After seeing a decent amount of experimental, electro acoustic type shows, they all seem to have a similar vibe to them. They are usually dominated by a trained musician playing an instrument live, accompanied by a tape or computer cued by another artist. While this approach has a lot of potential, I think it can seem rather misleading and uninteresting to those who don’t know the behind the scenes info. The more I learn about computer music, the more I grow to appreciate it, but one who may not know what it takes to make computer music may have a hard time accepting it as an equal form of art. I have yet to see a performance of two or more electronic musicians preforming with laptops, but I think that would be more interesting and less misleading. When I say misleading, I am talking about what the computer person is doing live, and if it can even be considered a performance. Musicians undergo heavy criticism when caught “lip singing” yet computer musicians get a pat on the back for pressing play, which is arguably less effort. Though in a way it is comparing apples to oranges, I think just because something is generated on a computer, it should get to be treated unlike an instrument. I would like to see performances in which parameters are being changed in a way that the audience can interact with (knobs or even just a visualizer). Why should the focus for Nono’s piece be only on the piano player when he is only contributing to an aspect of the sound? Many may view the computer sounds as a crutch for the actual performers rather than an artistic supplement.

In regard to the piece, two weeks later, nothing other than the almost random nature of the piano composition is memorable. I barely even remember what the computer aspect was or what it sounded like. I’m not sure if the purpose was for it to be like the background atmosphere or if it was supposed to be an equal to the piano, but I doubt the piece wouldn’t have lost much effectiveness if the electronic part were dropped, or replaced with some simple reverb/delay fx. If the point was to be in the background and almost sound natural, then I think it did a good job. After just listening to it again I noticed the computer does add a lot of bass frequencies that help the shortcomings of the piano. As far as my classical music knowledge goes, the piece doesn’t really break any boundaries, but it does sound well-made and professional. I’d be interested in reading a review of the concert by a journalist who know a lot about this type of music, because I feel like I don’t know what to look for in an effective piece other than whether or not it sounds good to me. Overall I enjoyed it, but I would like to see more extensive and visual computer performances.