

COBOS FILMS IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH AVRO PRESENTS

# IMPERFECT HARMONY

A FILM BY  
CARMEN COBOS

ABOUT  
LOUIS ANDRIESEN'S  
MYSTERIËN

PERFORMED BY  
THE ROYAL  
CONCERTGEBOUW  
ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTED BY  
MARISS  
JANSONS

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ABOUT  
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MYSTERIËN**

IMPERFECT HARMONY is a film about musical control, explored through a clash between two maestros: avant-garde rebel and Holland's best-known composer, Louis Andriessen, and chief conductor at Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Mariss Jansons.

Half a century ago Andriessen vowed he would never compose for a symphony orchestra again. But, against all the odds and after much deliberation, he has agreed to do so. The occasion is the Concertgebouw Orchestra's 125<sup>th</sup> jubilee year concert and the commission is a present from the Concertgebouw to the orchestra.

His new piece, MYSTERIËN, is dedicated to his father Hendrik Andriessen, also a composer. According to Louis, his deceased father's voice persuaded him to accept the commission and to base it on a book by Thomas à Kempis, a renowned 14th century Dutch monk. Each movement of the six-part composition is inspired by a chapter heading from his *De Imitatione Christi* with themes such as vanity, misery, truth, love, movement and death.

In IMPERFECT HARMONY we follow Andriessen and Jansons closely, witnessing the final days of their strained relationship. With barely a week of rehearsals before the world premiere, they must attempt to reconcile their radically differing sensibilities. But is it possible for an austere, intuitive minimalist to compromise with a conductor steeped in a German Romantic repertoire, or will he end up playing the second fiddle? Will the concert be judged as Andriessen's capitulation to the establishment or as a vindication of his entire career? And will they overcome their musical differences? At times the outcome is far from certain.

DIRECTED BY **CARMEN COBOS** PRODUCED BY **KEES RUIJNINKS** PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDER SNOEP** SOUND **MARK WESSNER**  
EDITOR **DIEGO GUTIERREZ** SUPERVISING EDITOR **DANNIEL DANNIEL** SOUND DESIGNER **PAUL GIES**  
COMMISSIONING EDITOR **MARIJKE HUIJBRECHTS, AVRO**

DUR 76 | 52' COLOUR STEREO SOUNDTRACK WITH ENGLISH, DUTCH & SPANISH SUBTITLES

A COBOS FILMS PRODUCTION IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH **Avro** & MADE WITH THE SUPPORT OF **COBO** **SNS REAAL** **FONDS**