

This city that bears your nickname,
that lane his shadow, this nook another him's scent

for violin solo
Op. 24

commissioned by Kwan-lam Lau

Lance Mok

Kuala Lumpur: November 2025

ca. 5 mins

The title of this piece grew out of the composer's contemplation on how the names of cities, streets, and roads often pass unnoticed — words we use without thought, stripped of the histories or affections they once carried. Yet for each of us, certain places hold private meanings — a name that recalls a voice, a street that keeps a memory, a corner that still belongs to someone once dear. Amidst the pace and noise of urban life, where people are always arriving, leaving, forgetting, and beginning again, the violin becomes a vessel for what remains unspoken. The work is an emotional map of attachments — to people, to places, to ghosts that never introduced themselves — a meditation on love, memory, and distance: between those who stay and those who move on, between homeland and elsewhere, between one kind of intimacy and another.

The work was commissioned by violinist Kwan-lam Lau, who premiered it on 29 November 2025 at the Edinburgh Society of Musicians, United Kingdom.

Instrumentation: violin solo

This city that bears your nickname,
that lane his shadow, this nook another him's scent

Op. 24
commissioned by Kwan-lam Lau

Lance Mok

Vivace ♩ = 138

f *poco* *mf* *poco* **f** *ff* **Vivace subito** ♩ = 138 **f** *rit.*

37 *ff* *dim.*

40 *mf* *rit.* *f* *dim.*

44 *mp* *poco* *poco*

Moderato ♩ = 100

47 *mp* *sul tasto*

51 *poco*

55 *poco* *ord.* *p*

60 *mp* *pizz.* *arco sul tasto* *poco*

65 *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *mp* *poco*