

Tonia Ko
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Spindrift for solo violin

Duration: about 5 minutes

Previous performance:

Stephanie Song, violin. Student chamber music concert, The American Academy at Fontainebleau, July 2009 (Summer festival).

The inspiration for my work, **Spindrift**, began as a memory of the white ocean spray along the rugged coastline of my home in Hawaii. The outer sections of the work depict the cycling of water rising and falling—a process that is perpetual, but always irregular. However, as I continued in my compositional process, I began to think of how far the water droplets had actually travelled. The waves that arrive on the shores of Honolulu could very well have originated from my native homeland, Hong Kong, where I was born. This realization became the basis for the expressive middle section, which yearns to return to a “home”. While *Spindrift* is not inspired by Asian musical elements explicitly, it is about my experience as a member of the Chinese diaspora. Somehow, there is a feeling that “home” is not any one place, but simply a place in time, in the past. As I continue to pursue my musical career on the East Coast of the U.S., my memory of “home” and those associations do not diminish, despite the distance.