NEIGHBORHOOD MUSIC SCHOOL
presents

THE 2018
RENÉE B. FISHER PIANO
COMPETITION

Lost Things Circle Us
by Neil Brandt

ELEMENTARY / MIDDLE SCHOOL
DIVISION WORK

Commissioned by the Renée B. Fisher Foundation
ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Neil Brandt is a composer, educator, and software engineer living in Toronto. He has spent much of his life exploring many aspects of sound, music, and computer-generated sound. His recent composition practice focuses on using low-level computer code to control additive synthesis at a fine timescale. He has a deep interest in the perception of sound and form, the experience of musical structure, and in our intellectual and emotional responses to what we hear.

Born in 1970 in British Columbia, Canada, Neil has music, mathematics and education degrees from the University of Victoria and the University of Toronto. Besides composing, he teaches college mathematics. He previously worked for 2 decades as a software engineer, most recently for Autodesk.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERFORMANCE

NAVIGATION

To play, choose fragments of music by following arrows that lead from fragment to fragment.

Begin at [Start] and do not end until (by following arrows) you have reached [End].

Therefore the piece will always begin and end with $\text{p} \quad \text{f}$ Note that the shortest possible performance is to play this fragment exactly once!

Improvise your choices of arrows while playing (don't plan them beforehand), so that each performance will be different. For this reason, perform this piece with the music, not from memory. Of course, detailed knowledge of fragments and practice with the transitions is essential playing this piece expressively and making insightful musical choices while performing - just as for any music!

INTERPRETING EXPRESSION MARKS

You should freely vary from the marked tempos, dynamics, and articulations. Especially since the order of the musical material is never the same, many different dynamics and tempos may be appropriate for each fragment, depending on what comes before or after.

DOUBLE-HEADED ARROWS An arrowhead with arrows on both ends shows that you may travel either direction between the two fragments.

LARGE ARROWS MIDWAY DOWN THE LEFT SIDE These very large arrows mean you may travel from any of the 4 fragments in the row above the arrows to any of the 5 fragments in the row below the arrows. You may travel from any of the 5 fragments in the lower row to any of the 4 fragments in the upper row. But you may not travel directly between any of the different fragments in the upper row, or directly between any of the fragments in the bottom row.

PARENTHESES Notes in parentheses are optional because they may or may not fit rhythmically when connecting to the next fragment.

ABOUT THE TITLE "LOST THINGS CIRCLE Us"

The title is paraphrased from the poem "For Hans Carossa" by Rainer Maria Rilke (Uncollected Poems North Point Press NY 1996).
Lost Things Circle Us

Allegro ($\mathcal{B} = 144$)

Allegro Rubato ($\mathcal{B} = 132$)

Start  End

(faster)

In the RH note range shown, play sustained intervals in the order indicated. Vary the dynamics and durations expressively. Repeat the final diminished 5th two additional times.

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