

Program Notes

...sound / shivering / silence III (2014) for percussion sextet

In 2013 I received a commission for a new work for solo percussion entitled *...sound / shivering / silence*. This composition consists of five movements in the third and fifth of which the soloist is called upon to recite two poems by the American poet Cid Corman. The soloist intertwines the two texts and recites one unvoiced (whispering) and the other voiced (spoken). The percussion sonorities of these movements constitute sonic extensions of these texts. A year later I expanded this work into a percussion quartet, *...sound / shivering / silence II*. The same texts are employed and material from the solo work is carried over into this new piece. I expanded the original solo work to seven movements and added a new dimension, spatialization: the four percussionists are spread out around and among the audience. For me, this spatial dimension adds yet another expressive element to the work that also emerges from the texts. My use of space here is typical of my work in that I am less interested in movement through space than defining spatial regions within the concert venue and associating each of these regions with different timbral/textural combinations. In 2015 I completed yet another composition based upon these materials, *...sound / shivering / silence III*, for percussion sextet, for which I have added more movements and which explores these dimensions of sound and spatialization further.

Two poems by Cid Corman

Hinting at
silence

a glinting
windbell.

from **OF**

Under
the struck bell
welling sound
shivering
silence
from **un less**