

Disco-Toccata (1994)

Piece for clarinet and cello

Premiered on March 29, 1994 at the Auditorium du CNR in Rouen, by Philippe Cuper and Eric Watelle.

This piece borrows two elements from disco music, which was very popular in the 1970s. The first is an obstinate rhythmic pulsation, and the second is made up of typical melodies and chords riffs. I departed from my starting point by inserting these elements into a complex mere, and then had fun developing them according to the rules of classical music. The perpetual rapid movement made me think of a baroque *toccata*, in which virtuosity is the main expressive element. And since I've always been struck by the number of common points between today's pop music and baroque music, I couldn't resist the pleasure - and the provocation - of combining the two of them in this brief composition.

Guillaume Connesson