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this is where I am right now

for piano and 2 channel playback
Chris Cresswell

this is where I am right now (2021)
for piano and 2 channel playback

Written for
Anne H. Goldberg-Baldwin

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Completed on January 18, 2021 in Manlius, NY.

Program Notes:

In 2020, a year marred by inactivity and isolation, I found myself yearning for even more stillness in my music. This piece is, in spirit and musically, a continuation of my 2017 work, *I find I have less to say*. That work was written in response to the overwhelm I felt in contemplating the aftermath of the 2016 election, and my worries about the future. *this is where I am right now* finds me no longer worrying about an imagined future, but instead facing the tumult of the present with a mixture of dread, anxiety, fear, and hope.

Performance Notes:

There should be an even balance between live piano and the electronic playback, one should never over power the other.

Single notes with a tie should be sustained and allowed to naturally decay. Beginning at bar 124, there is a mix of more traditional notated passages and single tied notes. This section should still sound very fluid with liberal use of the sustain pedal. Single notes with ties should not sound as part of the phrase but rather a continuation of the material from earlier in the piece.

All attacks should be as soft as possible while still allowing for the notes to sound and resonate clearly. If there is a repeated note, while a previous attack of that note is sounding, it should be a softer attack than the previous note.

Performer should be as still and meditative as is reasonable, especially during the rests.

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Drifting, Resonant ♩ = 58

8

Piano

p

8va

3

8va

Ped.

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of a piano score for measures 1 through 8. It features three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a single treble clef staff below. The music is in 4/4 time and marked 'p' (piano). The bass clef staff contains a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by rests, and an octave sign '8va' with a dashed line. The grand staff has whole rests in all measures. A 'Ped.' (pedal) marking is present in the first measure. A circled number '8' is in the top right corner.

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15

Pno.

8va

8va

8va

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of a piano score for measures 9 through 15. It features three staves: a grand staff and a single treble clef staff below. The music is in 4/4 time. The bass clef staff contains an eighth note in the first measure, followed by a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure, and an eighth note in the third measure, with an octave sign '8va' and a dashed line. The grand staff has whole rests in all measures. A circled number '15' is in the top right corner.

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23

Pno.

8va

8va

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of a piano score for measures 17 through 23. It features three staves: a grand staff and a single treble clef staff below. The music is in 4/4 time. The bass clef staff contains an eighth note in the first measure, followed by a quarter note in the second measure, and an eighth note in the third measure, with an octave sign '8va' and a dashed line. The grand staff has whole rests in all measures. A circled number '23' is in the top right corner.

Pno. *mp*

52 resonating 'cricket' sounds

n.

Pno. *slight crescendo, but not too ram-ble never over power the electronics*

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f

Pno. *ppp* *pp*

65

73

Pno.

8va - - -

8va - - -

73

86

Pno.

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81

81

91

94

Pno.

91

Pno.

100

8va

100

Pno.

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109

3

109

lyrical, as if improvised

Pno.

118

p

3

118

6

126

8va

132

Pno.

126

133

Pno.

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138

8va

144

Pno.

138

145

Pno.

8va

ppp

145

153

154

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Pno.

p

153

159

165

Pno.

8va

pp

159

8
167 *8va*-----, *8va*-----, *8va*-----, *tacet until electronics completely fade out*

Pno.

ppp pppp

167

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