

Lord, Hear My Prayer, Be My Guide
Solo Piano

Simon Vincent



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Performance Notes

Introduction

A single note calls softly, as a form of prayer, opening up the resonant spaces of both piano and performer. Following this are short motifs separated by 'pauses' of significant length. As slight development and bridge to the second section of the work, in bar 12 a short arpeggiated chord 'flowers', hinting at subsequent arpeggiations which the performer is asked to articulate "with mystery and illumination."

Composition was started in Lincoln in November 2017, and completed at the Steingraeber Haus, Bayreuth between 11th and 13th December.

This composition – also intended as a work to be performed independently – is part of a larger composition entitled 'Shining', which includes live 2-channel electronic playback. Both works were commissioned by Dr. Katharina Fink of the Bayreuth Academy for Advanced African Studies, and were premiered by the composer on 14th December 2017 at Schloss Thurnau, Bavaria.

Notation

The performer will note immediately the work's changing bar lengths. This compositional characteristic is employed as a way of portraying the 'atemporal' nature of the 'mystery and illumination' inherent in the musical material.

In addition, in bars 16-39, the placement of a sextuplet motif constantly shifts, occurring on the first, final, and even second quaver. The length of resonant pauses before and after each such sextuplet is an additional parameter used to enhance not only the nature and articulation of material, but also any harmonic effects caused by motifs overlapping one another through use of the sustain pedal.

Both sustain and 'una corda' pedals are to be deployed throughout the work, except where otherwise notated and the performer will note the precise notation of pedal deployment in strict relation to each musical event.

Accidentals apply only to notes which they precede, however in certain places, additional accidentals have been notated to avoid uncertainty. Instances of enharmonic notation are intended by the composer to portray differences of tone colour.

This work is dedicated to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and to his dignity, grace, love and humility in the face of opposition.

Simon Vincent,
May 2018
Lincoln, England

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♩ = 60

asking, listening

sempre mp

Red. _____
u.c. throughout ----->

8

mysteriously poco rall. a tempo

mp poco cresc

(Red.) _____

14

tenderly with mystery and illumination

mp

(Red.) _____ Red. _____ Red. _____

19

(Red.) _____

23

(Red.) _____

26

(Red.)

29

(Red.)

32

(Red.)

35

(Red.)

39

(Red.)

u.c. -----



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