

i can hear you

for the Jade String Quartet

sample score

Rosa Elliott

Programme Note:

i can hear you is inspired by Hone Tuwhare's poem titled *Rain*. This work is the third iteration of works for chamber ensembles inspired by *Rain*, this time using a recording I made of myself reciting the text as the generative material for the composition. The pitches and rhythms of the transcribed recited poem became the basis of this work; repetitive phrases can be heard weaving between parts in a conversational manner. The work focuses not on the semantic content of the poem (as my other works have) and is instead interested in the friction of familiarity and foreignness created by transplanting evolving dialogue and conversational tropes to stringed instruments.

Hone Tuwhare's poem *Rain*:

I can hear you
making small holes
in the silence
rain

If I were deaf
the pores of my skin
would open to you
and shut

And I
should know you
by the tick of you
if I were blind

the something
special smell of you
when the sun cakes
the ground

the steady
drum-roll sound
you make
when the wind drops

But if I
should not hear
smell or feel or see
you

you would still
define me
disperse me
wash over me
rain

sample score

Key for Microtonal Notation:

♭	quarter flat
♯	quarter sharp
𝄋	three quarter sharp

sample score

i can hear you

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♩=82 *conversational, with attitude*

Violin 1

con sord. s.p

Violin 2

con sord. s.p

Viola

con sord. s.p

Violoncello

con sord. mp^3

sample score

5

Vln. 1

ord. 3

Vln. 2

ord. 3

Vla.

ord. 3

Vc.

mp f mp f

8

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

mp

p

mf

p

s.t.

s.t.

s.t.

3

3

3

12

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

mf

mp

mf

p

s.p.

s.p.

s.p.

ord.

ord.

ord.

ord.

3

3

3

3

3

16

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

p

mf

mf

mf

mf

3

3

3

3

3

senza sord
arco

19

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

arco 3

p

p 3

mf 3

p

mf 3

senza sord

p

senza sord

p

p

mf

22

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

senza sord
arco 3

p

f

f 3

p

p

25

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

f 3

p

f 3

p

pizz.

mf 3

mf

with bow pressure - grainy

mp

28

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

arco $\textcircled{3}$

pizz.

pizz.

arco

f

mp $\textcircled{3}$

p

pizz

arco

f

f

$\textcircled{3}$

31

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

arco $\textcircled{3}$

p

arco

mf

pizz.

f

$\textcircled{3}$

mf

bow pressure - grainy

p

f

34

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

arco $\textcircled{3}$

p

$\textcircled{3}$

s.t

$\textcircled{3}$

p

pizz.

arco s.t

p

p

mp

f

$\textcircled{3}$