

Nocturne

for violin and piano

(2024)

LIAM RITZ

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We would like to acknowledge funding support from the Ontario Arts Council
and the Government of Ontario for their support.

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DURATION: ca. 6 minutes

PROGRAMME NOTE

This piece was inspired by the romantic form of the “nocturne”, evoking the sounds and atmosphere of the night. With this perspective, I wanted to build a dark and enigmatic sound-world, exploring not only the sense of unease and discomfort, but also the peace and tranquility that accompanies the night. *Nocturne* was composed with support from the Ontario Arts Council and the Government of Ontario.

COMPOSER BIOGRAPHY

Liam Ritz (b.1996) is a Canadian composer based in Toronto, Ontario.

As a composer, Ritz has collaborated with musicians and ensembles including the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, National Youth Orchestra of Canada, Gemma New, Etsuko Kimura, Cameron Crozman, and more. His works have been performed across Canada, as well as being programmed in the United States, Italy, Finland, Argentina, and Japan.

Recognized for his work, he has received multiple SOCAN Foundation Young

Composers Awards, a City of Hamilton Arts Award, was selected for the inaugural Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra’s Composer Fellowship Program (2018/2019), as well as the 2022/23 Winnipeg New Music Festival: Composers Institute and the 2024 Bowdoin International Music Festival: Composition Program.

A graduate of the University of Toronto, Ritz’s work has been supported by organizations such as the Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts, the RBC Emerging Artists Project, and the SOCAN Foundation.

Contact

Liam Ritz

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NOCTURNE

for violin and piano

Liam Ritz (b.1996)

Mysteriously (♩ = 66)

Violin

Piano

p

pp

ten.

p

5

p

pp subito

9

13

17

Musical score for measures 17-19. The score is in treble and bass clefs. Measure 17 is in 4/4 time, measure 18 is in 3/4 time, and measure 19 is in 4/4 time. The music features a melodic line in the right hand and a more complex accompaniment in the left hand with chords and moving lines.

Subito più mosso (♩ = 72)

20

Musical score for measures 20-22. The score is in treble and bass clefs. Measure 20 is in 3/4 time, measure 21 is in 4/4 time, and measure 22 is in 3/4 time. The tempo is marked "Subito più mosso" with a quarter note equal to 72. Dynamics include "pp con grazia" and "dim.".

23

Musical score for measures 23-25. The score is in treble and bass clefs. Measure 23 is in 4/4 time, measure 24 is in 4/4 time, and measure 25 is in 4/4 time. The music continues with melodic and harmonic development in both hands.

rit. -----

26

Musical score for measures 26-28. The score is in treble and bass clefs. Measure 26 is in 4/4 time, measure 27 is in 4/4 time, and measure 28 is in 4/4 time. The tempo is marked "rit." (ritardando). Dynamics include "cresc." (crescendo).

NOCTURNE

Tempo I (♩ = 66)

29

p

32

p

35

p

38

rit. - - - - - (←♩ = ♩→)

p

41 Più mosso (♩ = 54/♩ = 108)

Musical score for measures 41-44. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a half note A4, and a half note B4, all under a slur. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Dynamics include *mf* and *p cantabile*.

Musical score for measures 45-48. The vocal line continues with a half note C5, a half note D5, and a half note E5, all under a slur. The piano accompaniment maintains the eighth-note pattern. Dynamics include *p cantabile*.

Musical score for measures 49-52. The vocal line continues with a half note F5, a half note G5, and a half note A5, all under a slur. The piano accompaniment maintains the eighth-note pattern. Dynamics include *p cantabile*.

Musical score for measures 53-56. The vocal line continues with a half note B5, a half note C6, and a half note D6, all under a slur. The piano accompaniment maintains the eighth-note pattern. Dynamics include *p cantabile*.

NOCTURNE

accel. poco a poco

57

cresc. poco a poco

61

65

Più mosso (♩ = 144)

69

ff molto espr. e sostenuto

ff

NOCTURNE

rit. poco a poco

73

dim. poco a poco

dim. poco a poco

This system contains measures 73 through 76. The top staff features a melodic line with a long slur over measures 73-74 and another slur over measures 75-76. The middle staff has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with slurs. The bottom staff provides harmonic support with chords and slurs. A dynamic marking of *dim. poco a poco* is present in both the first and second staves.

77

This system contains measures 77 through 80. The top staff continues the melodic line with slurs. The middle staff continues the eighth-note accompaniment. The bottom staff continues the harmonic accompaniment with slurs.

81

Meno mosso (♩ = 108)

pp

pp cantabile

ten.

This system contains measures 81 through 84. The tempo marking *Meno mosso* (♩ = 108) is indicated. The top staff begins with a *pp* dynamic. The middle staff continues the eighth-note accompaniment. The bottom staff features a *pp cantabile* section with a *ten.* (tenuto) marking.

85

pizz.

pp

This system contains measures 85 through 88. The top staff has a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking. The middle staff continues the eighth-note accompaniment. The bottom staff continues the harmonic accompaniment.

89 *arco* *rit. poco a poco* - - - - -
p

93 *Tempo I* (♩ = 66)

sf (inp)
pp
sf (inp)

97 *pizz.*
p

101 *(pizz.)* *arco*
p *pp cantabile*

105

pizz.
arco
p cantabile

Subito più mosso (♩ = 72)

109

pp
dim.
pp

113

pp
mf
p
mf

NOCTURNE

molto rit. poco a poco - - - - -

116

mf *p* *mf* *p*

-(~♩=66) **Subito Tempo I** (♩ = 66)

119

f pesante *p cantabile* *f pesante* *p cantabile*

122

125

dim. poco a poco

dim. poco a poco

128

131

accel. ----- (♩ = 96)

ppp

pizz.

ppp