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à mon cher maître Karel Husa

Serenade

for Nine Instruments

by

Byron Adams (b. 1955)

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Instrumentation

Flute

Clarinet (A and B $\flat$)

Bassoon

Horn in F

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

Duration: circa 22 minutes

Preface

For many years, I wanted to compose an homage to the great Czech-American composer Karel Husa (b. 1921), who was my composition teacher at Cornell University. I hesitated for a long time, as I was unsure what musical form this might take. The confluence of a commission from Mark Mandarano for the Sinfonietta of Riverdale and Professor Husa's ninetieth birthday in 2011 provided the key that unlocked the portal to sustained invention. I have sought to honor Husa by paying an affectionate tribute to his music in particular and Czech music in general. To make my aim explicit, I have quoted two traditional Czech songs that Husa has used in his own music, as well as the opening bars of Smetana's *Má vlast*; these quotations are identified at the points in the *Serenade* when they first appear in their complete form. Finally, I sought to craft a score filled with lyricism, charm, and gentle wit, but leavened by an occasional touch of melancholy.

—Byron Adams

à mon cher maître Karel Husa

Serenade

for Nine Instruments

I.

Byron Adams

Allegro amabile (M.M. ♩ = ca. 106 - 108)

Flute

Clarinet in A

Bassoon

Horn in F

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

mp cantabile

mp cantabile

pizz.

p quasi arpa

p legato e calando

p legato e calando

pizz.

p quasi arpa

pizz.

p leggero

8

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf legato e cantabile

mf legato e cantabile

arco

mp

p

mp

p

mp

pizz.

arco

mp

p

mp

p

mp

pizz.

arco

mp

p

mp

p

mp

arco

mp

p

mp

p

mp

15

rall. Un poco meno mosso

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

mf legato e cantabile

Vln. I

p mp> mf dim. pizz. rall. Un poco meno mosso

Vln. II

p mp> mf dim. p legato, ma leggero sul tasto

Vla.

p mp> mf dim. p legato, ma leggero sul tasto

Vc.

p mp> mf dim. pizz. arco

Cb.

mf dim. mp> p mp> p mp>

22

Solo

Fl.

mf ben cantando

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

pp da lontano pp pp

Vln. I

pp sul A

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

p

Cb.

p

29

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

f

mf

mp

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

rall.

niente

V

V

V

37

Tempo I

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p scherzando

p scherzando

p scherzando

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

p

49

49

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Clarinet in Bb

II. Ballade

Andante moderato e teneramente (♩. = ca. 50)

Flute

Clarinet in B♭

Bassoon

Horn in F

Violin I
con sordino, sul tasto
p legato, tranquillo

Violin II
con sordino, sul tasto
p legato, tranquillo

Viola
con sordino, sul tasto
p legato, tranquillo

Violoncello
con sordino, sul tasto
p legato, tranquillo

Contrabass

7

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I
mp

Vln. II
mp

Vla.
mp

Vc.
mp

Cb.

12

Fl. *mp* like a distant hymn *niente*

Cl. *pp* like a distant hymn *niente*

Bsn. *pp* like a distant hymn *niente*

Hn. *con sordino*
pp like a distant hymn *niente*

Vln. I *pp* *p legato*

Vln. II *pp* *p legato*

Vla. *pp* *p legato*

Vc. *pp* *p legato*

Cb. *p*

19

Fl.

Cl. *pp* as if from afar

Bsn. *pp* as if from afar

Hn. *pp* as if from afar

Vln. I *mp* *pp* *p*

Vln. II *mp* *pp* *p*

Vla. *mp* *pp* *p*

Vc. *mp* *pp* *p*

Cb. *mp* *pp* *p*

[illegible]

38

Fl. *mp* *mp* *mp*

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I *mp* niente *mp*

Vln. II

Vla. *mp* niente *mp*

Vc.

Cb.

42

Fl. *tr* *p*

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb. *mp*

III. Intermezzo

Allegretto grazioso ma un poco scherzando (♩ = 72)

Flute

Clarinet in A

Bassoon

Horn in F

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

5

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mp *giocoso*

f *brusque* 3 3

(gestopft) +

sfz *nasty* *f* *brusque* *sfz*

pizz. *p* *delicato*

pizz. *p* *delicato*

pizz. *p* *delicato*

pizz. *p* *delicato*

pizz. *p* *delicato*

pizz. *p* *delicato*

sfz *p* *sfz*

mp

p

f 3 3

p

f *sfz* *p*

p

p

p

p

sfz

p

sfz

8

Fl. *mp* *< mf* *mp* *< mf* *mp*

Cl.

Bsn. *p*

Hn. *p*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc. *p*

Cb. *p*

12

Fl. *mp*

Cl. *mf legato, misterioso, eerie*

Bsn. *pp*

Hn. *pp*

Vln. I *p* *sfz* *p*

Vln. II *p* *sfz* *p*

Vla. *p* *sfz* *p*

Vc. *p* *sfz* *p*

Cb. *p* *sfz* *p*

16

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

21

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

26

poch. rall.

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

30 a tempo

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mp giocoso

f brusque

sfz, nasty

f brusque

sfz

p

p

p

p

p

p

sfz

sfz

sfz

sfz

sfz

p

p

sfz

sfz

IV. Finale

Allegro giocoso (♩. = 88)

Flute *f*

Clarinet in A *f*

Bassoon *f*

Horn in F *f* Solo, heroic and brassy *ff*

Violin I *f* *mf*

Violin II *f* *mf*

Viola *f* *mf*

Violoncello *f* *mf*

Contrabass *f* *mf*

7

Fl. *f*

Cl. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Hn. *ff* *f*

Vln. I *f* *mf* *mf* *mf*

Vln. II *f* *mf* *mf* *mf*

Vla. *f* *mf* *mf* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf* *mf* *mf*

Cb. *f* *mf* *mf* *mf*

15

Solo

f *mf* *leggero e bonario*

mp *mp* *mp* *mp*

sul tasto

sul tasto

sul tasto

sul tasto

mp

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

20

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p *subtone, legato misterioso*

niente

p

ord. *V*

ord. *V*

ord.

ord. *V*

FL. *mf* *bright* *mp*

CL. *mf* *bright* *mp*

Bsn. *mp* Solo *mf* *dancing, joyous*

Hn. *mf* *bright* *mp*

Vln. I *mf* *pizz*

Vln. II *mf* *pizz*

Vla. *mf* *pizz*

Vc. *mf* *pizz*

Cb. *mf* *pizz*

39

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

47

Fl.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

mf

mf

poco rall.