

Vijay Iyer Quartet

Ensemble members: Vijay Iyer--piano (composer)
Rudresh Mahanthappa--saxophone
Stephan Crump--bass
Marcus Gilmore--drums

Title of the commissioned work: Tragicomic

Instrumentation:
piano; saxophone; bass; drums.

Composer's Statement:

"This suite is a highly subjective, emotional portrait of American life in the present day, as our culture confronts its own identity and its place in the world in a time of crisis. The original intent was to create a purely formal, modular system of short pieces, with spontaneous orchestrational possibilities for the quartet. While such techniques do appear in the work, it became difficult to ignore world events in the course of creating it, and in fact it was these worldly realities that inspired each section and infused them with their ultimate emotional direction. The full work is titled Tragicomic, with seven individual segments titled: (1) No Time for Heroics, (2) Without Lions, (3) Unlust (Repulsion), (4) Wiretap, (5) Aftermath, (6) Machine Days, (7) Threnody."

Length of the work: 50 Minutes
Recording: Available. Please contact the artist directly.

Stated Technical Requirements:

"Minimum 7' grand piano (pref Steinway or Yamaha), bass amp, drum set, professionally run sound system with 4 monitors and suitable microphones. Exact technical rider is available from Unlimited Myles, Inc. upon request."

Contact Information:

Composer: Vijay Iyer
Booking contact person: Myles Weinstein, Unlimited Myles, Inc.
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