

FOR DCFLUTES

SPIRITUS

MUSIC FOR ALTO, BASS, AND
CONTRABASS FLUTE ENSEMBLE

KEVIN POELKING

Perusal Score - Not for Performance

Spiritus

(2024)

for "Low Flute" Ensemble

3 Alto Flutes
3 Bass Flutes
1 Contrabass Flute

Duration: ca. 3 ½ minutes

Note from the Composer

Whenever I compose for flute, the connection to breath is particularly pronounced, and I felt this characteristic become even more distinct when exploring the expressive possibilities of alto, bass, and contrabass flutes.

Spiritus, derived from the Latin word for breath, breathing, air, or life, delves into the unique capabilities and timbres of this flute ensemble. The composition unfolds in two distinct sections, with the initial segment mimicking the erratic, uneasy, and energetic breath, followed by an exploration of the serene, steady, and pulsating breath.

This work was commissioned by DCFlutes, an ensemble in Washington, D.C. led by Aaron Goldman (Principal Flutist of the National Symphony Orchestra) and Sandra Ragusa (renowned international orchestral conductor and flutist).

The piece is dedicated to Sandra, who took a chance on me years ago and was one of the earliest advocates of my work as a young composer.

KPmusic

More information, recordings, composer bio and contact at
KevinPoelking.com

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for DCFlutes
Spiritus

Kevin Poelking (2024)

Decisivo ♩ = 180

Alto Flute 1

Alto Flute 2

Alto Flute 3

Bass Flute 1

Bass Flute 2

Bass Flute 3

Contrabass Flute

2 3 4 5 13 6 7

A. Fl. 1

A. Fl. 2

A. Fl. 3

B. Fl. 1

B. Fl. 2

B. Fl. 3

Cb. Fl.

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

A. Fl. 1

A. Fl. 2

A. Fl. 3

B. Fl. 1

B. Fl. 2

B. Fl. 3

Cb. Fl.

tongue pizz.

tongue pizz.

harmonic flourish (C# fingering, blow air aggressively through harmonics)

vocalize over headjoint

Tah vocalize over headjoint

Tah vocalize over headjoint

Tah vocalize over headjoint

Tah Tah Tah Kah

Tah Tah Tah Kah

Tah Tah Tah Kah

15 16 17 18 19 20

A. Fl. 1
A. Fl. 2
A. Fl. 3
B. Fl. 1
B. Fl. 2
B. Fl. 3
Cb. Fl.

Tah Tah Tah Kah
Tah Tah Tah Kah Cha Cha Cha
Tah Tah Tah Kah
Tah Tah Tah Kah

21 22 23 24 25 26

A. Fl. 1
A. Fl. 2
A. Fl. 3
B. Fl. 1
B. Fl. 2
B. Fl. 3
Cb. Fl.

Cha Cha Cha Cha
Tah Tah Tah Kah
Tah Tah Tah Kah

27 28 29 30 31 32

A. Fl. 1
A. Fl. 2
A. Fl. 3
B. Fl. 1
B. Fl. 2
B. Fl. 3
Cb. Fl.

Cha Cha Cha Cha Cha Cha
harmonic flourish

fp *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

33 34 35 36 37 38 39

Musical score for measures 40-44, featuring parts for A. Fl. 1-3, B. Fl. 1-3, and Cb. Fl.

Measures 40-44 include dynamics such as *p*, *pp*, and *mp*. Measure 41 contains a boxed measure number.

Musical score for measures 45-49, featuring parts for A. Fl. 1-3, B. Fl. 1-3, and Cb. Fl.

Measures 45-49 include dynamics such as *p*, *pp*, *mf*, and *mp*. Measure 49 contains a boxed measure number.

Musical score for measures 50-55, featuring parts for A. Fl. 1-3, B. Fl. 1-3, and Cb. Fl.

Measures 50-55 include dynamics such as *f*, *mf*, and *p*. Measure 50 contains a boxed measure number.

A. Fl. 1 *mf*

A. Fl. 2

A. Fl. 3

B. Fl. 1 *mf*

B. Fl. 2 *mp* *fp*

B. Fl. 3 *mp* *fp*

Cb. Fl. *mp* *fp*

56 57 58 59 60 61

molto breve

A. Fl. 1 *ff* *f* *ff*

A. Fl. 2 *ff* *ff*

A. Fl. 3 *ff* "let whistle" all keys depressed *ff*

B. Fl. 1 *ff* *pp* *ff*

B. Fl. 2 *ff* *ff*

B. Fl. 3 *ff* *ff*

Cb. Fl. *ff* *f* *ff*

62 63 64 65 66 67

Melted (c. ♩. = 80)

A. Fl. 1 *p* *sim.*

A. Fl. 2 *p* *sim.*

A. Fl. 3 *pp*

B. Fl. 1 *pp*

B. Fl. 2 *pp*

B. Fl. 3

Cb. Fl.

68 69 70 71

Musical score for measures 72-75. The score is arranged in three systems for seven instruments: A. Fl. 1, A. Fl. 2, A. Fl. 3, B. Fl. 1, B. Fl. 2, B. Fl. 3, and Cb. Fl. The notation includes various dynamics such as *p*, *pp*, *mp*, and *ppp*, and articulation marks like *sempre legato*. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Musical score for measures 76-78. The score continues for the same seven instruments. It features dynamic markings such as *pp*, *mp*, and *p*, along with the *sempre legato* instruction. The notation includes slurs and breath marks. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Musical score for measures 79-81. The score concludes for the seven instruments. Dynamic markings include *mp*, *p*, and *mf*. The notation shows melodic lines for the flutes and a steady accompaniment for the bassoon. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

A. Fl. 1 *mf*

A. Fl. 2 *mp* *mp* *pp*

A. Fl. 3 *p* *mf* *p*

B. Fl. 1 *pp* *mf* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

B. Fl. 2 *pp* *pp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

B. Fl. 3 *pp* *mf* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

Cb. Fl. *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

82 83 84

A. Fl. 1 *pp* *mp* *f* *sim.*

A. Fl. 2 *pp* *p* *mf* *f* *sim.*

A. Fl. 3 *pp* *p* *mf* *f* *n.*

B. Fl. 1 *pp* *f*

B. Fl. 2 *pp* *f*

B. Fl. 3 *ppp* *f*

Cb. Fl. *ppp* *f*

85 86 87 88

A. Fl. 1 *f*

A. Fl. 2

A. Fl. 3 *f*

B. Fl. 1 *mf*

B. Fl. 2 *mf*

B. Fl. 3 *mf*

Cb. Fl.

89 90 91

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rit. poco a poco al fine

A. Fl. 1

A. Fl. 2

A. Fl. 3

B. Fl. 1

B. Fl. 2

B. Fl. 3

Cb. Fl.

n.

pp

pp

pp

p

sim.

p

sim.

n.

ppp

92

93

94

A. Fl. 1

A. Fl. 2

A. Fl. 3

B. Fl. 1

B. Fl. 2

B. Fl. 3

Cb. Fl.

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

95

96

Perusal Score! Not for Performance