

LA LEÇON | THE LESSON

for Violoncello & Piano

music by **Anna Stereopoulou**

choreography by **Daniel Lommel**

The Lesson is inspired by the One-Act Play [Comic Drama] **La Leçon**, written by **Eugène Ionesco** in 1950 and first performed at the Théâtre de Poche Montparnasse (Paris) in 1951.

[<http://www.ionesco.org/lecon.html>]

In Autumn 2006, **Anna Stereopoulou**, was commissioned by **Daniel Lommel** -renowned dancer & choreographer- to compose the music for the **ballet** version of **The Lesson**, produced by the **Aenaon Dance Theatre**.

The music of **The Lesson** is based on the form of the play itself and describes the various sections and events of the story and its characters, as well as the psychological state they are all in and the way they are involved with and influenced by each other.

Another important source of inspiration for the specific composition has been the influence of Eug. Ionesco himself by the *Theatre of the Absurd* theatrical style, but mostly from the philosophy of *Pataphysics* [the science of imaginary solutions]. The term was conceived by the French writer Alfred Jarry, in the late 1940s and it is a philosophy dedicated to studying what lies beyond the realm of metaphysics.

[Etymology: (Greek): τὰ ἐπὶ τὰ μετὰφυσικά (ta epi ta metaphusika: "that which is above metaphysics")]

Therefore, after various meetings and precious conversations with Daniel Lommel, as well as a research on the above mentioned subjects, I started composing the music, which was evolved in parallel with the creation of the choreography. It has been an interdependent form of inspiration for both the composer and the choreographer and a wonderful experience to collaborate with a legend of the Neoclassical Ballet field (Daniel Lommel), on a master-piece (La Leçon), written by one of the diamond minds of art (Eugène Ionesco).

First performed at the ATHENS MODERN THEATRE [17-20 May 2007]
& the STATE THEATRE of NORTHERN GREECE [08-11 November 2007]

Choreography: **Daniel Lommel** Costumes: **Valentina Chrisochou** Music: **Anna Stereopoulou**
Dansers: **Maxime Lachaume** (the professor), **Dimitra Antonaki** (the student), **Elena Papadopoulou** (the maid)

Music performed by **Marina Kislitsina** (Violoncello) & **Anna Stereopoulou** (Piano)
Recorded at **ReAction Studios** (Athens, 2007) | Sound Engineer: **George Botis**
Audio included at the Compilation-Debut Album **Dance With Me**

Duration is the transformation of a succession into a reversion. In other words: THE BECOMING OF A MEMORY.

By "How to Construct a Time Machine", (Alfred Jarry, 1899)

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