

Jay C. Batzner

Lullaby

BOXES

(2013)

for piano solo

UNSAFE BULL MUSIC

Program Notes

In January of 2009 I started writing a chamber piece. As the music unfolded, I kept changing the scoring, changing the instrumentation, etc. and was never happy with the way it was working. Eventually, I realized the piece was really a piano piece. I wrote on the manuscript paper: THIS IS A PIANO PIECE. DO NOT CHANGE THIS. In 2010, I participated in the RPM Challenge in which I had to compose and record an album's worth of material in the month of February. I finally completed the piano piece, titled it *Prelude*, and recorded it for the album. I put off making a score, just leaving the awkward sketches behind.

In 2012, when my colleague Alexandra Mascolo-David asked me for some solo piano music, I told her about this piece. I sat down to write the score, but couldn't make it work. Something else happened with the material and I couldn't figure out why. The music was so simple, so plain, yet so lovely that I was slightly embarrassed to give it to her. There is this notion that piano music must be filled with arpeggios, fireworks, and thick difficult textures and my compositions are the antithesis of all those things. The title, *Lullaby Boxes*, is meant to invoke a kind of music box.

Lullaby Boxes

for Alexandra Mascolo-David

I.

Jay C. Batzner

♩=66

p

Ped. *Ped.(sim.)*

6

poco rit.

mf

Ped.

11

a tempo

p

Ped.(as before)

17

mp

23 *mf* *poco accel.* *a tempo* *f*

28 *a little slower* *p* *pp*

33 *p*

38 *poco accel.* *a tempo* *mp* *pp*

43 *mp* *pp*

48

mf *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf*

Ped.(sim.)

53

pp *mf* *pp* *p*

Ped.

58

a little slower

pp

Ped.

63

ppp

Ped.

69

p *rit.* *pp*

Ped.

4

II.

♩=52

p. sempre

ped. each measure →

6

mf

12

18

24

30

36

Musical notation for measures 36-41. The treble clef staff contains a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, some beamed together, and slurs. The bass clef staff contains a harmonic accompaniment of chords, primarily dyads and triads, with some accidentals.

42

Musical notation for measures 42-47. The treble clef staff continues the melodic line with various note values and slurs. The bass clef staff provides harmonic support with chords and dyads.

48

Musical notation for measures 48-53. The treble clef staff features a melodic line with slurs and ties. The bass clef staff contains a series of chords and dyads.

54

Musical notation for measures 54-59. The treble clef staff shows a melodic line with slurs and ties. The bass clef staff contains a series of chords and dyads.

60

Musical notation for measures 60-66. The treble clef staff contains a melodic line with slurs and ties. The bass clef staff contains a series of chords and dyads.

67

Musical notation for measures 67-72. The treble clef staff contains a melodic line with slurs and ties. The bass clef staff contains a series of chords and dyads. The system ends with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note.

6

III.

$\text{♩} = 66$

mp

Lead. each new L.H. interval \longrightarrow

6

12

17

23

29

35

Musical notation for measures 35-40. The system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melodic line with a slur over measures 35-40. The bass staff contains a harmonic accompaniment with chords and some moving lines.

41

Musical notation for measures 41-46. The system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melodic line with a slur over measures 41-46. The bass staff contains a harmonic accompaniment with chords and some moving lines.

47

Musical notation for measures 47-52. The system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melodic line with a slur over measures 47-52. The bass staff contains a harmonic accompaniment with chords and some moving lines.

53

Musical notation for measures 53-58. The system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melodic line with a slur over measures 53-58. The bass staff contains a harmonic accompaniment with chords and some moving lines.

59

Musical notation for measures 59-64. The system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melodic line with a slur over measures 59-64. The bass staff contains a harmonic accompaniment with chords and some moving lines. The system ends with a double bar line.