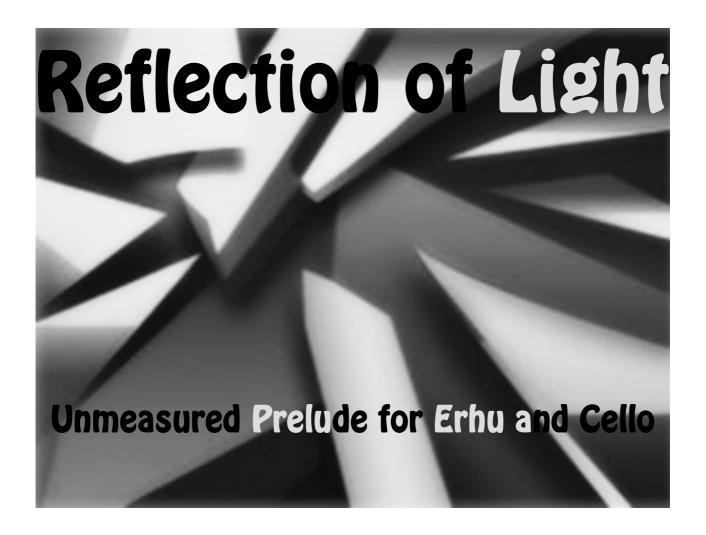
Carlotta Ferrari



Reflection of Light is an unmeasured prelude for two string instruments, Erhu and Cello, belonging to two different geographical areas, cultures, and repertoires. Apart from being stringed and apart from tremolo, which is typical of both Eastern and Western musical grammars for strings, the common element I intended to work on is freedom of interpretation. This element is the most relevant one throughout the piece.

The unmeasured prelude is a typical Western form; however I was deeply inspired by the width of possibilities it provides. Chinese Erhu repertoire requires a big amount of freedom, personal taste and sensibility – elements which are in common with the requirements of a Western unmeasured piece: hence the formal meeting point.

In terms of expression, my piece asks for expression of feelings through freedom.

The Erhu player can be abundant in glissandos, which are typical in Chinese music.

The Cello player can add traditional Western ornaments. Both of them, eventually, will join the final measured section representing conciliation and alliance.

The title refers to the physical phenomenon that multiplies perception of things: in my piece, notes reflect themselves in the mirror of two different cultures, and the reflection has got multiple nuances. Also, the same melodic patterns are shared, as in a mirror, by the two instruments, each of them generating its own reflection.

Reflection of Light

Unmeasured Prelude for Erhu and Cello

Carlotta Ferrari 2015

