

Vireo Canons and Chorale

Lisa Bielawa

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Note

Premiere: April 15, 2013, Eidson-Duckwall Hall at Butler University. Commissioned by American Pianists Association

Duration: 6'
Instrumentation: Solo Piano

There is something incredibly beautiful about watching young musicians discover the depth and expanse of their own talent. As I began work on this short offering for an as-yet-unknown young pianist, I remembered how that fierce energy felt to me in my early 20's when I was just discovering that I was actually a composer. Like Prokofiev in his third piano sonata, I went back to old notebooks from that time and found my drafts for a massively ambitious full-length opera entitled 'Vireo.' I took a few fragments of material from these notebooks and created multiple canons and an expansive chorale from it - the piece is both a dialogue with my earlier self and a celebratory embrace of a new generation of musicians.

– Lisa Bielawa

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