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## Drawing Sketch

for harpsichord solo

2015

## Preface

Inspired by a Chinese composer He Xuntian's (1953) canon and arithmetical sequences, I began my piece '*Drawing sketch*' as a pure exercise in macro-polyphonic music. In the three-part canon of this composition, the gap between the upper two parts' scales is an ascending arithmetical sequence which has two semitones as a common difference (they are 3,5,7,9,11,13). However, the distance between the lower two parts' scales is a descending arithmetical sequence with only one semitone common difference (they are 13,12,11,10,9,8). In order to keep the system constant, each of the lower and upper parts is never more than 13 semitones apart from the middle part.



The right hand plays the upper two parts of the canon, and left hand plays the lowest part. Because I don't want the audience to be too aware of the imitation between parts, I integrate notes from both upper parts into one musical cell. When the listener knows that a piece uses canon, this creates a level of expectation and predictability, which can distract from the actual musical experience. For myself, I prefer listeners to interpret my pieces in their own way.

Duration: 6 minutes



Yang Liu (2015)





































































