



7d56

**Michel Redolfi**  
**SONGES DROLATIQUES**  
 QUAIN DREAMS  
 1994

*Composed at CIRM, Nice, commissioned by GMEB, Bourges.*

**A sound suite inspired by the 80 etchings of  
 Rabelais "Songes Drolatiques" (1565)**

Voices and body sounds : Corpus Art Ballet (Ciro Carcatella & Nathalie Larquet)

Long attributed to Rabelais, these 80 etchings appeared in the first posthumous re-edition of Pantagruel in 1565. Surrealism and symbolism underlie the eclosion of a whimsical nation of impossible quaint-bodied creatures.

Inhumanity, animality are also present in this sombre universe, one of the less known sides of the Rabelaisian planet. I found very attractive the idea of resurrecting -through computer music - these monsters caught in the silence of the page.

The computer sound resurrection of the medieval fictional characters makes use of the voice and body sounds produced by the Corpus Art Ballet, a French group of dancers.

Microscopic sonic details of their actions were sampled (Roland 770), slightly processed (Syter) and digitally reassembled in a mix, all produced on Studer Dyaxis work station (Mac Mix software).

Additional sounds and textures found in the score include samples of palpitating metal, creaking wood, gurgling liquids and any substance evoking the soundscape of medieval times.

*Songes Drolatiques has also a video version with a synchronized editing of the 80 etchings that inspired the work.*

**Duration 15'45"**

- 1/ First & second book
- 2/ Monster's in Heaven
- 3/ The Mother
- 4/ Carnival
- 5/ Resurrection

