**Still, for solo piano**

James Romig, composer

Ashlee Mack, piano

**BIOGRAPHIES**

**James Romig** endeavors to create music that reflects the intricate complexity of the natural world, where fundamental structures exert influence on both small-scale iteration and large-scale design, obscuring boundaries between form and content. His work has been described as "a complex quilt of sound" (Moline Dispatch), "unhurried, pointillistic" (Baltimore Sun), and "the musical equivalent of fractal geometry" (Classical New Jersey). Influenced by both serialism (Romig studied with Milton Babbitt and Charles Wuorinen while earning a PhD at Rutgers University) and minimalism (he studied percussion as an undergraduate at the University of Iowa), his music is further inspired by post-modern literature, abstract expressionist painting, progressive rock, and doom metal. His music has been performed in 49 states and 30 countries. Notable ensemble performers include the JACK Quartet, Talujon, Chronophonie, Duo Contour, Helix, Khasma Piano Duo, New Muse Duo, Zodiac Trio, Duo Harpverk, Suono Mobile, the Quad City Symphony Orchestra, pianists Ashlee Mack and Taka Kigawa, flutists John McMurtery and Harvey Sollberger, violinist Erik Carlson, and others. Recordings of his music have been released by New World, Blue Griffin, First Step, Navona, Parallax, and Perspectives of New Music/Open Space. His percussion works are especially well-known and have received hundreds of performances around the world. Guest-composer visits include Eastman, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Bowling Green, Illinois, Northwestern, and the American Academy in Rome. Artist residencies include national parks (Everglades, Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest), Centrum, and Copland House. His music is available from Parallax Music Press. He has been on faculty at Western Illinois University since 2002.

**Ashlee Mack** has given recitals in Germany, Italy, and across the United States. Specializing in contemporary music, she has performed solo and chamber music with organizations such as the Society for Chromatic Art, Vox Novus, New Music Forum, Iowa Composers Forum, New Music Festival at Western Illinois University, Bowling Green New Music Festival, Aspen Composers Conference at the Aspen Institute, PASIC, and SCI. Mack is co-founder of the Khasma Piano Duo, and their albums *Switchback* and *Time Seems to Pass* are available as digital downloads on CD Baby, Amazon, and iTunes. Other recordings include works by Robert Morris and Christian Carey, both featured on the *Milton Babbitt: a composers' memorial* CD set published by *Perspectives of New Music/Open Space*, and James Romig's *Transparencies* on the *Mosaic: Society of Composers* album. An avid hiker and supporter of the Arts in national parks, she has been an artist-in-residence at Wupatki National Monument, Everglades National Park, Grand Canyon National Park, and Centrum at Fort Worden State Park, WA. In collaboration with composer and husband, James Romig, Mack presented the world premiere of his 60-minute solo piano piece, *Still*, at the Clyfford Still Museum in Denver in 2017, and New World Records will release the full-length recording in 2018. She will also premiere Romig's new work for piano and orchestra, commissioned by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony, in 2019. Mack is currently Director of Piano Studies at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois.