

fireflies

for two violins

Ryan Suleiman
(2023)

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ca. 7'

Program Notes

This piece is not necessarily “about” fireflies, but it can be if you like. The title aims to evoke the gentle qualities of nighttime, stillness, luminescence, and certain rhythmic qualities. It is really a piece about two violinists listening to each other constantly, walking in lockstep while also enjoying their own sounds, taking their time.

Performance Recommendations

- For an optimal performance, it is recommended to either print all seven pages and lay them across 2-3 stands, or read from a tablet.
- The overpressure symbol  is used with hairpin dynamics. Play musically, not aggressively. Aim for a mixture of noisiness and pitch.
- In general, err on the side of a slightly slower tempo rather than a faster one. That said, players should adhere to a fairly strict pulse and play rhythms as written.
- Listen mindfully, and enjoy the blending of the two instruments. The more resonant the performance space, the better. If you want, feel free to experiment with amplification or other effects.
- If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the composer.

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fireflies

Spacious, gently, not rushed

Ryan Suleiman

♩ = ca. 48 - 54

lush, warm tone - little to no vibrato. enjoy the overlap of the instruments

violin 1

mp

simile - little to no dynamic change until otherwise indicated

violin 2

5

vln. 1

vln. 2

9

vln. 1

vln. 2

13

vln. 1

mf simile

vln. 2

mf simile

fireflies

17

vln. 1

vln. 2

p simile

21

vln. 1

vln. 2

mp simile

25

vln. 1

vln. 2

p simile

29

vln. 1

vln. 2

p simile