMIX under the baton of Paul Hillier

Total duration c. 48 minutes.

The movements can be performed individually. The last movement may not make a lot of sense standing alone, though.

### Availability

The scores, parts and piano reduction (where applicable) are available from *Edition Samfundet Music Publishers* in Copenhagen, Denmark: [www.samfundet.dk](http://www.samfundet.dk)

The music is available on a 2009 Dacapo Records release with *Iris Oja* as vocal soloist and the Portuguese ensemble *REMIX* under the baton of *Paul Hillier*: [www.dacapo-records.dk](http://www.dacapo-records.dk). The second movements of *Moon-pain* (*Moonlit*, 2006) is also available, from the same label, in a recording with French *Ensemble Alternance* and *Marie Kobayashi*, mezzo-soprano.

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For much more information about the composer, the music, and Fernando Pessoa, please visit the composer's website [www.antiphony.dk](http://www.antiphony.dk), the record company's website [www.dacapo-records.dk](http://www.dacapo-records.dk) or the dedicated *Moon-pain* site [www.moonpain.nu/english](http://www.moonpain.nu/english)

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