

或躍在淵

陳逸楓

CHEN YIHAN

WHEN BENEATH

THE PERCEPTIBLE . . .

FOR PIANO

FOUR HANDS

# WHEN BENEATH THE PERCEPTIBLE...

Premiered on March 4, 2013 by Chen Yihan and Alexei Tretick in Recital Hall, Jacobs School of Music, Bloomington, Indiana.

## PROGRAM NOTES:

*"At the fourth yang, perhaps capering in the abyss, there will be no harm."*






The piece is inspired by the phrase from *I Ching* (易經), the Book of Changes. As one of the oldest Chinese classic texts, its origins trace back to the 2nd millennium BCE. The book originated as a divination system, but was later developed into a system of philosophy that is central to the Chinese culture. Ideas that are central to the book are the equilibrium of the opposites, and the inevitability of change.

Through the modes that are developed from the I Ching *trigrams* (卦), I tried to express my musical interpretation of the quote above. Various philosophical ideas from the book also influenced the tone colors, dynamics, and pitch selections.

## PERFORMANCE NOTES:

- 1) The two staves of the grand staff are to be performed by two pianists.
- 2) Align intentionally between the two staves only when the dotted lines or dotted bar lines are present. Play with approximate alignment in all other situations.
- 3) Accidentals only apply to the note that it immediately precedes.
- 4) All grace notes are to be performed before the beat.

### *Symbols:*

- 1)  hold the given pitch for the duration indicated by the beam
- 2)  silently depress
- 3) + INSIDE THE PIANO mute the string at the beginning of the coil
- 4) † INSIDE THE PIANO mute the string as close to the damper as possible
- 5)  INSIDE THE PIANO pizzicato: pluck the string with fingernail
- 6)  INSIDE THE PIANO flick the string with fingernail
- 7)  INSIDE THE PIANO scrape the strings horizontally for the given pitches
- 8) ⊗ ordinario (applies to all notes after until a new indication)

*Duration:* ca. 7 min

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# 或躍在淵 WHEN BENEATH THE PERCEPTIBLE...

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## 无常 1. OSCILLATION

The musical score is divided into three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system includes dynamic markings such as *mf*, *p*, *mp*, *f*, *pp*, and *mf*, along with performance instructions like "rapid l.h. gliss over strings with fingertip" and "S.P.". The second system features dynamics like *f*, *ff*, *p*, *mf*, and *pp*, with a tempo marking of  $\text{♩} = 50$ . The third system includes dynamics such as *pp*, *f*, *pp*, *ff*, *pp*, *p*, *mp*, *ppp*, and *ppp*, with a *rit. molto* instruction. The score is annotated with various musical notations including slurs, accents, and dynamic hairpins.

# 无恆 2. IMPERMANENCE

The musical score is divided into three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system includes dynamic markings such as *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *p*, *mf*, *p*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *p*, *p*, *mf*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *p*, *f*, *mp*, *mf*, and *p*. It features a 7" bracket over the first two measures, a 10" bracket over the next three, an 8" bracket over the next two, and an 11" bracket over the final three. A tempo marking of  $\text{♩} = 60$  is present. The second system includes markings like *p*, *mf*, *f*, *pp*, *mp*, *mf*, *p*, *pp*, *p*, *pp*, *p*, *mf*, *p*, *pp*, *p*, *pp*, *mf*, *pp*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *pp*, *p*, *mf*, *pp*, *p*, *mf*, *mp*, and *p*. It includes a 3rd measure triplet, a 6th measure triplet, and a *8va* marking. A tempo marking of  $\text{♩} = 60$  is also present. The third system includes markings like *pp*, *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *mp*, *f*, *pp*, *play in random order*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *pp*, *p*, *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *p*, *pp*, *ff*, *pp*, *pp*, and *pp*. It features a 7" bracket, an 8" bracket, a 5" bracket, a 30" bracket with a 'slow' to 'fast' to 'slow' tempo change, a 6" bracket, and an 11" bracket. A *8va* marking is present. Performance instructions include *S.P.* and *play in random order*.