TETHERED WITHIN

FOR EIGHT MUSICIANS

[SCORE]

NINA C. YOUNG

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Tethered Within

Written for the New Fromm Players of the 2013 Tanglewood Music Center
July 2013
Approximate Duration: 5'45"

Instrumentation:

Alto Flute
Bass Clarinet

Percussion:
  Crotales (2 octaves) [ord. & arco]
  Vibraphone (motor on, slow oscillation) [ord. & arco]
  2 Temple Blocks
  Sizzle Cymbal
  Medium/Small Gong
  Snare Drum (snare on, with brushes)

Piano

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Violoncello

Program Note:

As the title of the piece suggests, in writing this work I was searching for a music that would sonically represent the turmoil that exists when one repeatedly attempts to break past a threshold or a tether that is causing physical or psychological restriction. The piece is filled with small, tense motives (such as the exasperated waving motion in the flute and clarinet that begins the work, or the fast staccato rhythms in the upper strings). The musical lines desire to break away from their restrains, but rather, the music is violently halted by silences and abruptly sprung back to more incessant material. The final attempt to break away occurs towards the end of the piece as the strings transcend into a more lyrical music, but once again this is cut off and only a noise loop remains.

Tethered Within was written for the 2013 New Fromm Players of the Tanglewood Music Center as part of the "Composer as Conductor Workshop" and was premiered on September 20, 2013 by the Argento Ensemble and the New Chamber Ballet as part of the 2013 Moving Sounds Festival (New York, NY).

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**STRINGS:
Gradually reduce left hand pressure so harmonics and "noise"
emerge from quasi muting. Continue this process to the end of
the piece until the gesture dissolves into gentle noise.