

for Rena Meyer-Wiel

LATE NIGHT MUSIC

1. Meditation for Rena

Jonathan Dove

Gently moving ♩ = c.90
upper voice singing

Piano

p

with as much pedal as possible throughout

9

sim.

17

sp.

25

sp.

33

sp.

40

sp.

LATE NIGHT MUSIC

Recently, a friend asked me for music to accompany poems about silence. I remembered a trance-like movement called *Meditation* I had written, many years ago, as part of a dance-piece, and this in turn led me to music I had written around the same time for a film about the architect Carlo Scarpa, accompanying images of gardens and water. I made versions of both pieces for solo piano, and found that I wanted to keep going, adding four further meditations.

The result is *Late Night Music*: around fifty minutes of quiet, contemplative piano music, more suited to meditation and relaxation than to the concert hall: six meditations involving simple repetition, and revelling in reverberation, with nearly-continuous use of the sustaining pedal. The effect is sometimes like ripples spreading from drops of water falling into a still pool.

This is something you might want to experience lying down, perhaps on the edge of sleep. The six meditations follow a journey through the night, gradually taking the listener towards deeper calm. The greatest stillness is reached in the middle of the piece, the fourth meditation; the final two meditations progress towards wakefulness and daylight.

Jonathan Dove
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