Melting the Darkness

for violin and interactive music system
2013

Robert Rowe
Program Note

_Melting the Darkness_ was written for Miranda Cuckson and commissioned by the New Spectrum Foundation. The piece is built around contrasting styles of music and performance, ranging from gritty, rhythmic phrases to more lyrical and slowly shifting sonorities. These contrasts are amplified and elaborated by an electronic commentary consisting of fragmented and processed material from the violin performance as well as a number of secondary sources. The title comes from _The Tempest_ (as it should when a piece is composed for Miranda): “…as the morning steals upon the night, Melting the darkness…”

Technical Requirements

- Apple Macintosh computer with audio I/O
- stand-alone OSX application available from composer
- microphone for the violin into computer
- stereo out from computer
- Mixer (minimum 3 channels) to house sound system