Alexey Logunov

Fragile World

for piano and live electronics
(2020)

Program notes

During winter months of 2020 I listened to cries of crow flocks which nested around my apartment building and music school. They gave me feeling of anxiety. I thought about how easy is to break equilibrium, in which humanity exists. Finally, I ended up creating meditative composition to recreate that feeling. Electronic part combines prerecorded sounds with generated notes and live effects. Its initially made static with improvisatory nature of piano part.

Performance notes

Setup required for the performance: microphone(s), capturing piano sound, routing it through MAX software on laptop and sending it to stereo speakers. Both original piano sound and generated through audio system should be equally audible for listener.

MAX patch allows to perform the piece both with and without assistance. Instructions for controlling from laptop are included in patch window. In case if performer controlls the patch by himself, usb-footswitch is required for changing presets. Exact moment for every change is marked in the score with arrows and preset number.

Score

Fragile World
for piano and live electronics

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Largo, tempo ad libitum (♪ ~ 76-80)

Piano

pp *dolce, L.V. sempre*

con Ped. sempre

Start MAX patch
[1] (Ocean, swells)

[2] (Children)

Pno.

stringendo

(pp)

Pno.

string.   *string.*   *string.*   *string. etc.*

[3] (Children are getting distorted)

Pno.

*) Wait ~6" until ocean fades in
**) accidentals remain active until the end of each system, except other is specified

Fragile World

Pno.

[4] (Voices gradually fade out)

Pno.

Pno.

[5] (Crows, shimmering)

Pno.

[6]
(Hurricane report)

Fragile World

[7] (Crackling, hurricane)

Fragile World

Pno.

[8] (Shimmering)

Pno.

sfpp

[9] (Crows)

Pno.

[10] (Twinkling echo, children)

[11]
(Crackling)

sff

Pno.

_pp_   _sff_   _pp_

Fragile World

[12] (Drownes, swells, distorted voices)

Fragile World

[13] (Crows, irreal bells)

*) tremolo may <u>slightly</u> react on changes in left hand by alterating speed and dynamics

Fragile World

Stop MAX patch