Shimmer

Ryan Meeboer

Shimmer is a calm, reflective piece that is reflected by the meaning of the word itself: to shine with a subdued flickering light, as in a reflection on water. The main melody is simple and repeated several times throughout, each time mixed with various harmonies, contrapuntal techniques, rhythmical figures, or counter melodies, to keep the music interesting for performers and listeners.

The melody starts immediately at the opening of the piece in Part 1, with gentle accompaniment in Parts 2 and 5. At measure 9, motion is added by the constant eighth note figure in Part 2. This figure is to be played flowingly and carefully, ensuring that the piece doesn't rush.

A counter melody is introduced at measure 21. It is important that the new material is heard to keep the music interesting, but the main melody must not be covered up.

The contrasting melodic material is finally introduced at measure 29 and includes elements of a pop ballad, as if it were the bridge leading to the final chorus of a song. The feeling is to be powerful throughout the section and quickly die, leading up to the final playing of the main melody at measure 37.



Ryan Meeboer is a music educator who obtained his degree through the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. As a composer, he has written and arranged many pieces for students in concert and jazz bands, and has also composed and arranged pieces for small university combos. As a performer, he has had experience in several groups, including concert and stage bands, chamber choir, vocal jazz ensemble, pop groups, acoustic duets, and the Hamilton based swing group, The Main Swing Connection.

Ryan Meeboer began studying music at the age of seven through private guitar lessons. During his years in elementary and secondary school, Ryan gained experience in several families of instruments. Focusing on music education and theory (including composition and orchestration), he attended McMaster University to achieve his honours degree in music.

Please contact the composer if you require any further information about this piece or his availability for commissioning new works and appearances.

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