

Peter Knell

Intimate Voices *for string orchestra*

SAMPLE

Duration: ca. 10 minutes

Peter Knell

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Biography

Peter Knell (b. 1970) has received numerous awards in national and international competitions, including First Prizes in the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's 10th New Music Festival International Composers Competition, the Indiana State University Contemporary Music Festival/Louisville Orchestra Prize, and the Omaha Symphony Guild International New Music Competition, as well as Second Prizes in the Fourth International Witold Lutoslawski Composers Competition, the First International Composers' Competition "*In Memoriam Zoltán Kodály*", and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra's Young Composers Competition. Peter was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship, a BMI Student Composer Award, two ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Young Composers Awards, grants from the Paloheimo Foundation and Meet the Composer, and commissions from the Fromm Music Foundation/Ying Quartet, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Barlow Endowment for Music Composition, Utah Arts Festival, Pacific Serenades, Oakland East Bay Symphony, and Dale Warland Singers, among others.

Peter's music has been performed at the Aspen, Bowdoin, Chautauqua, June in Buffalo, Norfolk, Oregon Bach, Ernest Bloch, New Music North and MATA festivals, by ensembles such as the Hungarian Radio Orchestra, Louisville Orchestra, Kremlin Chamber Orchestra, Filharmonia de Stat "Transilvania", Winnipeg, Omaha, Richmond, Memphis, and Oakland East Bay Symphony Orchestras, the Doric String Quartet, Onyx String Quartet, Verdi Quartett, Southwest Chamber Music, Volti Chamber Chorus, counter(induction), and by soloists including James Dunham, Martin Chalifour, and the German alto Ingeborg Danz. It has been broadcast in Russia, Canada, Hungary and Finland, as well as in several American cities. His orchestral work *LINES/ANGLES* was the American selection for the ISCM World Music Days 2009 and was performed in September 2009 by the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra.

Peter's solo violin work *Seven Last Words*, based on paintings of German artist Rolf Stein, is available in a book/compact disc format from Valve-Hearts, Cologne. A compact disc featuring his orchestral work, "...*the weakening eye of day*" in a live performance by the Budapest Symphony Orchestra is available on the Artisjus label, and a compact disc featuring German pianist Susanne Kessel performing two of his *Four Snapshots* is available on OehmsClassics. A compact disc of Peter's complete piano music performed by German pianist Markus Pawlik was released by Sono Luminus in 2013.

Peter holds degrees from Princeton University (BA), the Juilliard School (MM), and the University of Texas at Austin (DMA), and he was a Fulbright Fellow at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland. His principal composition teachers have included Dan Welcher, Donald Grantham, and David Diamond. He is currently based in Los Angeles.

Program Note

Intimate Voices was commissioned by the Lyris Quartet to be recorded with Janacek's *Intimate Letters* and three other newly commissioned works. In conceiving the work, I was struck by how little Janacek's work corresponded with my conception of intimacy; in my opinion, his work should more appropriately be called "*Passionate*" Letters. In my work, I decided to explore my notion of intimacy. I explore the gentle side of the string quartet, with ideas unfolding gradually and organically in a single formal arc. Although the affect of *Intimate Voices* contrasts strongly with the Janacek, the materials out of which the work is constructed all transform materials from *Intimate Letters*. The passionate opening theme of the first movement appears transformed into a searching melody that becomes the principal melodic material for *Intimate Voices*. But the core of the work comes from the eerie melody initially stated by the viola about ten seconds into the first movement of *Intimate Letters*. The first four notes of Janacek's motive – G-C-F#-D – become a harmonic and melodic palette from which my entire work evolves.

Commissioned by Miriam Schulman

Intimate Voices

Hushed, Sususpended ($\sigma = 60$)

Peter Knell (*1970)

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

7

14

A

ppp <*p*> *n* *pp* *n*

n *pp* > <*mp*> *n* *pp*

n *pp* > <*mp*> *n* *pp*

n <*p*> *n* *pp* *n*

19

p *n* *mp* *pp*

n *p* *n* > <*mp*> *pp*

n *p* *n* > <*mp*> *pp*

n *p* *n* > <*mp*> *pp*

B

28 *accel.*

33

(♩ = 96)
unis.
mf
unis.
mf
unis.
mf
unis.
mf
mf

C Still Hushed (♩ = 96)

sim.
n
sim.
n
sim.
n
sim.
n
pp
pp
pp
pp
3/4

D slightly faster ($\downarrow = 104$)

Musical score for four staves (Treble, Alto, Bass, and a lower Bass staff) in common time. The key signature changes between measures 1-2 (F major), 3-4 (D major), 5-6 (B-flat major), and 7-10 (A major). Measure 1: Treble staff starts with a dynamic of p . Measures 2-4: Treble staff continues with p , followed by a measure of $b\text{p}$. Measures 5-6: Treble staff continues with p , followed by a measure of $b\text{p}$. Measures 7-10: Treble staff continues with p , followed by a measure of $b\text{p}$.

61 slightly faster ($\text{♩} = 112$)

Measures 61-62:

- Measure 61: $\text{♩} = 112$, pp
- Measure 62: $\text{♩} = 112$, p

Measures 63-64:

- Measure 63: $\text{♩} = 112$, pp
- Measure 64: $\text{♩} = 112$, pp

E slightly faster ($\text{♩} = 120$)

Measures E-E:

- Measure E: $\text{♩} = 120$, p
- Measure F: $\text{♩} = 120$, pp

Measures G-H:

- Measure G: $\text{♩} = 120$, pp
- Measure H: $\text{♩} = 120$, pp

76

poco a poco agitando

4

4

4

4

4

(♩ = 132)

85

4

4

4

4

4

F Open (♩ = 48)

1 solo *p* *pp* *p* tutti div.

gli altri *pp*

1 solo *p* *pp* *p* tutti div.

gli altri *pp*

1 sola *p* *pp* *p* tutti div.

gli altri *pp*

1 sola *p* *pp* *p* tutti div.

gli altri *pp*

1 sola *p* *pp* *p* tutti div.

gli altri *pp*

1 sola *p* *pp* *p* tutti div.

gli altri *pp*

1 sola *p* *pp* *p* tutti div.

gli altri *pp*

G Mysterious (♩ = 60)

unis. *n* <> <> <> <> *ppp*

unis. *n* <> <> <> <> *ppp*

tutti *n* <> <> <> <> *ppp*

107

This musical score page contains four staves of music for orchestra and piano. The top staff is for the piano, showing a treble clef and common time. The second staff is for the first violin, the third for the second violin, and the fourth for the cello. Measure 107 begins with a dynamic of p . The piano part has a sixteenth-note pattern. The strings play eighth-note patterns. Measures 108 and 109 continue with similar patterns, with dynamics pp and *hesitant div.* markings. Measure 110 begins with a dynamic of p . The piano part has a sixteenth-note pattern. The strings play eighth-note patterns. The score features a large, semi-transparent watermark reading "SAMPLE" diagonally across the page.

110

113

H

unis.

pp

subito pp

subito pp

unis.

p

subito pp

poco a poco agitando

119

122

(♩ = 96)

125

rit.

ffz

sffz

ffz

129

div.

I Hushed (♩ = 96)

div. bell-like

pp (sempre) bell-like div.

pp (sempre)

div.

ffz

pp (sempre)

ffz

134

unis.

p

139

div.

pp

p

p

146

A musical score page featuring four staves of music. The top staff uses a treble clef, the second staff a soprano clef, the third staff a bass clef, and the bottom staff an alto clef. The key signature is one sharp. The music consists of measures 146 through 150. Measure 146 starts with a dotted half note. Measures 147-149 feature eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. Measure 150 concludes with a half note. The notation includes various note heads (diamonds, circles, triangles) and stems.

151

A musical score page featuring four staves of music. The top staff uses a treble clef, the second staff a soprano clef, the third staff a bass clef, and the bottom staff an alto clef. The key signature changes to two sharps. The music consists of measures 151 through 155. Measures 151-154 show eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. Measure 155 concludes with a half note. The notation includes various note heads (diamonds, circles, triangles) and stems.

J

162

168

pp

pp

pp

pp

174

K

mp

mp

mp

mp

180

L

p

p

p

p

186

pp

pp

pp

pp

A musical score page featuring four staves of music. The top staff uses a treble clef, the second staff a soprano clef, the third staff a bass clef, and the bottom staff a bass clef. The music consists of various note heads (diamonds, squares, triangles) and rests, with some notes connected by horizontal lines. Measure 193 is indicated at the top left. A large, faint watermark with the letters 'DOD' is visible across the page.

199

ff ff

div.

pp

M

unis.

ppp

morendo

unis.

ppp

ppp

209

div.

unis.

div.

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