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Jason Freeman

Convergence

for viola, cello, and piano

Program Note:

Two things converge if they approach the same place from different directions. This piece begins with two very different gestures: the first is lyrical and expressive, the second rhythmically driving and mechanical. As the gestures repeat and evolve, they sound more and more like each other, until they ultimately lead to new musical material.

In mathematics, something converges if it approaches a limit over time. In this piece, the relative lengths of each section were determined by an integer sequence generated by a mathematical formula. Initially, the numbers in the sequence jump wildly up and down, but the sequence eventually "converges" into an exponential decay function.

Convergence was originally written for clarinet, cello, and piano. This arrangement for viola, cello, and piano was made for violist Katie Sievers.

Performance Notes:

- All accidentals hold for the duration of the measure, but only in the octave in which they appear. Reminder accidentals are frequently provided.
- For all meter changes,  = 
- Tempo remains constant throughout.
- Notes enclosed in parentheses may be omitted if necessary.
- **Cello:** The C string should be tuned down a semitone to B for the entire piece. Notated pitches are sounding pitches, not fingered pitches.
- **Cello and Viola:** A snap pizzicato is indicated by  While a real snap might be difficult at the speed requested, try to play as harsh of a pizzicato as possible.
- **Cello:** All harmonics are artificial harmonics. Notated pitches are sounding pitches, not fingered pitches.
- **Piano:** A muted note is indicated by  To play, lightly place a finger on the corresponding strings, between the hammer and the tuning peg, while playing the note normally with other hand.

Duration: approximately 4'45"

C Score

Convergence

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Transparent ♩ = 66 throughout
IV sul tasto

Viola *pp*

Mechanical snap pizz.

6

Cello *pp* (artificial harmonics)

Transparent ♩ = 66 throughout

Piano {

8 Angular but Lyrical arco (ord.)

arco IV

sul tasto

(3+2)

8 Angular but Lyrical

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14 Mechanical

17 Wistful arco

14 Mechanical

mute string with hand

17 Wistful
8va (entire upper staff)

una corda through m. 26

19 (3+2)

sul tasto

19 (3+2)

(8va)

non arp.

19 (3+2)

pp

23

26 Mechanical

23

26 Mechanical

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The top staff is in treble clef and 3/4 time, starting with a sharp sign. It consists of ten groups of sixteenth notes, each group containing eight notes. Below it is a bass staff in bass clef and 3/4 time, also starting with a sharp sign. It also consists of ten groups of sixteenth notes, each group containing eight notes. Both staves have the number '5' written below them. The page number '27' is located at the top left.

27

mute string with hand

f

ff

viv

viv

31 Radian

Musical score for page 31, Radian section. The score consists of two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. It contains a single note followed by a fermata, then a measure with an *arco* instruction above the notes and a dynamic of *pp* below them. The bottom staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. It features a series of eighth-note pairs with a dynamic of *pp*, followed by a measure with a dynamic of *p*. The notes are grouped by vertical bar lines and have a *detached* performance style indicated by small arrows above them. Measures are numbered 3, 3, 3, 3.

31 Radian

Musical score for page 31, Radian section. The score consists of two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. It features a series of eighth-note pairs with a dynamic of *ff sub. p*, followed by a measure with a dynamic of *p*. The bottom staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. It shows a continuous eighth-note pattern with a dynamic of *ff sub. p*.

Musical score for page 33, Radian section. The score consists of two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. It contains a single note followed by a fermata, then a measure with a dynamic of *p*. The bottom staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. It shows a continuous eighth-note pattern with a dynamic of *fp*.

Musical score for page 33, Radian section. The score consists of two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. It features a series of eighth-note pairs with a dynamic of *f*, followed by a measure with a dynamic of *mp*. The bottom staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. It shows a continuous eighth-note pattern with a dynamic of *mp*.

35

 35

 37

 37

40

pp *detached* *(2+3)* *fp*
pp

p *detached*
p

40

p *(2+3)* *f* *mp*

43

fp *ff* *pp* *n.*

ff *pp*

45 Brooding

43

f *ff* *pp*

45 Brooding *mute string with hand*

8vb

47

mf sub. *pp* (artificial harmonics)

pizz. 3

47

mf sub. *pp*

52

→ snap pizz.

53 *Strident*

f cresc. poco a poco

pizz. → snap pizz.

53 *Strident*

f cresc. poco a poco

52

f cresc. poco a poco

69 **70 Relaxed**

mp dim. poco a poco

69 **70 Relaxed**

(2+3) 8va (3+2)

69 **74 Transparent**

sul tasto pp IV (2+3) n.

78 Calm and Expressive

8va pp n.

74 Transparent

(2+3) mp p 15ma 15ma 15ma

10/30/00;
viola version
7/3/03