

Mary Jane Leach

Minimal polyphonies. It could be an improbable formula, but it's not. On the contrary. Mary Jane Leach (1949, from Vermont) is a quiet and gentle composer who has dedicated all her attention to a linear and evocative writing. Her compositions (built, for 90%, on multiple instruments - eight voices, seven bassoons, three flutes etc.) use the polyphonic scheme as a basis, but revised from a repetitive point of view. The melodic lines are "passed" from a voice to another, from an instrument to another, until the closing of a circle and the renewal in a new suit for the next phrase. The fundamental circular structure is enriched, at its maximum, by a soloist instrument that resumes the theme, expanding it. This system of cyclic piling up and instrumental "passage" develops natural harmonics and resonances that go far beyond the score, translating all Leach's music into enchanted language. *Celestial Fires* and *Ariadne's Lament* are the two solo CDs of hers: two gems settled into the outline of the "post minimalism" of the nineties.