Marc Sabat
Nocturne
for piano solo

PLAIN SOUND MUSIC EDITION
Nocturne (1996)
for Linda Catlin Smith

Nocturne was composed as a study of metric modulations in slow tempo. Each new pattern is introduced as a polyrhythm in relation to the currently sounding cycle. In time, its own tempo is allowed to dominate and redefine the perceived pulse. The mathematical relationships of tempi are perceived as simple intervallic expansions and contractions of the flowing passage of time.
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tuning of the piano in Sabat II Just Intonation well-temperament:
D₃+6 F-8 C-6 G-4 A₃+1 D-2 A0 D₂+3 E+2 B+4 F₂+6 A₂-8
F-C-G-D-A-E-F₂ are Pythagorean fifths in ratio 2:3;
D₁-F and F₂-A₂ are Ptolemaic thirds in ratio 4:5;
G-A₃ and D₂-E are tuned in ratio 16:17

hold pedal to fade