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The Insoluble Persists

for trombone and piano



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Jonathan Santore

trombone (with F attachment; otherwise observe *ossia* in mm. 135-144)
piano

Performance Notes

1) Except for places where new tempos are specifically given,

 across all meter changes in this piece. (The occasional 
notations in the score are intended as friendly reminders of this fact!)

2)  = white-key tone cluster

 = black-key tone cluster

 = white- and black-key tone cluster

Program Note

I began this piece thinking vaguely of Charles Ives and *The Unanswered Question*. Shortly after I started composing, I found out through a friend of mine who is addicted to the Windows computer solitaire game Free Cell that, of the 32,000 preprogrammed opening deals which make up the game, there is only one which cannot be won -- number 11982. This bit of information led me to further thoughts on Ives and insolubility in all senses of the word, and contributed directly to the musical material in the piece.

--JCS

To James and Constance Chesebrough, with thanks
Commissioned by the New Hampshire Music Teachers Association

The Insoluble Persists

Jonathan Santore

Glacially (♩ = 44)

(play into piano strings)
sim.

Trombone

Piano

ppp

1) *ffz*

Ped. *sim.*
sim.

5 (return to normal playing position)

ffz

10 *mp*
p

1) Before the piece begins, silently depress the tone clusters shown at right, and hold them with the *sostenuto* pedal.

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Relentlessly (♩ = 240 ; ♩ = 120)

15

ff *sffz* *pp*

ff *sub. f* *sffz*

Ped. *Sos.*

20

ff *pp*

sim. (♩ = ♩ = 48)

(un poco marcato)

26

(legato, espressively)

mf *mp*

Sos.

31

mf *mp*

139

Ped.

Sos.

141

Ped.

143

(ossia *3^a*)

145 Gently (♩ = 58) (legato)

p

Ped.

146

Ped.

10

151

(play into piano strings)

rall. ----- Glacially (♩ = 44)

Ped.

sim.

153

(non rall.)

157

Ped.

7/7/99
Plymouth, NH

2) While playing this final motive, the trombonist should slowly turn the bell away from the piano strings and back toward a normal playing position, freezing in place (in mid-turn, if necessary) as the final note is played.