

## **Paul STEENHUISEN - PROGRAM NOTES**

PIECE: FOUNDRY

Foundry is fundamentally *about* the flute, involving both its rich history and performance practice, and an objective, elemental view of the instrument. The former recognizes and incorporates the established array of flute techniques and idiomaticism, while the latter expands the spectrum by viewing the instrument in its fundamental visual form, that of a metal pipe with holes in it. This approach enables previously unwanted, negative sounds to be drawn into the structure of the music, supporting or contradicting other relations. Within the framework of an evolving set of intervals, a limited number of gestures melt, fold, and dissolve into one another, like excessively heated metals at an industrial site.

First performed by Ann LaBerge at the May Festival, Royal Conservatory of Music in The Hague.