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An improvisatory approach to nineteenth-century music

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Biography

The Dutch pianist, organist, improviser and music theorist Bert Mooiman studied at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague, The Netherlands, where he took his certificates as a solo pianist and organist cum laude. He also studied Church Music and Improvisation, and, at a later stage, Music Theory. In 2003 he finished his Music Theory studies with a prize-winning paper on the relation between the work of Olivier Messiaen and French Romantic tonal harmony. Since then he has been teaching Music Theory, Improvisation and Piano at the Royal Conservatoire, where he also works as a research supervisor.

As an organist he was a prizewinner at international competitions in Groningen and Ljubljana. In addition to his appointment as a church organist in The Hague, he was titular organist of the famous instrument in the Grote Kerk in Breda until 2011. Besides his work as a recitalist, he has been a keen *basso continuo* player throughout his career. He frequently performs with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra.

As a solo pianist and chamber music performer he focuses on the full scope of the classical repertoire; he is particularly interested in finding ways to perform early keyboard music on the piano. Until 2000 he played as a solo pianist for the HNB ballet company (Amsterdam), where he performed many piano concertos, including lesser-known pieces such as Tchaikovsky's Second Piano Concerto and Hindemith's Kammermusik no. 2. He has a preference for historical grand pianos from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

His work as a researcher and his activities as a performer meet in his lifelong interest in improvisation. He has been involved with various international projects in the field of improvisation teaching, and has been invited as a guest teacher at various European conservatories including the GSMD (London), the National University of Music Bucharest, and the Kunstuniversität Graz. He has published about music theoretical topics in various Dutch and international journals.

Colophon

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