

Have you ever walked into a church, and it seems as if there is sound rolling around the space that's been there for a long time? I created *Kirchtraum*, a Hörspiel which I made for WDR, to create a sound dreamscape to create that kind of feeling. It uses the phases of a dream, going progressively further back into the past and becoming more chaotic with each phase. I used nightingales to punctuate the different phases of the dream, to differentiate between the dream and the environment. I'd never heard nightingales before I lived in Germany, so I used them, since you only hear them at night. I based the piece on a specific church, St. Georg in Köln. I mostly used sound that has actually occurred in the church, delving further into the past, until the time of the church's destruction during WWII, and then surfacing out of the dream into the present, rebuilt. The church also has presented some new music concerts, so I was able to use tapes from them: my own *Ariel's Song*, a piece by John Cage, and a couple by Anne Tardos and Jackson Mac Low. The piece begins with a sort of prelude, at the end of a service, with the congregation filing out and then the church being shut up.

MARY JANE LEACH is a composer/performer whose work reveals a fascination with the physicality of sound, its acoustic properties and how they interact with space. In many of her works Leach creates an other-worldly sound environment using difference, combination, and interference tones; these are tones not actually sounded by the performers, but acoustic phenomena arising from Leach's deft manipulation of intonation and timbral qualities. The result is striking music which has a powerful effect on listeners. Critics have commented on her ability to "offer a spiritual recharge without the banalities of the new mysticism" (*Detroit Free Press*), evoking "a visionary quest for inner peace" (*Vice Versa Magazine*), and "an iridescent lingering sense of suspended time." (*Musicworks Magazine*) Leach's music has been performed throughout the world in a variety of settings, from the concert stage to experimental music forums, and in collaboration with dance and theatre artists. Recordings of her work are on the Lovely Music, New World, XI, Wave/Eva, and Aerial compact disc labels