

In one of my prints of the score for **Parallaxis Forma** (2016), I included this definition (unknown source):

parallax, from *parallaxis* (latin, "to alter")

the apparent displacement/difference in position
of a nearby object against a background
as perceived from two viewing locations

or

the angle subtended at a celestial body, especially a star,
by the radius of the earth's orbit

This meaning became clearer to me during the December 2018 recording session in Oslo, where the re-interpretation was made by two distinct voices, (Stine Janvin Motland and Silje Aker Johnsen), looking at the same vocal line. The other instruments are extracting the tonalities from the phonetic timbres sounded by the two and extending them into a kind of wash, at times becoming a blurred form in the process. Lines are distinct until their bandwidths drop into the body of water the ensemble is forming together over time. Where I stand as a listener the image might appear warped, although I can still follow the melodicism within its stretching. This being one kind of unfolding I attempt towards, where melody becomes the harmonic space we are (ourselves) points within, so that any trajectory of vertical/horizontal thinking dissolves into refracted or expanded space. This piece was written for Ensemble Neon.

-Catherine Lamb, Berlin, January 2019