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Strange Pilgrims

I. Light is Like Water (2016)
for trumpet & interactive electronics

Samuel Wells

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Program Note

Strange Pilgrims is an on-going series of works for trumpet and interactive electronics based on Gabriel García Márquez's short story collection of the same title. In one story, "Light is Like Water," two brothers discover that they can fill their room with light by turning on a faucet, as one can do with water. This liquid light becomes a surreal environment in which they swim and dive. The musical interpretation of this experience begins with volatile, electric sparks of energy that cohere into a glassy and fluid texture that trumpeter explores.

Technical Note

Strange Pilgrims requires the following in addition to an audio system:

- Max 7 (free download from cycling74.com)
- Max patch and dependent files (available from the composer)
- A computer with at least 4GB of RAM and a relatively fast processor
- An external audio interface with one input and two outputs.
- One clip-on microphone for trumpet
- A USB foot pedal that acts as the space bar, or a MIDI sustain pedal (MIDI CC 64)

Strange Pilgrims

I. Light is Like Water

Samuel Wells (ASCAP)

$\text{♩} = 76$, frantic & violent
Harmon mute (stem out)
flz.

Trumpet in C
(Harmon, cup mute)

Electronics

cue 1

mf < sfz f mp p

glitchy delay and chorus

soundfile 1 plays

air → tongue-ram

4

ord. → split-tone

f p f ff p

cue 2

8

split-tone → ord. → split-tone

tongue stop

cue 3

frenetic/sudden dynamic fluctuations

cue 4

delay and chorus continue

soundfile 2 plays

17

f p < f p mf < f

21

♩ = 60, frozen

3 6 3

cue 5 cue 6 cue 7

p *pp*

mute out

delays

granular drones w/ spectral delay

27

open

cue 8 cue 9

p *p* *pp*

sim.

36

cue 10

p *pp* *p* *mp* *pp*

45

cue 11

pp *mp* *pp*

54

pp mp 3 p mp mf mp

cue 12

61

frantic & violent

ord. → split-tone

mp f pp

cue 13

frenetic/sudden dynamic fluctuations

glitchy delay and chorus returns

67

mp f mp

cue 14

warming

soundfile 3 plays

71

calm & reflective

cup mute

p

cue 15

cue 16

cue 17

filter sweep high to low

high spectral delay