

Wayne Siegel

Jackdaw

for bass clarinet and computer (10')

1996

Jackdaw for bass clarinet and computer was commissioned by Harry Sparnaay with financial support from the Danish Art Council and premiered at the Musiana 95 festival in Denmark. A jackdaw is a small, European crow, and the character of the piece as well as many of the sounds are inspired by this audacious yet clever bird. Since I have a tame, pet jackdaw, I was able to record the bird under perfect conditions. Many of the sounds played by the computer consist of these recordings processed by the computer, such as jackdaw cries filtered by the formant of a bass clarinet or long bird calls stretched to 10 times their original length using the phase vocoder. Bass clarinet sounds sampled and processed by the computer and computer controlled live processing that change the sound of the instrument during performance are also used. As the composition progressed my hunch was confirmed: the jackdaw and the bass clarinet are related!

Jackdaw has been performed widely by Harry Sparnaay in Europe and South America. Versions for bass clarinet and tape and for baritone saxophone and tape are also available.



Alice

Available on CD

<http://www.dacapo-records.dk/recording-devil-s-golf-course.aspx>

<http://clarinetclassics.com/home/index.php?app=gbu0&ns=prodshow&ref=CC0033>

http://www.lamadeguido.com/cat_4_2.html

<http://www.contemporanea.dk/discography.html>