

ROTORELIEF, Suite
Ivo Nilsson 1999-2001

ROTORELIEF is the title of twelve visual spirals on six discs that Marcel Duchamps printed in 1935. The idea was that they should be "played" on a grammophone in order to achieve three-dimensional mobiles. As in the double meaning of the word "relief", this effect is supposed to be both visual and transcendental.

When I saw the spirals in action for the first time, my immediate reaction was: What should they sound like? So I decided to follow my imagination in writing a piece for each one of them. The titles of the reliefs, as well as the movements in my suite, are:

Verre de bohême
Montgolfière
Spirale blanche
Lampe
Lanterne chinoise
Poisson japonaise
Cerceaux
Cage
Oeuf à la coque
Éclipse totale
Escargot
Corolles

The ROTORELIEF suite was extracted from a whole evening project commissioned by Rikskonserter, which was premiered at Kulturhuset in Stockholm in 2001.