

Consolation New

for one pianist playing two retuned pianos

David M. Gordon

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for Paul Sánchez

Duration: ca. 13'

Performance Instructions

- The pianist simultaneously plays two different pianos: a grand piano and an upright piano. A second grand piano may be used in place of the upright piano if necessary, but an upright is strongly preferred.
- The grand piano is tuned normally, whereas the upright piano has a special microtonal tuning. The upright piano must first be tuned a quarter-tone (i.e., 50 cents) lower than the grand piano. Then the rightmost string of each of the upright piano's multi-stringed notes must be lowered by an additional 40 cents (i.e., making it a total of 90 cents below the grand piano) so that the upright piano produces an intense, dissonant shimmer when played by itself. Special thanks to Alan Zajicek, RPT for his assistance with the development and testing of this tuning.
- The grand piano is notated on the upper staff or pair of staves, while the upright piano is notated on the lower staff or pair of staves. For added clarity, pitches played on the upright piano are written with diamond noteheads.
- The sustain pedals of both pianos should be fixed down for the entire work.
- The pianos and piano bench should be arranged on the stage as follows

