PROGRAM NOTE

FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) is a work for solo percussion nine minutes in duration. Scored for a modified drum set with metal plates replacing the cymbals, it has an instrumentation of solo snare drum, kick drum, and two large metal plates. The piece is designed to feature solo snare drum playing while extending the timbres around it. In FOMO the soloist enacts a kind of stream-of-conscious pantomime, searching for something inchoate, elusive, and potentially unreachable. Musically, a dialectic of elements keeps shifting; visceral contrasts in timbre and mercurial changes in mood are contrasted with more spacious, mysterious areas. The overall form is a continuous, if circuitous, zigzag buildup to the end, where things finally lock in and activate. FOMO was commissioned by Ryan Scott (Toronto, Canada) for his 21stC Canadian Snare Drum Project, with support from the Canada Council for the Arts.

- Kati Agócs, 2023