

Fog Nocturne

For Solo Piano

2022

Christopher Nguyen

Duration: 8 minutes

Program Notes

A foggy night drive was the source material that inspired *Fog Nocturne*. The piece aims to capture and emulate a drive through the murky night with night fog laying in the way.

Imagine dimmed streetlamps clouded by low-hanging fog on a road with no other automobile in sight. Or an empty highway lacking the usual night traffic you usually see on the way back from work. It's just you and the black asphalt with only the illumination of your car's high beams lighting the way. And it's a journey you may feel to be one that happens once in a blue moon.

Each section within the piece is meant to evoke the different emotions the composer experienced during his night drive. There are many moments of mystery and stillness, while there are other moments of warmth and wonder. Together, these sections seek to paint a scene in the listener's mind, conjuring up their own foggy night drive.

Performance Notes

The pianist should be reasonable with the amount of rubato used since the tempos in each section should be consistent with the metronome markings. Too much rubato can drag the deliberately spaced-out sections filled with *fermatas* and *ritardandos*.

Starting on measure 71, the *mezzo forte simile* refers to the notes interspersed in the left hand with the accents on top of them. This is the melody of the section and should not be buried underneath the surrounding musical gestures. The melody is still to be shown with accents in both hands later in the section and should continue to stand out.

The pedal markings are laid out in specific detail for the player to follow. They are required to achieve the specific blending of tones and colors meant for their respective sections.

—Christopher Nguyen

Fog Nocturne

for solo piano

With Breath and Mystery, Rubato ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 62\text{-}64$)

Christopher Nguyen (b. 2001)
ASCAP

Piano

p espress.

< mp

mf

> p

< mp

teneramente

poco rit.

mp

Leo.

Leo.

Leo.

Leo.

a tempo

21

Ric.

poco rit. *a tempo*

24

27

30

Ric.

More Motion (\downarrow = ca. 68)

35

Musical score for piano, page 15, measures 55-56. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef, 3/4 time, and the bottom staff is in bass clef, 3/4 time. Measure 55 starts with a forte dynamic. Measure 56 begins with a piano dynamic and a melodic line labeled "mp caloroso". The bass staff has a sustained note labeled "Rondo.". Measure 57 continues the melodic line from measure 56.

38

Musical score for piano, page 10, system 44. The score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and has a key signature of three sharps. The lower staff is in bass clef and has a key signature of one sharp. The tempo is marked *a tempo*. The dynamics include *f* (fortissimo) in the bass staff and *expressivo* in the upper staff. Measure 44 begins with a forte dynamic in the bass staff. The upper staff features sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes. Measure 45 starts with a forte dynamic in the bass staff, followed by eighth-note patterns in the upper staff. Measure 46 continues with eighth-note patterns in the upper staff. Measure 47 begins with a forte dynamic in the bass staff, followed by eighth-note patterns in the upper staff.

4

47

dolce

mp

rit.

pp

Less Motion, Dream-like ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 60\text{-}62$)

51

p

Ped.

3 >

3 >

3 >

6

6

6

poco rit.

a tempo

f

mp

3 >

3 >

6

6

6

p

mf

sub. p

mp

p

p

3

3

3

3

Ped.

3

3

3

3

Musical score for piano, page 10, system 63. The score consists of two staves. The top staff begins with a forte dynamic (*f*) and a melodic line featuring grace notes and sixteenth-note patterns. The bottom staff features sustained notes with grace notes. Measure numbers 5 are indicated above the top staff's notes and below the bottom staff's notes.

Unhurried, Pensive (♩. = ca. 64 - 68)

Musical score for piano, page 10, measures 66-67. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef, 15/8 time, and the bottom staff is in bass clef, 15/8 time. Measure 66 starts with a dynamic of *pp*. The melody is played in eighth-note pairs with grace notes. The bass staff has a sustained note. Measure 67 begins with a dynamic of *mp*. The melody continues with eighth-note pairs. The bass staff has a sustained note.

68

70

71

72

74

poco rit.

a tempo

pesante
mf

78

Tempo I ($\text{\textit{d}} = \text{ca. } 62-64$)

80

f *p* scintillante

rit.

83

tranquillo

87

p

88

mf

p

89

p

90

sonoramente

mf *mp*

p

92

pp *sempre*

mp *p* *f*

95

mp *p* *f*

mp

100

97

molto rit.

mf *mp* *p teneramente*

p

tend.

101

mf *p*

scintillante

a tempo

104

poco rit.

mf *p*

108 *a tempo*
scintillante

110 *p* *mf*
pp

112 *poco rit.* *mf* *mp*
pp

114 *pesante* *mp* *mf* *mp*
p
Sost. - - - -

119 *delicato* *pp*
niente
Rit. - - - -