

Alexandra Gardner

Vixen

mixed chamber ensemble

(2016)

PERUSAL SCORE - NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

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Vixen

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(2016)

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Instrumentation

Flute
Clarinet in Bb
Alto Saxophone
Vibraphone
Piano
Violin
Cello

Program Note

Vixen was commissioned by the Grand Valley State University New Music Ensemble for its National Parks Project, with support from The National Endowment for the Arts. During the early planning stages for this music, which is based on Yellowstone National Park, I came across the Yellowstone Sound Library, a wonderful online resource that offers a wide range of field recordings taken throughout the park. I was especially drawn to the sounds of the various geysers, and the Vixen geyser in particular caught my ears because of its interesting eruption pattern. It has a very rhythmic, punchy explosion, with a surprisingly mellow, gurgling finish as the water it just spewed out drains back into its crater. I decided to make the shape of the eruption into the form of the musical composition—the first three-quarters of the piece have a driving, relentless pulse punctuated with fits and starts, and then the rhythmic material slams to halt, replaced by gently overlapping layers of extended tones and bubbling trills that slowly disappear into thin air. Of course it was impossible to resist using the name Vixen, which is perfect given the geyser's unpredictable, spitfire disposition!

World Premiere

July 1, 2016 at Badlands National Park
Grand Valley State University New Music Ensemble
Bill Ryan, director

Commissioned by the Grand Valley State University New Music Ensemble

Vixen

Alexandra Gardner (2016)

Energetic, with a touch of sass ♩ = 92

Flute

Clarinet in B $\flat$

Alto Saxophone

Vibraphone

hard yarn mallets
motor off

f *sempre*
no pedal until indicated

Piano

Energetic, with a touch of sass $\text{♩} = 92$

Violin

Cello

NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

PERUSAL SCORE - NO. 1

8

Fl.

f

mp

B♭ Cl.

f

mp

A. Sax.

f

mp

Vib.

Pno.

f

f

Vln.

f

Vc.

A

Fl. *f* *mp*

B♭ Cl. *f* *p*

A. Sx. *f*

Vib.

Pno.

A

Vln.

Vc.

27

Fl. *f* *mp*

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx. *p*

Vib.

Pno.

Vln. *f* *mp*

Vc. *f*

pizz. (play 2nd time ONLY)

f

PERUSAL SCORE - NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

31

Fl. *f*

B♭ Cl. *ff*

A. Sx. *mp* *ff*

Vib.

Pno.

Vln. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

B

35

Fl. *f* *sempre*

B♭ Cl. *mf*

A. Sx. *mf*

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc. *f* *arco*

PERUSAL SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

39

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

p

mf

f

mp

sfz

43

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

p

mf

f

mp

f

mp

PERUSAL SCORE - NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

47

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

51

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

55

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

61

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

67

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sax.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

71

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sax.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

PERUSAL SCORE - NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

D

Fl. *f* *mp*

B♭ Cl. *f* *mp*

A. Sx. (don't repeat this note) *ff* *f*

Vib.

Pno.

D

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f*

79

Fl. *f* *mp* *f*

B♭ Cl. *f* *mp* *f*

A. Sx. *mp* *mf*

Vib.

Pno.

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f* pizz. (play 2nd time ONLY)

83

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

86

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

ff

mf

f

f

ff

PERUSHIN SCORE (NOT FOR PERFORMANCE)

89

Fl. *ff*

B♭ Cl. *f*

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln. *f* *ff*

Vc.

93

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

B♭ Cl. *ff* *ff*

A. Sx. *ff* *ff*

Vib.

Pno. *ff* *ff*

Vln.

Vc. *ff* *ff*

PERUSA SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

6

5

Rea

E

E

97

Fl. *f* *sempre*

B♭ Cl. *mf* *sempre*

A. Sx. *mf* *sempre*

Vib.

Pno.

Vln. *f* *arco*

Vc.

101

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc. *f* *arco* *ff* *sfz* *f*

105

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

109

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

f *ff* *fff* *mp*

PERUSAL SCORE - NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

128

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

140

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

A. Sx.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

PERUSAL SCORE - NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

Fl. *mp* *mp* *f* *mp* *p* *mf*

B♭ Cl. *mp* *mp* *f* *mp* *p* *mf*

A. Sx. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Vib. *mf* *mf*

Pno. *mf* *mf*

Vln. *mp* *f* *mp* *p* *mf* *p*

Vc. *mp* *f* *mp* *p* *mf* *p*

164 *rit.*

Fl. *p* *p* *mf* *p*

B♭ Cl. *p* *p* *mf* *p*

A. Sx. *p* *mf* *ppp*

Vib. *mf*

Pno. *mf*

Vln. *p* *mf* *p*

Vc. *p* *mf* *p*