

*for Erica Sinclair,  
written as part of the Future Blend project*

Yfat Soul Zisso

# Relentless Thought

for solo harp

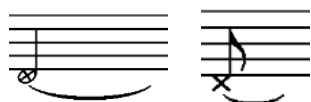
Programme notes:

Sometimes, even when all else is calm  
a single thought remains  
persisting, obsessing, echoing  
polluting everything  
until all that's left  
is doubt.

Written in 2015 for Erica Sinclair as part of the Future Blend project  
and premiered by her at the project's 'Hidden Gem' concert  
at The Old Library, Birmingham, on 9th January 2016 .

Y.S.Z.

Performance notes:



Pedal buzz

Stopped notes:



Stop the string with the thumb whilst plucking with other fingers.  
To find the point at which the string should be stopped,  
locate the centre of the string with the thumb,  
then move the thumb approximately one thumb-width lower.  
If a harmonic sounds, the thumb is too high.  
Aim for a very stopped sound, as if the pitch is trapped  
and hopelessly trying to escape.

Stopped Bartok pizzicato:



Strings are damped at the bottom of the string with L.H.  
whilst R.H. plucks low on the string, hitting the soundboard  
immediately upon releasing the string.  
Aim for a very percussive and non-pitched sound.

From b. 84 to the end the tempo should be taken down to as fast  
as the player can sustain whilst ensuring the bartok pizz. have time to ring  
and do not sound rushed.  
The crescendos in these bars relate to the intensity of playing  
more than the dynamics produced.

Duration: c. 6.5 mins

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Tense ♩ = 63 D $\flat$  C $\flat$  B $\flat$  / E $\flat$  F G A $\flat$

Harp *fff*

8va 4-5 " *gliss.*

only dampen gliss. notes

8va 6-7 " *gliss.*

only dampen gliss. notes

3

Hp. *persistent, obsessive*

*mf* *ff mf*

7

Hp. *calm*

*p* *G $\sharp$*

*persistent, obsessive*

*mf*

12

Hp. *ff mf*

16 *calm*

Hp.

*ff* *mf* *p* *mp*

F# F $\flat$

21 *attempting to remain calm*

Hp.

*sim.* *mf* *p* *mp*

F# F $\flat$  F#

25 *starting to get increasingly less calm*

Hp.

*p* *p* *mf* *p*

F $\flat$  F#

29

Hp.

*p* *p* *f* *p*

F $\flat$  F# F $\flat$

33

Hp.

*mf*

F# F $\flat$