

# **Pado, A journey Through Waves**

YuJung Jeon

for Piano, Alto Saxophone, Double Bass, Percussions, Voice, and fixed media

**2024**

## Program notes

"Pado" is a musical odyssey inspired by the rhythmic cadence of the sea. Translated from Korean, "Pado" means 'waves' or 'tide,' embodying the elemental force that underpins this composition work. Through a fusion of evocative imagery, cultural influences, and innovative musical techniques, "Pado" aims to transport you on a journey through the depths of human emotion and existential contemplation.

### *Conceptual Foundation:*

Crafting "Pado" involved a deep exploration of the symbolism inherent in waves. From the gentle lapping of tides to the thunderous crash against cliffs, each encounter with the sea reflects the multifaceted nature of our existence. Through this exploration, I seek to illuminate the interconnectedness between nature and humanity, and to reflect on the rhythm of our own lives.

### *Cultural Integration:*

Central of this work's ethos is the integration of Korean language and culture. Utilizing onomatopoeic sounds like 'chulsseog chulsseog,' which means waves crashing against the shore. Additionally, referenced from Eunkyo Kang's poem, "Pado," will infuse the work with lyrical phrase and emotional resonance, that I was trying to bridge the gap between the original idea and new ideas.

And here is the poem, "Pado" by Eunkyo Kang, in Korean and English:

파도 -강은교-

떠도는구나 오늘도

동편에서 서편으로

서편에서 동편으로

물이 되어 물로 눕지 못하는구나

꿈꿀 건

운몸에 솟아나는 허연 거품뿐

거품 되어 시시때때 모래땅 물어뜯으며

입맞추며 길길이

수평선 되려 가는구나

누가 알리

옆드려야만 기껏 품에 안아 보는 세상

날선 바람떼 굽은 전등 훑고 가면

쓰러져 내리는길, 길 따라

사랑이 얼마만 하더냐, 묻는 먼지알 신음소리목숨의 길이 얼마만 하더냐, 묻는 먼지알 신음소리

등덜미에 철썩철썩 부서져

떠도는구나 오늘도

동편에서 서편으로

서편에서 동편으로

물이 되어 물로 눕지 못하는구나

아, 이 벽에서 저 벽

저 벽에서 이 벽

끝내 거품 되어 피 넘쳐 넘쳐

수평선이 흐느끼는구나

흐느끼며 한 세상

거품 속에 세우는구나.

**Pado** -By Eunkyo Kang-

*Dreaming*

*All that we dream is*

*bubbles rising from the body*

*Turning into bubbles, tearing at the sandy earth*

*Kissing, lengthening*

*To become the horizon*

*Who will understand?*

*Only seen when lying down, cradled in arms*

*Passing through sharp gusts of wind, bent lamp posts*

*Falling along the path, along the way*

*The sound of dust asking how much love there was*

*The sound of dust asking how far life goes*

*Breaking from the back with a 'crashing, crashing'*

*Drifting again today*

*From east to west*

*From west to east*

*Becoming water, unable to age in the water*

*Ah, from this wall to that wall*

*From that wall to this wall*

*In the end, turning into bubbles, blood overflowing*

*The horizon sobbing*

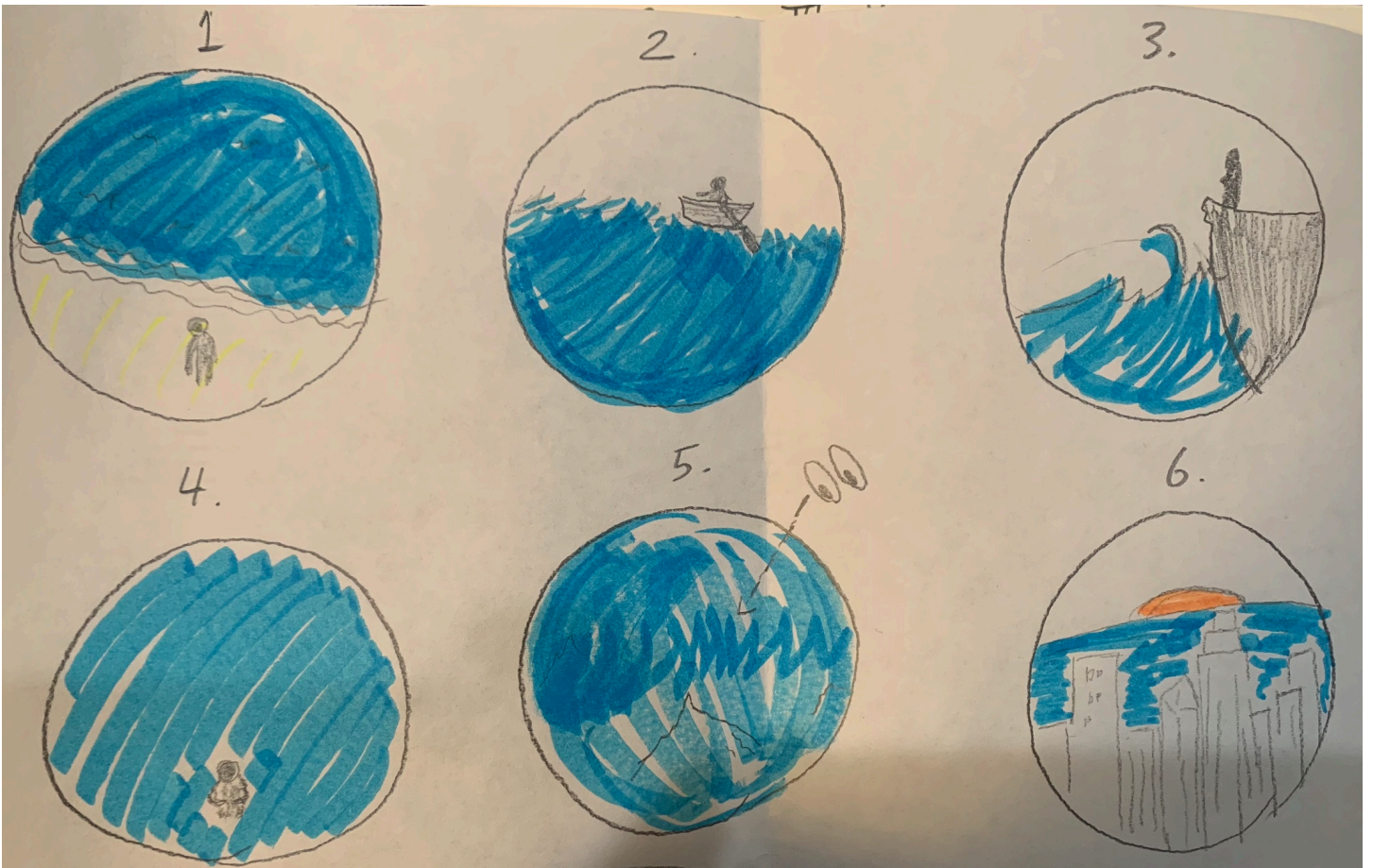
*Sobbing for one world*

*Building within the bubbles*

"Pado" is originally an hour long piece, orchestrated for Piano, Alto Saxophone, Double Bass, Percussion (Vibraphon, variety sound of Waters, and metals), speaking voice (recording+live narration), and fixed media derived from field recordings at the beach in Busan, South Korea. Divided into six distinct phases, each movement encapsulates a different aspect of the ocean's persona, from tranquil serenity to tumultuous depths.

1. **Looking at the ocean from the shore**
2. **On the water and sailing**
3. **Watching tides/waves hitting or moving against the cliff**
4. **Drowning under the water and being stuck beneath the surface**
5. **Still under the water and slowly emerging from it**
6. **Getting away and seeing the ocean from a broader, peaceful perspective, observing the waves from afar, away from the city's concrete jungles and tall buildings**

# 6 Phases of Pado



# Pado, A journey Through Waves

YuJung Jeon & kon.trip

## 1. 00:00:00 *At the Shore*

Dynamic: **pp<p**

- Only **Piano** and **Vibraphone** (only) w/ **Bow** (G,B,D,E,F#,A#,C#)
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## 2. 00:11:00 *Navigate/Sail on the water, leaning your body into the waves*

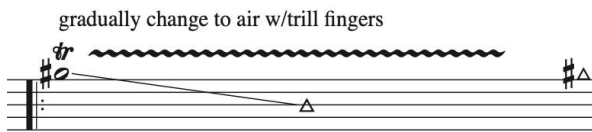
Dynamic: **p< f >p**

- **Piano**: Slide high strings and low strings back and forth
  - **Sax**: With air effect with the instrument p< f >p
  - **Bass**: Very Slow Vibrato slide between lowest F-G with bow pressure
  - **Percussion**: Pouring Water Sound to describe the waves in and out
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## 3. 00:15:10 *Stand at the Cliff and watch the tides crash from there*

Dynamic: **pp< f**

- **Piano**: Drone sound with lower strings with mallet
- **Sax**: With air effect and combination between your voice “Shhh” sound and:



- **Bass**: Slightly faster Vibrato slide between lowest G-A with more bow pressure
  - **Percussion**: Use small metal bowl with mallet interactive with the piano and following the voice narration and sometimes make a sound with vibraphone w/bow
- Next 00:23:00
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4. 00:23:00 *Drowning under the water*

Dynamic: from nothing (**pppp** < **fff**) long long long stretch in this section

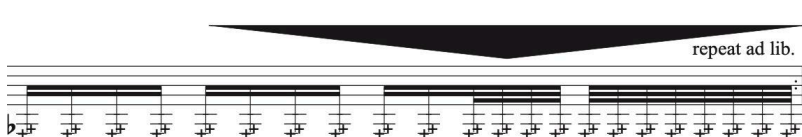
- **Piano:** Drone sound with lower strings with mallet and muted tone clusters
- **Sax:** From lowest note trill and gradually change to sing overtone series into the instrument (pitch: gradually/slightly(quarter tone) going up )
- **Bass:** more faster Vibrato slide between lowest G-A with strong bow pressure
- **Percussion:** Use small metal bowl with mallet and gradually change to metal sheet and pitch going higher using the depth of water

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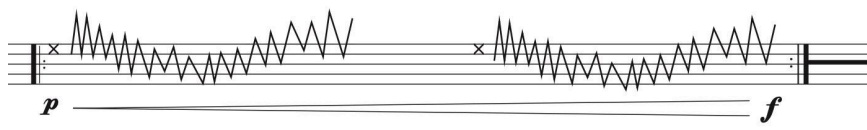
5. 00:41:20 *Escape and observe the waves from the sky*

Dynamic: **p** < **fff** > **p**

- Piano (low->high) & Saxophone(high->low): with actual pitch or flap tongue or growl



- Bass & Percussion(Metal sheet):



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6. 00:49:50 *See the bigger picture of the waves, from the ocean, as they move far away from it...*

Dynamic: **f** > **ppp**

- **Piano:** Keeping drone sound(accompaniment) w/mallet
- **Sax:** *With air* effect with the instrument p < f > p
- **Bass:** Fast Vibrato slide lowest C and gradually change to very very slow exaggerate vibrato with bow pressure
- **Percussion:** Pouring Water Sound and Vibraphone with bow(E,A,Ab)