Five Haiku (2007)
for piano (10 minutes)

*Five Haiku* was written for my wife, who requested some short piano pieces with an Asian influence, and using extended techniques. I was also able to include some other interests of mine: birds, and the relation between text and music. Each piece is based on a haiku and two quote birdsong. The characteristic line structure of haiku is reflected in the form of the pieces—seventeen measures divided into three sections, 5+7+5. On a more abstract level, the twelve notes of the chromatic scale are divided into groups of five and seven notes. However, the way they are combined varies from piece to piece. Overall, I tried to compose pieces that are evocative of nature, Eastern as well as Western culture, and are fun to play.

green blue orange pink
blending at the horizon
earth and heaven meet

wind in branches stirs
young leaves gilded by sunshine
he sings and she wakes

gathering guarding
fluttering activity
nestlings needing more

lengthening shadows
cool envelops creation
evensong begins

dusk descends; like moon
and stars our hope and prayer:
sun will come again

The music of Paul Dickinson is characterized by a dramatic contrast of musical ideas integrated into organic formal structures. Art, literature, and music of all eras influence his diverse musical output. He has received awards from the Fromm Music Foundation, the Arkansas Arts Council, the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), a BMI Award, and numerous commissions. His music has been performed throughout North America, Europe and China, and is recorded on Capstone Records. He received degrees from the Eastman School of Music and Northwestern University. Dickinson now teaches Music Theory and Composition at the University of Central Arkansas.
Five Haiku
Paul Dickinson

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green blue orange pink
blending at the horizon
earth and heaven meet

Largo  \( \frac{6}{8} = 40 \)

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{for Stefanie} \\
\text{green blue orange pink} \\
\text{blending at the horizon} \\
\text{earth and heaven meet}
\end{align*} \]
wind in branches stirs
young leaves gilded by sunshine
he sings and she wakes

Adagio \( \cdot = 50 \)
gathering guarding
fluttering activity
nestlings needing more

Vivace $\downarrow = 76$

sost. $\infty$  al fine
knuckles on wood

stopped

mf stacc.
knuckles on metal frame

mf stacc.

knuckles on wood

f mp

f
lengthening shadows
cool envelops creation
evensong begins

Lento  \( \frac{4}{4} \)  \( \text{q} \)  52

Andante  \( \frac{6}{8} \)  \( \text{q} \)  72

Lento

Andante
dusk descends; like moon
and stars our hope and prayer:
sun will come again

Adagio \( \frac{\d}{\d} = 50 \)