Winter Song
for solo flute and chamber winds

Steve Danyew

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Winter Song (2018)

Commissioned by Sam Houston State University Symphonic Band, Brian Gibbs, Conductor

Duration: 9 minutes

Solo C Flute

Chamber Winds:
3 Flutes
2 Bassoons
6 Clarinets in Bb (2 players per part)
1 Bass Clarinet in Bb
1 Contrabass Clarinet in Bb
1 Soprano Saxophone in Bb
1 Alto Saxophone in Eb
1 Tenor Saxophone in Bb
1 Baritone Saxophone in Eb
2 French Horns in F
1 Double Bass
Percussion 1: Marimba, Tam-tam (med./small)
Percussion 2: Vibraphone, Suspended Cymbal (large/dark sound)
Percussion 3: Crotales (2 octaves), Wind Chimes, Triangle,
Percussion 4: Bass Drum, Chimes, Triangle, Suspended Cymbal (large/dark sound)

Notes to the Conductor

1. No key signatures are displayed in the score for transposing instruments or concert pitch instruments because the music moves through many key areas. However, for transposing instruments, the notes displayed in the score are transposed (notes in the score are the same as what the player sees in their part).

2. This piece was originally written for solo flute and string orchestra. Much of the music beneath the solo flute part is very sustained, and therefore it is important that wind players stagger breathe and hold notes to their full value to achieve the sustained textures.

Program Note

Winter can, at times, present us with spectacular beauty – snow covered landscapes glistening in the morning sunlight. Other times, winter can be bleak and unforgiving. When I think of winter scenes, I mostly think of a stillness and quietness that is often not found other times of the year. I try in some way to reflect all of these sights and feelings in Winter Song. There is much stillness and stasis in the music throughout, but at times the music grows intense and dramatic, especially as the work leads to a climax in the middle of the piece. After this point, we hear the beginnings of a familiar bird call (the black capped Chickadee), perhaps a sign of spring. The quiet and stark music begins to grow warmer at the end, hinting at the gradual relenting of winter and the unfolding of spring.
Duration: 9 minutes

Transposed Score*

*No key signature is displayed for transposing instruments since the music moves through so many key areas. But the notes displayed on the score are transposed.

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Tempo I  \( \frac{4}{4} \) \( \text{q} = 66 \)

Poco più mosso \( \frac{4}{4} \) \( \text{q} = 76 \)

SOLO FL.

Marimba

Vibraphone

very soft mallets

Wind Chimes

Push a few of the wind chimes gently away from the instrument (push sideways instead of along the row of chimes), creating a random sound.

Sus. Cymbal

scrape with beater
Bottom notes preferred. If no C extension, play top notes.

Wind Chimes

(same technique as earlier)
Fl. 1
Fl. 2+3
Bsn. 1+2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2+3
B. Cl. in Bb
Cb. Cl. in Bb
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
T. Sx.
B. Sx.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
D.B.
SOLO FL.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Perc. 3
Perc. 4

legato, cantabile

mf stagger breathe throughout section

If in C extension, play top notes.
PERUSAL SCORE
NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION OR PERFORMANCE
L.V. throughout Crotales, bowed

Wind Chimes

P Push a few of the wind chimes gently away from the instrument (push sideways instead of along the row of chimes), creating a random sound.