KIIVETÄ
KOTIIN
(fanfare for the trees)

(2020)

for solo violin
*kiivetä kotiin (fanfare for the trees)* was commissioned by the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and Cincinnati Pops for violinist Pekka Kuusisto. It received its digital world première on May 31, 2020. The piece lasts approximately one minute and thirty seconds.

The global coronavirus pandemic has caused much of the world to spring into action, meeting the moment with incredible pluck and audacity. For me, it has simultaneously provided an opportunity to slow down, to think in longer, sweeping time-scales as we confront the possibility that we are, as a global society, on the brink of radical, lasting shifts in the ways that we go about our lives.

Those longer time scales led me back to a meditation on trees, those mystical creatures that are both preface and epilogue to our own existence. As we plot a new world order, I hope we will do so in a way that honors and protects the forest and its denizens.

—GK, May 2020