

Sarah Lianne Lewis
Figure of a King

2013

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For Chamber Ensemble

Instrumentation

Flute
Viola
Violoncello
Piano

Programme Note

Figure of a King is inspired by a statue standing in the main stairway of the Victoria & Albert Museum, London. The statue depicts a king with a raven perched alight his left hand, and was carved around 1400 A.D. The stone, preserved by the museum, is pockmarked and weathered with age, the edges round and crumbling, and the museum inscription reads below that the identity of the medieval king is unknown. The statue, along with three others, formed part of the elaborate market cross at Bristol, before it was dismantled in 1762, and bought by a merchant banker to display in the grounds of his estate in Wiltshire.

The melody slowly emerges - played by the cello - through a layer of shimmering harmonies, stately yet unassuming, reacting to the sounds created by the other instruments and evolving in texture and form, so that it slowly disappears and reappears through the harmonies from which it was formed.

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Duration: approx. 7'30"

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Lento ♩ = 62
(slow trill to D \flat)

Flute: *pp*, *flz.*, *p*

Viola: *ppp*, *sim.*, alternate fingering 0 4 0 4 0 4 0 4

Violoncello: *ppp*

Piano: *f*, *p*, *senza pedale*, *Ped.*

8

Fl.: *mp*, *ord. flz.*

Vla.: *p*, *mp*, *p*

Vc.: *solo*, *p*, *mp*, *p*

Pno.

14

Fl.: *mp*, *ord. flz.*

Vla.: *pp*, *ppp*, *sim.*, alternate fingering 0 4 0 4 0 4 0 4

Vc.: *ppp*, *sim.*

Pno.: *mf*, *Ped.*, *3*

19

Fl.

Vla. *solo*
p *mp*

Vc.

Pno. *mf*

Ped.

22

Fl. *ord.* *pp* *mp* *ord.* *flz.* *ord.*

Vla. *p* *p*

Vc.

Pno.

26

Fl. *pp* *ord.* *mp* *flz.* *ord.* *flz.* *ord.* *flz.* *ord.*

Vla. *pp* *pizz.* *f*

Vc. *pizz.* *f* *f*

Pno. *f*

8va

senza pedale

31

Fl. *flz.* *mp* *ord. flz.* *ord. flz.* *ord. flz.*⁴

Vla. *arco* *pp* *mf*

Vc. *arco* *pp* *mf* *p*

Pno. *mf*

Ped.

36

Fl. *solo flz.* *p* *mf* *ord.*

Vla. *solo* *mp*

Vc. *p* *ppp* *sim.* *0 4 0 4 0 4 0 4*

Pno. *f* *8va*

Ped.

41

Fl. *pp* *ord. flz.* *mp* *f* *ord.* *p* *flz.*

Vla. *p* *pizz.* *f*

Vc. *f* *pizz.* *f*

Pno. *f* *p*

senza pedale

Ped.

48

Fl. *p* *flz.* *p* *flz.*

Vla. arco 0 4 0 4 0 4 0 4 *ppp* *sim.*

Vc.

Pno. *p* *mp* *p*

53

Fl. *p* ord.

Vla. arco *pp*

Vc. arco *pp*

Pno. *mp* *mp* *p*

Red.

57

Fl. ord. *mp* *flz.* *f* ord. *flz.*

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

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

Pno. *mp* *pp* *f* *p* *f*

8^{va}