

# Brent A. Milam

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## **Three Electronic Studies** *for computer generated sounds* (2008) 18:10

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|--------------------|------|
| i. Scherzo         | 6:00 |
| ii. Largo Vuoto    | 4:00 |
| iii. Contrapunctus | 8:10 |

**Program Notes:** This sonata is dedicated to my friend, Dale Elliott, after the tragic loss of his family. All the melodic and harmonic material is derived from a melody Dale composed while a student at the Juilliard School of Music.

**Program Notes:** *Three Electronic Studies* is an extended work based entirely on computer generated sounds. In fact, almost every sound produced is the result of nothing more than the addition or multiplication of simple sine waves. Few of my compositions utilize electronic sounds and even fewer rely on stochastic or deterministic methods; however, as a former physicist and software developer, I found the facility with which mathematical possibilities may be realized within the context of computer music too enticing to ignore. In this piece, rhythm, duration, density, timbre, pitch, amplitude, envelope shape, and temporal and spatial placement are each determined by separate time-dependent probability distributions that are manually shaped throughout the work. The controlled evolution of these distributions, along with a predetermined contour for register and overall volume, creates the perceived form of the final work.

*Three Electronic Studies* was selected by adjudication for presentation at the Electronic Music Midwest Festival 2008 in Juliet, IL.