

Loretta K. Notareschi

Promise and Peril

For Flute, Clarinet, Violin, and Violoncello

DMCM-18



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Duration: Approx. 5'

About the Music

In early 2015, The Playground Ensemble commissioned several professional and K-12 composers to write a piece for the Denver Biennial of the Americas, happening in July. Each older composer was paired with a younger one to mentor and was encouraged to relate his or her piece to the mentee's piece. All composers were asked to contemplate the stated themes for the Biennial, which were centered around the idea of "Now!"

My mentee, a wonderful young woman named Katina Jakel, began by exploring an online instrument called the Virtual Piano at virtualpiano.net. This instrument takes input from the computer keyboard, producing a note for each alphabetic key pressed. Katina took some of the theme words from the Biennial and plugged them into the Virtual Piano, and then sent me the resulting pitch patterns. We both took musical inspiration from these, as well as from other words associated with the Biennial themes. A few that I used included B-G-G ("now"), B-B-C ("art"), and F-G-C-C-E-F-C-D ("community"). I also found the Biennial theme of "promise and peril" particularly fruitful, suggestive as it is of more and less musical tension. In writing the piece, I asked myself how musical materials of such differing tensions could interact? How could they be layered? How could they influence each other? Other words that provoked me musically included "revelation," "complex," "convergence," and "migration," with each suggesting rich musical metaphors involving texture, counterpoint, motivic transformation, and metrical reinterpretation.

About the Composer

Loretta K. Notareschi explores the passionate, irreverent, and transcendent in her many compositions for chamber ensemble, large ensemble, and chorus. Born in Canton, Ohio and raised in Stillwater, Oklahoma, she has received awards from the Cincinnati Camerata, the IronWorks Percussion Duo, the American Composers Forum, and the GALA Choruses. Her music has been performed across the U.S., in Europe, and in South America and is published by Disegni Music (ASCAP), Friedrich Hofmeister of Leipzig, and Bachovich.

Notareschi is an associate professor of music at Regis University and a faculty member of The Walden School. She is also a member of ASCAP and the American Composers Forum. She holds a Masters and PhD in composition from the University of California at Berkeley, a Bachelor of Music in composition from the University of Southern California, and the General Diploma from the Zoltán Kodály Pedagogical Institute of Music in Kecskemét, Hungary, where she was a Fulbright Scholar. Her primary teachers in composition have been Morten Lauridsen, Erica Muhl, Rick Lesemann, Cindy Cox, and Jorge Liderman.

For the Playground Ensemble at the Biennial of the Americas 2015

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♩ = ca. 100
Growing

Musical score for Flute, Clarinet in Bb, Violin, and Violoncello. The score is in 4/4 time and features dynamic markings of *p*, *mf*, *f*, and *mp*. The Flute part has a melodic line with accents. The Clarinet in Bb part has a bass line with dynamic markings. The Violin and Violoncello parts have a harmonic accompaniment with dynamic markings.

Musical score for Flute, Clarinet, Violin, and Violoncello. The score is in 4/4 time and features dynamic markings of *p* and *f*. The Flute part has a melodic line with accents. The Clarinet part has a bass line with dynamic markings. The Violin and Violoncello parts have a harmonic accompaniment with dynamic markings.

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 144$ **A** Motic

18

Fl. *f*

Cl. *f*

Vln. *spicc.*

Vc. *f*

24

Fl. *f*

Cl. *f*

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f*

30

B

Fl. *mf*

Cl. *mf*

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

35

Fl.
Cl.
Vln.
Vc.

41

Fl.
Cl.
Vln.
Vc.

45 **rit.**

Fl.
Cl.
Vln.
Vc.

C Gentler

49

Fl. *mf* *p*

Cl. *mp* *mf*

Vln. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

56

Fl.

Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

D Moving Again

65

Fl. *p* *mf*

Cl. *p* *mf*

Vln. *p* *mf* *pizz.*

Vc. *p* *mp*