Dan O’Neill

New York Nights

For Symphony Orchestra

3222 4420 timp 2 perc celesta str
(2010)

ca. 8’30’’
Programme Note

This piece was inspired by a trip to New York I took in the Summer of 2008. The music depicts the feelings I had when walking through the streets. The city has a charming quality but also a feeling of danger. There has been a long history of crime linked with the city and this was on my mind while I was staying there. The music that is most closely associated with New York is Jazz music. Being a Jazz guitar player myself, I already had a wealth of knowledge about the development of Jazz music in New York in the 1930’s and 40’s. This was a big influence on the music in New York Nights. As well as the character of the city, there is a constant noise and hum that is ever-present. Hearing these noises every day becomes part of the ambience and this too was an influence on the writing. I have musically incorporated what I heard on the streets and have sought to create a multi-layered tapestry of sound that evokes this activity.

Notes to Performers

All the accidentals hold through the bar unless cancelled by a natural sign.

Score is written in Concert Pitch with all parts sounding as written.

Three percussionists needed for the Timpani, Suspended Cymbal and Glockenspiel.