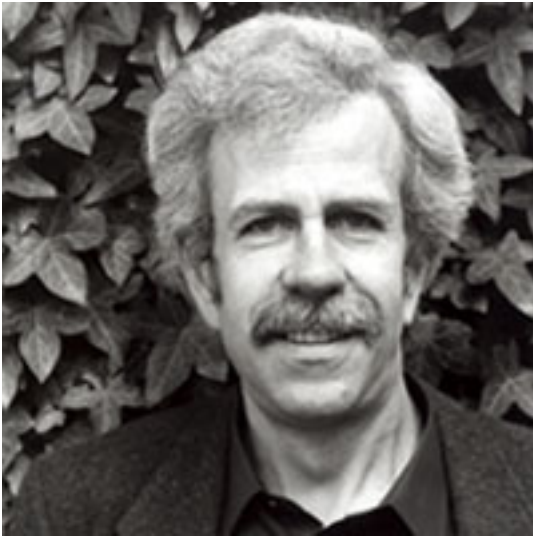


Felder, Alfred (02. 09. 1950)



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## Biography

Alfred Felder was born in Lucerne and studied violoncello and composition at Lucerne Conservatory. After receiving his teacher's diploma with distinction for violoncello he went on to gain his soloists diploma from the Mozarteum in Salzburg. He was the solo cellist of various chamber orchestras; from 1977 until 1983 he was a member of the Festival Strings Lucerne. Alfred Felder has appeared in concerts as a soloist and chamber musician in most countries including Canada, India, China and Japan.

As a composer he has received numerous commissions for works from, for example, the city of Zurich, the Tonhalle Society Zurich, the Festival Strings Lucerne, the Zurich Chamber Soloists, the Swiss Philharmonic and the Forum for New Music to name but a few. His orchestral works have been performed at various festivals including in Tokyo at the Osaka Festival, in South Africa, in New York, in Russia and at the IMF Lucerne.

Alfred Felder collaborated intensively with Martin Spühler of Ricketwil who developed various sounding objects from metal, wood and concrete. With these sounding objects he performed improvised and notated music for violoncello and sounding globes (3 players) in diverse concerts including at the 'Klangtage Rotes Ohr' in Augsburg.

The compulsory pieces for the International Shlomo Mintz Violin competition were by A. Felder (Capriccio and Variations for Violin solo).

Three CDs of his work have been published by VdE Gallo and two CDs by roccosound. Alfred Felder's works are published by the Swiss Music Edition SME, Lucerne. All his manuscripts have been donated to Zurich's central library.

He lives with his family in Winterthur.

## Works by Alfred Felder

### **Et (1976)**

for cello

Duration: 7' 00"

Manuscript

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### **for violoncello solo, harpsichord and strings (1982-1983)**

A tale (ballad) told in music.

Duration: 25' 00"

Manuscript

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### **Klangstudie, Variationen über den gregorianischen Osterchoral (1985)**

for violoncello solo

Five variations and one coda based on the Gregorian choral 'Victimae paschali laudes'.

Duration: 13' 00"

Müller & Schade AG

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### **Monolog für Klarinette solo (1985)**

Duration: 7' 00"

Müller & Schade AG

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### **Passacaglia (1985)**

for organ

Duration: 11' 00"

Manuscript

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### **... pasar por la calle... Passacaglia für Streicher (1986)**

for string orchestra

Passacaglia in four movements: "Ich bin, ich weiss nicht wer; ich komme, ich weiss nicht woher; ich gehe, ich weiss nicht wohin; mich wunderts, dass ich so fröhlich bin." From the 'cherubinischen Wandersmann' by Angelus Silesius.

Duration: 16' 00"

SME/EMS

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### **Notturmo (1986)**

Music

for violoncello and harpsichord

...and again it is night.

Duration: 14' 00"

Manuscript

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### **Variations for Violin solo (1987)**

Duration: 7' 00"

Gilgenreiner-Verlag

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**Akasha (1988)**

for clarinet, cello and piano

Duration: 17' 00"

Manuscript

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**Metamorphose - Impressionen über ein Bild von Thyl Eisenmann (1988)**

for strings and percussion

Duration: 16' 00"

Manuscript

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**Capriccio (1989)**

for violin

Duration: 7' 00"

Verlag KaNo

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**Dschen (1989)**

for viola

Duration: 7' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Tania's Dance (1989)**

for flute

Duration: 8' 00"

Manuscript

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**Kreise (1990)**

for flute, clarinet and harp

Duration: 10' 00"

Manuscript

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**Spass bei Saite (1990)**

for violin and violoncello

Duration: 3' 00"

Musik Verlag Nepomuk

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**Cercles (1992)**

for flute, clarinet, harp, string quartet and double-bass

Duration: 12' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Melisma (1992)**

for soprano, cello and harpsichord

Duration: 15' 00"

Manuscript

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**Wo meine Seele erstarkt (1992)**

for clarinet, cello and piano

Duration: 16' 00"

Manuscript

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**Nachtgesang (1993)**

Music

for flute, viola and harp

The spirit of the healing ritual "night song" of the Navajo Indians translated into music.

Duration: 17' 00"

SME/EMS

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**4 Collagen über Texte von Mani Matter (1993)**

for six violoncelli and one orator (German in Bern dialect)

Texts: Mani Matter

1. "wenn doch nume die..." (4')

2. "oberi und underi" (3')

3. Ballade vom Nationalrat Hugo Sanders (5')

4. us emene lääre Gygechaste (5')

Four of Mani Matters timeless texts, this time a little different.

Can be performed and ordered singularly (sFr. 14.-, 10.-, 12.-, 14.-)

Duration: 17' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Das Spiel mit dem Wasser (1993)**

for three - four clarinets in B

Duration: 7' 00"

Musik Verlag Nepomuk

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**==-= (1994)**

Music for piano

-- -- 'das Nachgebende', airy, soft.

----- 'das Feste', ostinate, earthy.

Duration: 11' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Vision, music for strings (1994-1995)**

for thirteen solo strings (8.2.2.1) or string orchestra (16.4.4.2)

A journey inside us: "All of a sudden I was surrounded by a fire coloured cloud..." (R. Bucke).

Duration: 22' 00"-24' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Vision (1995)**

for wind section (2.2.4.2/2.0.0.0), double-bass and percussion

Duration: 25' 00"

Manuscript

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**Song of the Sky (1996)**

for violin, guitar and double-bass

After searching for ones own identity one finds ones own songs.

Duration: 23' 00"-25' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Night Chant (1996)**

Music

for violoncello and piano

An attempt to produce in music the secretive and magic text of the Indian ritual 'Night Chant'.

Duration: 25' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Wasserspiele (1996)**

for three - five performers: min. two strings (vn,va,vc,db) and piano

Duration: 8' 00"-10' 00"

Musik Verlag Nepomuk

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**4 Collagen über Schweizer Volksmusik (1996)**

for three violins violoncello and piano

Ländler-Walzerde plagetü HansliSchwyzer-SchottischEntlibucher Polka

Duration: 12' 00"

Manuscript

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**Melodie (1996)**

for 2 clarinets

Duration: 2' 00"

Innovative Music

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**Im See ist Feuer (1990-1997)**

Music

for violin, violoncello and orchestra

Double concert;

Score for orchestra: strings and two percussionists.

"The fire below and the sea above battle and defeat one another..." from the symbol GO out of the Chinese oracle book I Ging.

Duration: 30' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Regen über der Wüste (1997)**

for clarinet, bass clarinet, percussion and speaker

Texts: Eva Eisenmann-Westphal

Duration: 6' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Amen (1997)**

for speaker, bass clarinet, and two percussionists

Texts: Eva Eisenmann-Westphal

Duration: 6' 00"

Manuscript

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**Apache Clown Dance (1998)**

Music

for clarinet solo (in Bb)

Clowns are very important in the dance rituals of the Apache Indians. They can be jocular but are also holy. Attempt to be the 'holy clown' while you play the 'Apache Clown Dance'.

Duration: 10' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Fussspur (1998)**

Music

for flute solo

"We have found a strange footprint on the shores of the unknown. We have devised profound theories, one after another, to account for its origins. At last we have succeeded in reconstructing the creature that made the footprint. And lo! It is our own." (Sir Arthur Eddington, 1882-1944).

Duration: 7' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Elemente - 4 Tonbilder für Orchester (1999)**

(2.2.2.2/2.2.1.0/3perc/str

Walking in the Paths of the Warrior (fire)

Teacher (water)

Visionary (air)

Healer (earth).

Duration: 35' 00"

SME/EMS

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**The second attention (2000)**

for violin, violoncello, piano, maracas, bells and gong

Duration: 24' 00"

Manuscript

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**Traviata-Fantasie (2001)**

for violoncello and piano

A fantasy about the opera 'La Traviata' by Giuseppe Verdi.

Duration: 15' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Labyrinth (2002)**

Music

for violin, viola and violoncello

Each instrument has its own individual character and its own tempo. It is like three wanderers with the same destination but each choosing a different route and each walking at a different pace. The wanderers occasionally meet, walk a while together then separate.

Duration: 16' 00"

SME/EMS

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**... zu den Rändern ... (2002-2003)**

Music

for viola, bass clarinet and piano

Based on a picture by the Lucerne painter Thyl Eisenmann. Delicate, subtle colour tones possessing an intensive force.

Duration: 20' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Chant for Viola solo (2003)**

'Chant' deals with the search for ones own identity, the search for 'ones very own songs'. The soloist must move step by step on the stage after a pre-determined sequence.

Duration: 13' 00"

Verlag KaNo

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**Rhythm (2003)**

Five movements

for piano solo

There are five fundamental life rhythms: the chaotic, the flowing, the staccato (detached) the lyrical and the rhythm of silence.

Duration: 14' 00"

SME/EMS

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**evening sun (2003)**

Music

for guitar solo

Fantasy based on an ancient Shamanic song telling how one can impart all ones sorrows, fears and pains to the sinking sun. On its cycle around the earth the sun washes these confessions in cold water and appears again in the morning, clean, fresh and full of energy.

Duration: 7' 00"

Verlag KaNo

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**Chant (2004)**

for violin solo

'Chant' deals with the search for ones own identity, the search for 'ones very own songs'. The soloist must move step by step on the stage after a pre-determined sequence. There is a slightly modified version of 'Chant' for viola solo.

Duration: 12' 00"

Verlag KaNo

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**Song of the Blue Lizard (2004)**

for piano solo

To be played very freely, like an improvisation.

Duration: 6' 00"

SME/EMS

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**Dreamlines (2004)**

Trio

for two clarinets and a basset horn

"The dream of a man is all that he possesses."

Duration: 15' 00"

SME/EMS

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**all songs are good (2004)**

Trio

for flute (afl), clarinet (bcl) and piano

This piece is concerned with the journey into another reality, a reality where one can encounter various magical animals.

Duration: 30' 00"

SME/EMS

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**âtesh (2004-2006)**

for soprano, baritone, four-part mixed choir and large orchestra (2.2.2.2/4.2.3.0/3perc/str)

After poems by the Persian mystic Jelaluddin Rumi (1207-1273)

"âtesh", Persian for fire - mystical poem - die to live...

"âtesh" was the Swiss contribution to the UNESCO Year 2007, world premiered by the Tonhalleorchester and Harmonie-Chor Zürich.

Duration: 75' 00"

Manuscript

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**Mullah Nasrudin (2007)**

for violin solo

Mullah Nasrudin is simultaneously a sage, a fool, a master, a beggar, a magistrate, a teacher and a doctor figure in the Arabian tree. He appears in many stories, each of which can be perceived as superficial and funny but also contain a hidden proposition. It is for the latter reason that the stories of Nasrudin are deeply anchored in the tradition of Sufism (Islamic mysticism) where the Sheikhs use them as teaching stories for their dervishes. The first written reference of such a Nasrudin story can be found as far back as the 13th century. The name Nasr ed-Din means "victory of the faith". Nasreddin is always in the Muslim faith!

A historical Nasrudin most probably lived between the 13th and 14th centuries in Anatolia or Persia where he worked as a spiritual teacher. Konya in Turkey and Iran are his probable last resting places. As with other people

from tradition, the present day Nasrudin is not an authentic historical perso. He is known in all Islamic regions, including Afghanistan, Iran and Tadzhikistan with many local miracles being ascribed to him.

Duration: 6' 00"

Manuscript

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**open secret, sohbət (2007)**

Violin concert

for violin solo and orchestra (2.2.2.2/4.2.0.0/2perc/str)

Inspired by a poem written by the Persian mystic Rumi. An intoxicatingly symbolic sound world alluding to a hidden second reality, steeped by mystic secrets: open secret.

Gilgenreiner Publishers

Duration: 28' 00"

Gilgenreiner Verlag

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**Streichquartett "Fremd bin ich eingezogen..." (string quartet "Fremd bin ich eingezogen...") (2007-2008)**

Variations over the lied "Gute Nacht" from the "Winterreise" by Franz Schubert.

Duration: 15' 00"

Gilgenreiner Verlag

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**Sagemattler-Walzer (2008)**

for string orchestra

Adaptation of 2 waltzes from the dance orchestra "d'Sagemattler" from Unterägeri (um 1840).

Duration: 13' 00"

SME/EMS

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**this longing (2009)**

Fantasy

for piano solo

Over the romantic lyrics by Jelaluddin Rumi.

Duration: 17' 00"

SME/EMS

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**9ten Novemb. 1828 Tagebuch Robert Schumann (2009)**

Music

for clarinet, viola, piano and percussion

Duration: 16' 00"

SME/EMS

## Bibliography

**Büttiker, Herbert:** Trio mit Schamanentrommel, in: *Der Landbote* (15.12.2000) (2000).

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**Wolfensberger, Rita:** Alfred Felder - Luzerner Komponist und Cellist, in: *Luzerner Zeitung* (22.1.1991) (1991).

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