

Halcyon

(2003)

for Violoncello and Piano

Jocelyn Morlock

Halcyon

For violoncello and piano. (Duration is approximately five minutes.). This piece was written for and commissioned by cellist Ian Hampton, for Canada Music Week, 2003. Mr. Hampton also provided the bowings. The first performance was in Langley, BC in November of 2003.

Notes for the performers:

1. Tempo markings are approximate, and both performers should feel free to play very expressively and with rubato. Grace notes in particular are to be played with rhythmic freedom.
2. The pianist should use more pedal than usual, to produce a somewhat distant, surreal mood.
3. The trills found in the piano part are to begin on the principle note indicated and trill to the note in brackets, whether it is above or below the principle note.

Program note:

Halcyon: A bird, otherwise known as the kingfisher, believed to calm storms during the time of its incubation. According to legend, Alcyon's husband Ceyx is drowned at sea, with his last thought being of her and that, if he doesn't live, he may return to her after death. When his body floats back to her, out of grief she throws herself into the sea, but as she does, she is turned into a bird. In her sorrow, she flies over her husband and enfolds him with her wings. The gods take pity on them, and turn both of them into kingfishers. During the two weeks around the Winter Solstice in which the kingfishers nest and incubate their young, the weather is unusually placid, hence the term "Halcyon Days."

Halcyon

for Ian Hampton

Jocelyn Morlock

$\text{♩} = 60$

very freely, lots of pedal, hazy, impressionistic sound throughout

p *mf* *pp* *mp*

5

pp *f*

9

mf *mp* *pp* *p*

(♩ = 60) *espressivo*

14

p *mp* *mp*

18

mp *mp* *mf*

21

mf *p* *mf* *mp*

23

V

mf

p

mf

mp

8va

3

26

V

f

tr

mf

mp

mf

3

29

mp

mp

mf

mp

p

tr

tr

tr

31

mp *mf*

tr *p* *mp* *ppp*

34

mp *mp* *mf* *mp*

tr *pp* *mp* *pp* *p*

37

f *mp* *p* *mf* *mp*

40

rit.

$\text{♩} = 48 \text{ (♩} = 96)$

mp

tr

ppp

tr

44

poco a poco molto rit.

46

V

Fl.

B.

tr

8va

3

fff

8vb

♩ = ca. 50

♩ = 52

49

p

pp

mp

mp

tr

53

mp

p

mp

p

mf

tr

tr

tr

tr

57

p

f

ppp

ppp

tr

tr

tr

tr

8vb

61 Tempo 1 (♩ = 60) *sul D* **ppp** *(pedal down to end)* **V**

64 **V**

68 *poco rit.* *(as quietly as possible)*

8vb