

Lisa Weyrauther

Nocturnal

for prepared piano

2023

Commissioned by Mattias Spee

This piece explores the inner world of an insomniac person during a sleepless night. The music illustrates the diverse heightened emotional states which the individual experiences. Only towards the end of the night, when the first rays of sunlight shine through the window, the person can finally drift off to sleep.

Symbols & Preparation

✂ Mute the string with your other hand in order to get a percussive sound

- In the last part of the piece, instead of barlines, there are breath marks to indicate that the tempo and meter are more free. The gestures outlined by the breath marks should be played with a little time to breathe in between.

This piece uses different objects on the strings of the grand piano in order to extend and explore the sound world the instrument offers.

Object No.1



A soft object which dampens the resonance of the sound just a little. Place it vertically on the strings of G1. Ideally use a rolled up cloth or a carpet anti-slip mat.

Object No.2



An object that rattles softly. It should cover the strings of A1-A2. Ideally use folded up duct tape with a light weight on top.

Object No.3



An object that rattles softly. It should cover the strings of G3-Eb4. Ideally use a cut-up anti-slip mat. Otherwise folded up duct tape or a piece of paper can be used as well.

Object No.4



An object that rattles aggressively. It should cover the strings of F4-C5. Ideally use a triangle ruler which is covered in ducttape and attach a small weight (such as a eraser) onto its top side.

Object No.5

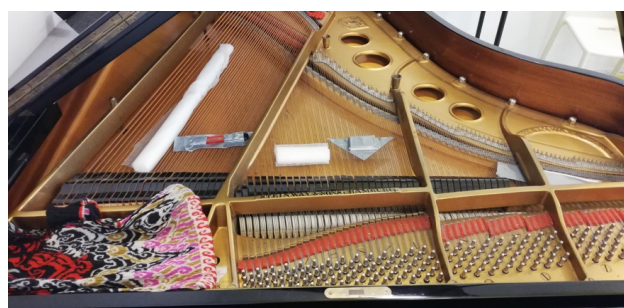


An object that vibrates softly. It should cover the strings from Eb5-G6. Ideally use a strip of folded up duct tape.

Object No.6



Place a light cloth on the strings of the low register (the area around G1), close to the keyboard. This will allow the player to hand mute the strings without touching them directly. Also, one can put the objects that are taken away during the piece on top of this cloth.



Prior to performance, place all objects on the piano

A $\text{♩} = 168$
tense

p

8^{vb}

5

slowly push pedal ----->

(8)

9

mp

(8)

13

slowly lift pedal -----> slowly lift muting hand ----->

mf *p* *mp*

(8)