

Ari Romppanen

Silence of Kharon

for piano

2021



Music Finland

Copyright © by the Composer

All Rights Reserved

This information may be copied
in any form or by any means
without the permission of the composer



Ari Romppanen

Silence of Kharon

Piano

2021

First performance: Eriko Takahashi, Vienna, May 11, 2022

Duration: c. 13 min



Silence of Kharon

Notes on performance:

In this piece few sounds are to be played on strings, marked with x-shaped noteheads in the score. Before performance, these strings should be marked on corresponding dampers with little pieces of removable stickers:



In the last part, Silence III, few harmonics are included. To play these, the following nodes should be marked on strings indicated below with removable stickers before the performance.

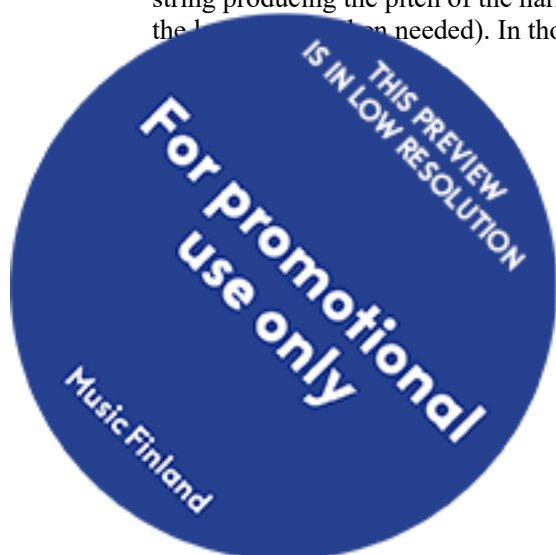
When the diamond-shaped noteheads indicating harmonics are black, press both strings firmly enough so that only the harmonic is heard:



When the diamond-shaped noteheads are white, press only one of bass strings - or very slightly if only one string - so that both the harmonic and the fundamental is heard. To do this, search for the right dynamic (pp-p) to make the effect clearly audible:



Placement of the cast iron frame may vary on different instruments. If it prevents from playing certain harmonics, those intended sounds may be produced by gently plucking the string producing the pitch of the harmonic with nail (together with pressing the key for the harmonic when needed). In those cases, these strings should be marked, too.



Commissioned by Eriko Takahashi
with the support of Madetoja Foundation

Silence of Kharon

Dedicated to Eriko Takahashi

Ari Romppanen 2021

Kharon I
♩ = 44 *lugubre*

8va rapido

fff *mf* *ppp* *lunga quasi al silenzio* *lento e misterioso, con ped*

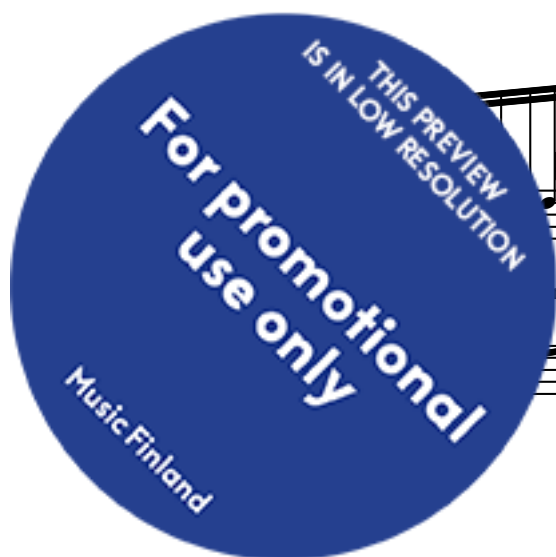
Red. *ppp* *sempre*

Balance of this chord at this point should be like all notes were played simultaneously at this moment

non cresc. *poco accel.*

sempre il più pianissimo possibile *non cresc.* *sempre accelerando*

mp *prestissimo* *molto*



8va- - - - -

Tempo come la prima volta

ff *sfz* 6 5

molto lento

fff *mf* *ppp*

lunga, quasi al silenzio
come la prima volta

Leg. *

misterioso, con ped.

sempre il più pianissimo possibile ma accelerando

non cresc.

rapido

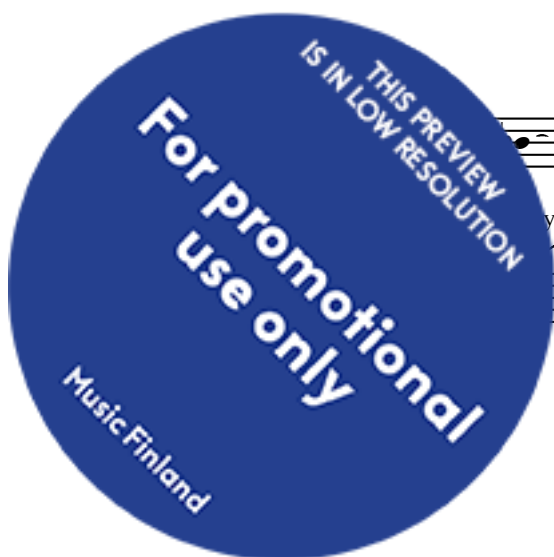
pp *ff* 5

pp *pp*

accel.
non cresc.

pp sempre il più pianissimo possibile

*



simile

molto lento

fff *mf* *pp*

8va

8va

accel.

simile molto lento

rapido

mf *mp* *p* *pp*

fff

8va

8va

non cresc.

subito

molto lento

rapido

fff *mf* *mp*

8va

8va

8va

rapido

fff *mf* *fff* *fff* *fff*

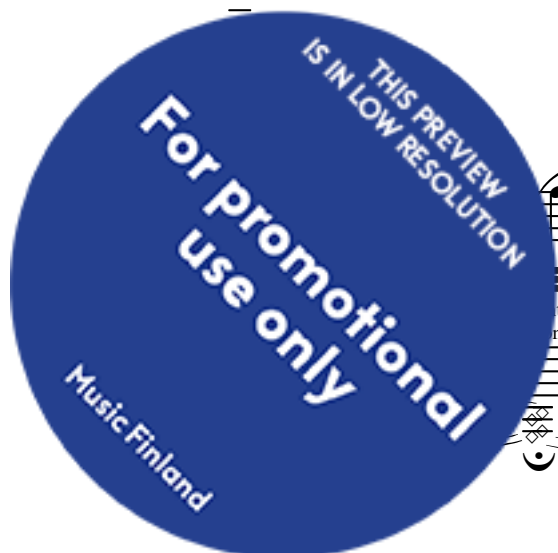
8va

8va

delicato ma poco marcato

p

sost. ped.



:

p On each rest give enough time for the resonance to be clearly heard

sost. ped.

mp perdendosi *p* *pp* *ppp* lunga

mf *pp* *pp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

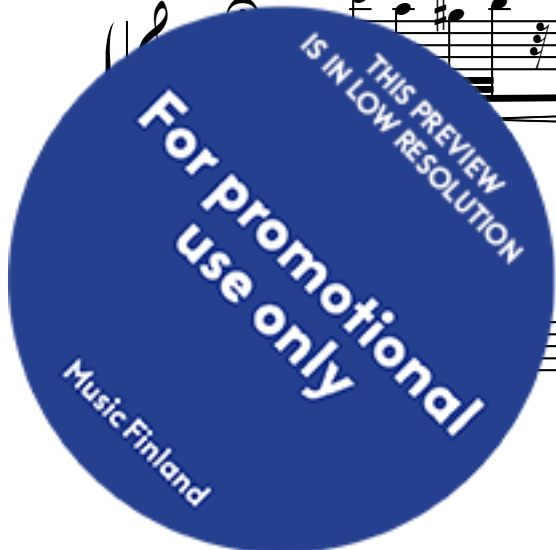
piacevole

sempre molto delicato e amoroso, quasi improvvisando e senza misura

Secure with sost. pedal until the next written notes to be kept

Don't cut the resonance on common tones between chords

p *pp* *p*



8va

mp

pp

p

surprising break

keep with fingers

non leg.

echo

pp

p

mp

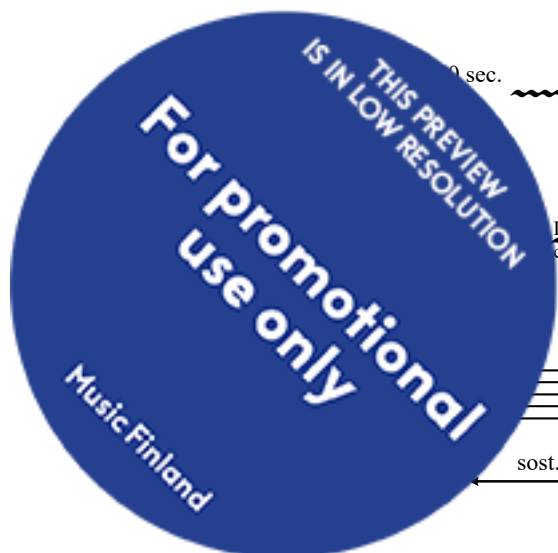
pp

pp

mp

pp

Continue improvising fragments with different lengths on given pitches. Give also time for the resonance to be heard. Add grace notes as earlier whenever suitable.



0 sec.

p

Little by little to continuous playing

pp

mp

sost. ped. until here

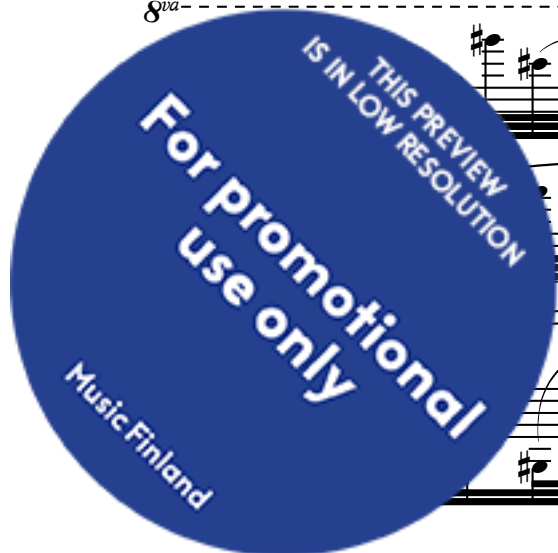
minaccioso quasi cantus firmus

First system of the musical score. It features a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The right hand has a melodic line with a *mp* dynamic. The left hand has a bass line with a *poco cresc.* marking and a *p* dynamic. A box highlights a *mp* dynamic section in the right hand. Another box highlights an *8va mp* section in the right hand.

Second system of the musical score. The right hand continues the melodic line with a box highlighting an *8va mp mf* section. The left hand has a bass line with a *poco a poco sempre cresc.* marking and a box highlighting an *mf* dynamic section.

Third system of the musical score. The right hand has a box highlighting an *8va mf* section. The left hand has a box highlighting an *8va mf f* section. The right hand has a *crescendo e accelerando* marking and a *f* dynamic. The left hand has a *f* dynamic.

Fourth system of the musical score. The right hand has a box highlighting an *8va* section. The left hand has a box highlighting an *8va* section. The right hand has a *ff* dynamic and a *rapido* marking. The left hand has a *ff* dynamic.



Silence II

Tempo I come all'inizio
pluck strings with nail

(on strings) (this staff only) gliss. on strings with nail

mf *p* *mf*

ff *pp*

Leo.

lento e misterioso, con ped

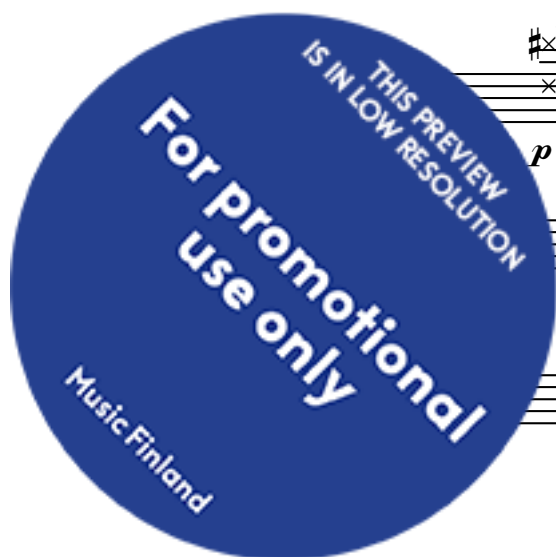
p *mp*

sempre pp *poco pp* *molto rapido* *féroce* *p subito* *lento, ma un poco più mosso*

sempre con ped. *f subito* *pp* *lento, misterioso con ped.*

ff subito *féroce* *mp subito* *mp* *pp* *p* *sempre poco a poco più agitato* *con ped.*

p *pp* *rapido* *ff subito* *mp subito* *p*

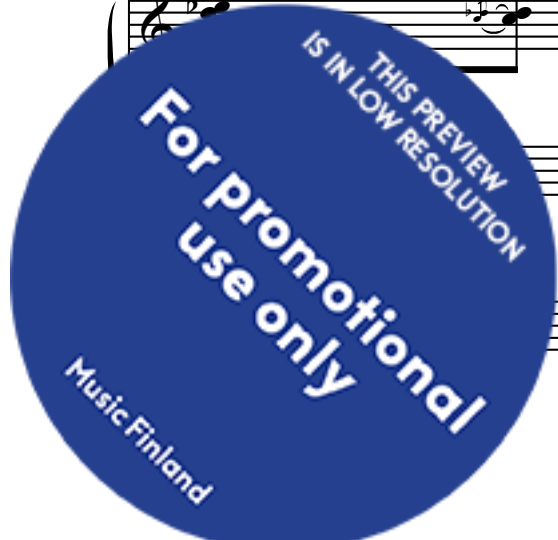


System 1 of the musical score. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked *leggero* and *pp*. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and accents, marked *ff* and *féroce*.

System 2 of the musical score. The right hand continues the melodic line with slurs and accents, marked *ff* and *pp*. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and accents, marked *mp* and *subito*.

System 3 of the musical score. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked *pp* and *8va*. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and accents, marked *mf* and *pp*.

System 4 of the musical score. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked *pp* and *8va*. The left hand has a bass line with slurs and accents, marked *p* and *pp*.



ff *mf* *ff* *mp* *pp* *mf*

Brush strings with hand in the middle register

c. 6-8 sec.

8vb-

mp *ff* *mf* *ff*

fast and violent glissando on strings with nail in high register

8vb-

(on keys) chromatic clusters with palm

fz *fz* *mf* *ff* *ff*

rumoroso

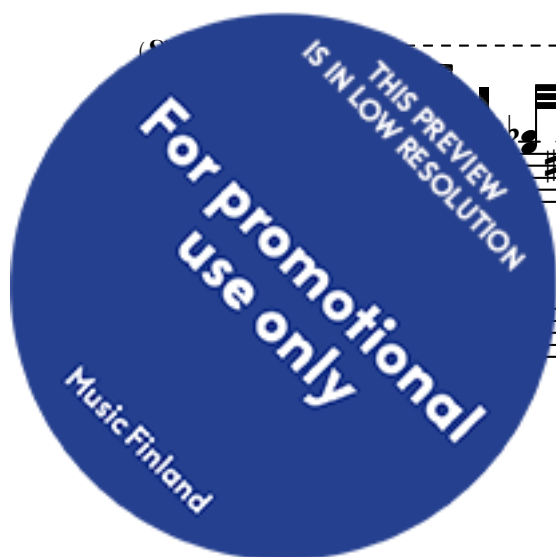
8va-

8vb-

ff *fff* strepitoso

8va-

(8vb)-



(clusters on white keys)

ff

ff

8^{va}

Epilogue: Silence III

Adagio, quasi senza misura, come un sogno

harmonics, press nodes on strings

(on strings)

fff

Press silently, release pedal after that, listen to the different harmonics

lunga, al silenzio

(on keys)

pp

(only the harmonic to be heard)

Red.

(both harmonic and fundamental to be heard)

brush strings gently with finger in middle register

pp

pppp

c. 10 sec.

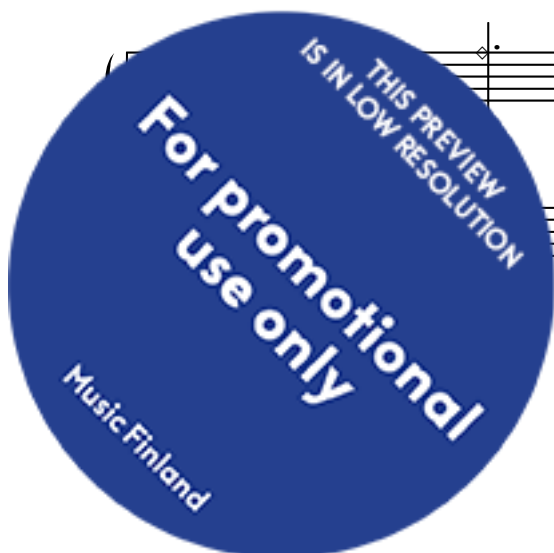
(both harmonic and fundamental to be heard)

brush strings gently with finger in middle register

pp

pppp

c. 10 sec.



pp

c. 6-8 sec. *pppp*

pp

(pluck with nail)

c. 4-6 sec. *pp*

brush strings gently with finger in high register

c. 4-6 sec. *ppp* ad libitum *pppp*

very low and soft cluster,
let vibrate until the end

Red.

