

# From our Ashes

*for solo violin*

**JESSICA MEYER**

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*for solo violin*

5'

## PROGRAM NOTE

Early in my compositional career, I had written a violin quartet for the ladies in MoVE (the Modern Violin Ensemble) and Livia Sohn was one of the violinists. Long before then we had studied at Juilliard during the same time, and I was always a fan of her playing and her powerful stage presence. When I had heard that she had taken a break from playing the violin after struggling with focal dystonia, I offered to write a piece in a way that was comfortable for her when she was ready.

When I got the email that she was ready to get back to playing in time for Spoleto 2021, I was overjoyed. We talked about what specific actions in her fingers we should avoid, and I wrote the piece with those enabling constraints. I wrote for myself and loop pedal for several years before writing for other people, and the machine had its limitations which I had to work around - so I was used to employing such measures.

I find many parallels between writing this piece and our pandemic experience - we have a new set of limitations, but that does not mean we can't pivot and live well in those limitations.

It just takes a bit of ingenuity, patience, and love.

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Commissioned by Spoleto Festival USA  
for Livia Sohn

JESSICA MEYER

**♩ = 135 Nervous**

always use open strings when possible

quick scoop up G string

from now on, all glissandi are for the duration of the note

Violin

*pp* *mf* *pp* *f*

*tr* *p* *mf* *p*

**Frustrated**

*ff* *mf*

*gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.*

*gliss.* *gliss.*

*ff* *mp* *f*

*mp* *f*

*gliss.*

*f*

### ♩ = 50 Broken

take all the time you need  
poco sul pont until m. 41

### Resurfacing

hold Open A....all slurred...bow as needed...not a with a core sound just yet...hold open string during the rests...ornaments are not too fast...

♩ = 60 **Rebirth** *accel poco a poco*.....

56

2 2 1 3 3 1

*p*

.....  
*start to let the bow come off the string...get more urgent*

58

♩ = 145

a gradual crescendo all the way to m.70

60

*mp*

63

65

66

67

68

69

71

climbing up D string...

73

restez...

III

open E/A

open D/A

II

open E A

II IV

open A

III

*ff*

*fff*

76

*mf*

6

6

6

6

77

*ff*

6

6

6

6

3 3

*molto rit..... a tempo*

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NYC