

This piece is composed to commemorate the life of Elijah McClain- a young, anemic, introverted Black violinist. Unarmed and innocent of any beknown crimes, he was subdued and killed on his walk home by police and first responders. It is dedicated to all Black Americans who have died unjustly by police and authoritative action.

The original rendition of this work is an aleotoric canon - performed by a soloist or ensemble. This rendition for voice and piano is an approximation of the original composition's intent. The pianist is not required to adhere to the timings, as written. There is no strict adhearance to meter, note duration or time.

Performers are encouraged to shorten and lengthen notes at their own respective discretion. The vocalist may use and interchange "Ah", "Ooh", and "Hmm" at liberty.

(In the original composition, the performer(s) would play the ten bar phrase through at least three times. And when performed as a round, each musician would enter while the preceeding musician is playing the third or fourth note, approximately.)

-D.R.

Eight Tones for Elijah

Moderato (♩ = c. 96)

Dave Ragland

Slowly, with emotion and reverence

Piano

p *mp*

Pno.

p

Voice

15

p

Ah, _____

8va

Pno.

p *mp* *p*

21 *mp*

Voice

Ah, _____

Pno.

p

26 *p*

Voice

Ooh, _____

Pno.

mp

Eight Tones for Elijah

4

31

Voice

mp

Ooh,

p

Pno.

36

Voice

p

Ah,

mp

Pno.

Eight Tones for Elijah

41

mp

Voice

Ah, _____

Pno.