MICHAEL LEE

STRING QUARTET

"Farewell..."

duration: ca. 7 minutes
East Coast Premiere was on April 30th, 2012 at The Paul Hall at The Juilliard School. Performers were Justyna Jara (vln. 1), Jiwon Kim (vln. 2), Emilie Grimes (vla.), Hyunsuk Bae (Vc.)

"Farewell..." for string quartet was written in 2012 for friends during my time living in New York City. It was my last composition written before moving to Los Angeles in 2013, and thus is a kind of adieu to my friends and to the amazing experience I had studying and writing in Manhattan.

But, "Farewell..." for string quartet is also, if not more a story, an abstract journey of melancholy emotions led by a single motif that keeps coming back to the listener, ultimately morphing into a simply melody near the end of this 7 minute piece. The melody is accompanied and challenged by diverse textures, and non-stop breathless, rhythms.

This work was re-edited in 2017, and will receive its west-coast premiere, thanks to the Hear Now new music festival, in 2017.
First Violin: play the four notes inside the box repetitively until the end of mm. 9 as fast as possible; you may ad lib on tempos, articulation, and dynamics, but play as fast as possible near mm. 9!

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gradually speed up in tempo at one's own discretion; do not be in sync. with others until the "a tempo" sign. Perform away from bridge and on the bridge interchangeably.

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**Vln. I**

Non sync.

**Vln. II**

A tempo, in sync.

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Gradually speed up in tempo at one's own discretion; do not be in sync. with others until the "a tempo" sign. Perform away from bridge and on the bridge interchangeably.

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Ord.

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Molto sal pont. Play notes in box as fast as possible until the end of mm. 19. Performer may play notes in any order and may ad lib. on rhythm and speed.
with growing anxiety

triangle notehead = highest pitch possible

ff espress., poco legato

espress., poco legato

mf

sal pont.
Vln. I

ff

ff express.

ff express.

ff express.

Vln. II

ff

ff express.

ff express.

ff express.

Vla.

mp legato, poco rubato

Vc.

solo

mp legato, poco rubato

f

mp

sul pont.

sul pont.

mp
\[ \text{Vln. I} \]
\[ \text{Vln. II} \]
\[ \text{Vla.} \]
\[ \text{Vc.} \]

\[ \text{ppp} \]

- **f molto appassionato**
  - Perform each four note figure(s) about a quarter-flat lower than the prior four pitches (in phrase markings).

\[ \text{mp cantabile} \]

- non sync. with others; play the three notes inside of the box repetitively until the end of mm. 137; small fluctuations of the tempo is encouraged; use both ord., and sul pont.

\[ \text{PPP} \]

\[ \text{4} \]

\[ \text{fff} \]

\[ \text{molto vib.} \]

- As before: non sync. with others; play the three notes inside of the box repetitively until the end of mm. 144; small fluctuations of the tempo is encouraged; use both ord., and sul pont.
N

poco meno mosso

sul tasto

as before: non sync, with others; play the three notes inside of the box repetitively until the "half-end" of mm. 164

sul tasto