

Alex van den Broek

Three Mists for Piano

2014

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- I. Molecule
- II. Gauze
- III. Brume

Approx Duration: 7mins

Notes for the performer

- Molecule: Care should be taken with the durations of the held notes and silences.
- Gauze: This piece may be played rather expressively with a freedom in tempo. Accidentals only apply to the subsequent note

Programme notes

The harmonic content of these three pieces are derived from five notes sets, all of which contain a major triad. Each piece has its own set of 'rules' that was generally adhered to once a form/idea was found for the piece.

In Molecule, none of the notes leading up to the climax are attacked simultaneously; rather they are approached by grace notes. The climax of the piece is the first time notes are played simultaneously. The beginning of the piece has regular rhythmic markers or moments. After the climax of the work the rhythm is stretched out to achieve a floating effect.

Gauze is characterised by two voices in loose counterpoint. The sets of five notes are all represented, and denoted by ascending melodies. It is rhythmically constant, punctuated with frequent pauses.

The primary feature of Brume is that it is a floaty, character piece, representative of a brume. It centres on a single pitch class which starts higher and then moves in a descending fashion. Each of these pitch classes is generally encapsulated in one phrase.

Each piece attempts to convey a dreamy, fog-like state but with a sense of higher order or structure.

Alex van den Broek (2014)

II Gauze

♩ = 102 Expressively

Measures 1-5 of the piece. The music is written for piano in a single system. The tempo is marked 'Expressively' with a quarter note equal to 102. The dynamic is *p*. The instruction 'no pedal' is written below the staff. The melody features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals.

Measures 6-11. The tempo is marked 'Slightly faster'. The dynamic starts at *mp* and changes to *mf*. The music continues with similar melodic patterns.

Measures 12-17. The tempo is marked 'Tempo primo'. The dynamic is *mp*. The music features a more active bass line with eighth notes.

Measures 18-21. The tempo is marked 'Poco a poco accel'. The dynamic is *mf*. The music shows a gradual increase in tempo.

Measures 22-25. The tempo is marked 'Rit.'. The dynamic starts at *f* and changes to *mp*. The music slows down.

Measures 26-31. The tempo is marked 'Rit.' and the tempo marking changes to '♩ = 96'. The dynamic is *p*. The music concludes with a final melodic phrase.

III

Brume

♩ = 42 Spaciously

Musical score for measures 1-5. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 1 starts with a treble clef and a dynamic of *mf*. The bass clef begins with a *p* dynamic. Pedal markings are present under the first and third measures. Dynamics include *mp* and *p*.

Musical score for measures 6-10. Measure 6 begins with a treble clef and a dynamic of *mp*. Measure 7 features a triplet in the bass clef. Measure 8 has a dynamic of *mf*. Measure 10 ends with a *p* dynamic. Pedal markings are present under the first and third measures.

Musical score for measures 11-15. Measure 11 starts with a treble clef and a dynamic of *mp*. Measure 12 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 15 features a triplet in the treble clef and a dynamic of *mp*. Pedal markings are present under the first and third measures.

Musical score for measures 16-20. Measure 16 begins with a treble clef and a dynamic of *p*. Measure 17 has a dynamic of *mp*. Measure 18 features a dynamic of *pp*. Measure 20 ends with a "Long pause" and a *ppp* dynamic. Pedal markings are present under the first and third measures, with an 8^{vb} marking under the final measure.