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Pacific

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Music Presentation

PACIFIC

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Pacific, my composition for solo piano with orchestra, was composed during the summer of 2005. It is built in three main sections, which represent different parts of the country that one experiences in a trip from the Midwest to the Pacific Ocean. The first section, the Prairie, starts with the piano entrance. The second, the Mountains, starts with the reentrance of the orchestra after the long piano solo, halfway through the piece. The third and shortest, the Ocean, enters near the end of the piece, and is represented by a quotation from Chopin’s “Ocean” Etude. Each of the main sections is characterized by a main theme, and these and other secondary themes enter, exit and reappear throughout the piece to give the feeling of a journey where some experiences are vaguely familiar and others completely new. For the John Wesley Powell Conference, I will present the two-piano version of the work, in which one pianist plays the solo piano part and another plays a reduced version of the orchestra’s part.