

CHRISTIAN JULES MARC DUBEAU

Composer/Teacher/Pianist

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Research Statement

My research focuses on the programmatic representation of the natural world and current environmental issues through acoustic and electro-acoustic music. Although I believe music is an art that should creatively assert itself regardless of extra-musical associations, I find that the programmatic elements inspire listeners to evaluate the world with a fresh perspective. I aim to compose works that encourage my community to listen more closely to the world around them.

While the tradition of nature-inspired works has precedents in the late-Romantic era, my work employs techniques unique to our time, including data sonification, field recordings, and live electronic processing. In my solo live electronic work entitled *Little Poem of Wildness*, I explore the level of noise pollution between Los Angeles and the nearby San Gabriel Mountains. My pre-compositional process included making a large collection of field recordings of the San Gabriel Mountains and filtering them through a bank of electronic effects to obscure the source. As a result, the sounds of nature are rendered unrecognizable, signifying the everyday industrial drone endured by city dwellers. The sounds of nature become clearer as the work moves the listener farther away from the city.

My doctoral dissertation consists of twelve bi-tonal preludes for piano and electronics. The inspiration behind these pieces is humankind's interaction with the natural environment. I wish to continue exploring non-conventional ways to represent the natural environment through music with future projects.