

"SILENCE = DEATH"

for speaker and piano

*"Silence = Death" from The Enemy by Rafael Campo.
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Written for the
AIDS Quilt Songbook Project, (5/11/13)

to be performed by
Randall Scarlatta and Timothy Ribchester.

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Christopher Bartlett and Gordon Beeferman

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Joseph Hallman

"SILENCE = DEATH"

poetry: Rafael Campo

Joseph Hallman

♩ = 66

His worn-out T-shirt,

p con sord.
hazy; bell-like

take care to notice the articulation throughout as they often change though other elements of repeated material may change

pp as hollow a tone as possible

Ped. _____ ^

con sord.

6

black as mourning.

black as countless deaths.

surprises me-

it screams a phrase

I've heard so many countless times b

p con sord.

pp as hollow a tone as possible

p con sord.

Ped. _____ ^

con sord.

Ped. _____ ^

13

in words hot pink

pp hollow

p con sord.

con sord.

pp crystalline unrushed

3

3 3 3 3

pedal freely until next indication

Ped. _____ ^

Ped. _____ ^

Ped. _____ ^

20

as countless
fevers-

8)

p con sord.

pp crystalline

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Ped. \wedge pedal freely until next indication

24

8)

3 3

p con sord.

Ped. \wedge Ped. \wedge

27

heat of
language,

demonstrations

ppp thick and hazy

pp clearer

Ped. \wedge Ped. \wedge Ped. \wedge

42

why does it still threaten me

I who held my patient's hand

Tempo: ♩ = 76

Dynamic: *pp*

Octave: *8va*

Triplet: 3

Pedal: Ped.

48

who died his wordless death

The respirator hissing in my ear

The countless breaths

Tempo: ♩ = 66

Dynamic: *hazy; bell-like*

Performance: EXHALE loudly enough to be heard by audience, INHALE loudly enough to be heard by audience

Pedal: Ped.

54 he couldn't take himself that was years ago, almost decades now

EXHALE INHALE

MOLTO RITARDANDO FREELY

EXHALE INHALE EXHALE INHALE EXHALE INHALE

pp

59

Today, I see his T-shirt and I think he isn't taking all his antiretroviral meds the countless pills he piled on my desk

p normal

pizz.
(if not possible to pizz., then play bracketed passage as softly and delicately as possible with lots of pedal)

pp pedal freely until next indication

67 to silence me, $\text{♩} = 60$

my T-cell counts and viral loads,

$\text{♩} = 60$

8^{va}

3

3

70

detectable at greater than one hundred thousand,

the silent viral particles

loco

73

that swell to numbers

that even we will count

8va

77

♩ = 66

I pause, and shift a moment in my chair,

I ask,

♩ = 66

8va

p con sord.

Red.

8

80

♩ = 52

"How many loved ones did you lose?"

"I can't count them" is his response

shape the section from here to m. 86 as two smaller phrases

♩ = 52, *Swung*

mp

8^{va}

3

6

3

6

3

6

3

pedal freely until next indication

83

"But one"

"Left me this stupid T-shirt when he died"

8

3

6

3

6

3

87

♩ = 60

Then,

we're silent,

counting moments,

♩ = 60

PIANIST

INHALE

EXHALE

INHALE

INHALE

INHALE

INHALE

8^{va}

p

like a slowing, fading heartbeat

Ped.

and con sord.

90

death counting us all in all its infiniteness.

MOLTO RITARDANDO FREELY

INHALE INHALE INHALE INHALE INHALE INHALE INHALE INHALE

94

in all we know that words will not explain

MOLTO RITARDANDO FREELY

INHALE INHALE INHALE INHALE

EXHALE INHALE EXHALE INHALE EXHALE INHALE EXHALE INHALE