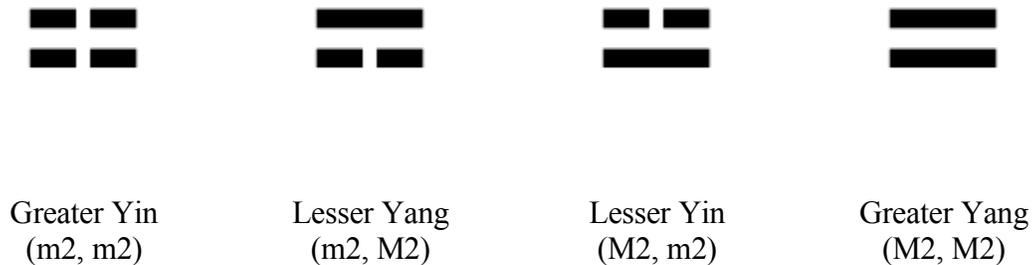


Composer: Steven Yi
Title: Etude
Duration: ca 20:00
Date of Completion: March 23, 2006

Notes on the Work

The title for *Etude* came early on in the process of composing this piece. I had become very interested in the idea of the word: that pieces should be studies, explorations, experiences of observation in the same way that we look out at the world with curiosity and appreciation... After I had finished *On the Sensations of Tone*, and after a brief period of studying tuning systems, I began to explore the sounds of glissandi once again. Shortly before a planned summer trip to Krakow, Poland, I had started working with material for a new piece; this material would eventually become *Etude*.

The material for the four sections derives from the following:



Source Material for Movements of Etude

The piece is in four parts. The material for each section is derived from the intervals listed below the digram names above: for example, the first part uses material derived from a three-note set of pitches that are evenly spaced a minor second from each other. While originally meant to be a piece in one movement, the characters of the material later lead to its separation into individual sections.

After the initial period of discovery, contemplation, and working with the material, I one day made an association between the nature of the material and the digrams listed above. As this piece is a bit larger in scope than my previous works, I found this association very useful in helping me to understand the material in a different light and to get a better sense of how the parts relate to each other. After further exploration and contemplation, the material and sketches began to suggest a formal plan and shape to the experience of the music, leading to the piece as it is today.

About the Composer

Steven Yi (b.1978) is a composer and programmer currently living in San Francisco, CA. He is the author of the *blue* music composition environment, which he uses together with Csound in the creation of his music. He attended the University of Georgia as a student of Dr. Leonard V. Ball and graduated with a B.Mus in Composition in 1999.