

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 controls 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.

Fragile World

for piano and live electronics

Alexey Logunov

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)

*) 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

Pno.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with several slurs and accents. The lower staff is in bass clef and features a more rhythmic accompaniment with slurs and accents. A dynamic marking of *pp* is present at the beginning.

Pno.

The second system continues the piece. It features similar melodic and accompanimental lines. A triplet of eighth notes is marked in the bass line. Dynamics include *pp* and *ff*.

Pno.

The third system includes dynamic markings of *ff* and *pp*. A performance instruction **[7] (Crackling, hurricane)** is written below the bass staff, with an arrow pointing to a specific measure.

Pno.

The fourth system is the most complex, with alternating *ff* and *pp* dynamics. It includes slurs, accents, and a quintuplet of eighth notes in the bass line.

Fragile World

Pno.

[8] (Shimmering)

Pno.

[9] (Crows)
sfpp

Pno.

[10] (Twinkling echo, children)
[11] (Crackling)
sf
sfva-

Pno.

pp
sf
pp

Fragile World

Pno.

sfpp *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

Pno.

f *pp* *8va* *loco* *8va* *(loco)* *8va*

[12] (Drownes, swells, distorted voices)

Pno.

8va *8va* *8va* *8va*

Pno.

sfpp *8va* *8va* *8va*

Fragile World

Pno.

Pno.

Pno.

[13] (Crows, irreal bells)

Pno.

*) tremolo may slightly react on changes in left hand by altering speed and dynamics

Fragile World

Pno.

Pno.

Pno.

Pno.

Stop MAX patch