

Barriers: Two/One (1988)

Cindy Cox

“The title, *Barriers: Two/One*, refers to the two opposing musics simultaneously presented in the first and third movements; the violin and piano form one unit and the clarinet the other. Their two musics share common pitch material, but are cast in conflicting affects, as if two people discuss the same problems in mutually exclusive ways. The first movement finishes with an interlude played by the violin, leading to the second movement, which is a kind of musical argument equally participated in by all three players.”

—Cindy Cox

Cindy Cox (born 1961, Houston, Texas) began playing piano at an early age. She obtained a Bachelor of Music in piano performance at Texas Christian University as a Nordan Scholar, studying for four years with Madame Lili Kraus. Her interests later turned to composition, and she completed a master’s degree and doctorate at Indiana University studying with Harvey Solberger, Eugene O’Brien, John Eaton, and Donald Erb. She also studied with John Harbison at the Tanglewood Music Center and with Bernard Rands and Jacob Druckman at the Aspen Music Festival.

Cox’s output includes works for orchestra, chamber ensemble, solo pieces, and works with technology. Her newer, texted works have evolved through collaboration with her husband, poet John Campion.

Cox’s music has been performed by notable ensembles and soloists in South America and throughout Europe as well as at Carnegie Hall, the National Gallery, the Kennedy Center, and by the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Her scores are published by World a Tuning Fork Press; recordings are available on the Naxos and Arpaviva labels.

Cox’s awards include an ASCAP Foundation Grant to Young Composers for her chamber orchestra work *Woven Rains*, a second prize from Composers, Inc. for her piano and percussion work *Four Studies of Light and Dark*, and an honorable mention from NACUSA for her trio *Coriolis*. Other awards and commissions include those from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Fromm Foundation, Guggenheim Foundation, Mellon Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, American Composers Forum, Meet the Composer, and International Competition for Women Composers. In addition to Tanglewood and Aspen, she has been a fellow at the MacDowell Colony and the Civitella Ranieri and William Walton Foundations in Italy. She held a Fulbright Senior Professorship in American Culture in The Netherlands, hosted by the Amsterdam Conservatory and the Utrecht School for the Arts.

Cox is Professor and Chair of the Music Department at the University of California at Berkeley. She remains active as a pianist and has recorded many of her compositions.

Additional information is available at www.cacox.com.