

CONCERTO FOR NATIVE AMERICAN FLUTE AND STRINGS

ANDREW DOWNES

Andrew Downes' *Concerto for Native American Flute and Strings*, the first concerto ever composed for this exquisite instrument of the North American Indians, was conceived during and after the composer made several visits to New Mexico in the mid to late 1990s to hear performances of some of his other works.

The instrument, made of cedarwood, creates a most beautiful woody, haunting sound which seems to come directly from nature, as if it is part of the living world. Indeed, the instrument is seen as a living, vibrant entity by the culture from which it derives, and the player and instrument are seen as a single entity out of which a beautiful natural sound is created.

The strikingly beautiful and natural qualities of the instrument were central to the composer's overall concept when writing the concerto. The instrument is very delicate and quite small in its dynamic range, and any attempt to emulate the wide dynamics of the concert flute would result in a complete destruction of the essential grace of the instrument's natural sounds. The flute is therefore often accompanied by soloists from the orchestra.

The First Movement, *Andante Leggiero*, begins with a plaintive melody on flute - over a cushion of quiet tremolo strings. It perhaps suggests a lone Native Flutist playing on an isolated sacred rock in the middle of the New Mexican desert. The theme is taken over by a solo viola, with the flute playing a counter-theme. It is then played by violas and divisi cellos, while the counter-theme, now played on pizzicato double bass, becomes more rhythmic, jazzy and exciting. After a majestic bridge passage, there is a gradual calming down leading to a contrapuntal development of theme and counter-theme. In the recapitulation, the themes are slightly altered, leading naturally into the coda in which legato phrases wind in and out of each other to form a natural, if unusual, conclusion.

The Second Movement, *Allegro Vivace*, is loosely within a scherzo structure, but never losing its Native American character. The flute skips along over answering strings, and even when the strings move into a majestic melody, the skipping nature of the flute remains. There then follows a more legato second subject with a jazzy pizzicato chordal accompaniment. A third section has very much a "pop" feel, and leads naturally into a recapitulation of the first and second themes. The second subject is then developed, becoming more earnest, particularly in the pizzicato strings. The opening scherzo theme, with variations and echoes, then returns and becomes more and more excited until its abrupt end.

The Finale, *Adagio Espressivo*, starts with a low drone on double bass, suggestive, perhaps, of the wide open spaces of the New Mexican desert. Solo violins, in harmony, answered by lower string soloists, play a theme characterised by short phrases in a lazy, jazzy rhythm, over the top of which the flute gives the impression of improvising. As all these ideas become bigger and more exciting, the double bass drone continues. An ostinato on lower strings then accompanies a flowing melody on violins, which is then treated more meditatively by the flute. All the ideas so far are treated to development in the lower strings, with the occasional rhythmic pizzicato interpolation, suggestive, perhaps, of native American dance. A new flowing accompaniment on violins introduces a theme quoted from Andrew Downes' Oratorio: *New Dawn* (based on Native American poetry), with the solo flute winding throughout the texture with a counter-theme. The double bass drone suddenly returns, and fragmentary versions of previous material bring the work to a quiet close.

AD and CRD

**CONCERTO FOR
NATIVE AMERICAN FLUTE
AND STRINGS**

1

Andante leggiere

$\text{J} = 70$

molto espress.

ANDREW DOWNES

Native American Flute

Musical score page 1. The score consists of six staves. The top staff is for the Native American Flute, which begins with a melodic line and includes dynamic markings like *molto espress.*, *mp*, and *divisi trem*. Below it are staves for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double bass. The strings provide harmonic support with sustained notes and rhythmic patterns.



Musical score page 2. The score continues with six staves. The Native American Flute (Nat. Fl.) and Violin I (Vln I) play melodic lines. The Violin II (Vln II), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc), and Double bass (Db) provide harmonic support. A specific section for the Viola is marked *molto espress. legato solo*.



Musical score page 3. The score continues with six staves. The Native American Flute (Nat. Fl.) and Violin I (Vln I) play melodic lines. The Violin II (Vln II), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc), and Double bass (Db) provide harmonic support. A specific section for the Viola is marked *legato tutti*. The Violoncello (Vc) and Double bass (Db) have dynamic markings of *pp*.

20

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

25

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

30 *molto express.*

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

35

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

40

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

=

45

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

=

f

legato tutti

pp

legato divisi

pp

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

=

50

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

=

55

f

mf

mf

mp

molto espress.

Nat.Fl. *mp*
molto espress. e legato solo

Vln I *p.*
molto espress. e legato solo

Vln II *divisi trem*
p.

Vla *PPP divisi trem*

Vc *PPP pizz*

Db. *p*

60

Nat.Fl. *mf*

Vln I solo *tutti divisi trem*
mp

Vln I *ppp*

Vln II solo *tutti divisi trem*
mp

Vln II *PPP*

Vla *molto espress. e legato*
p

Vc *molto espress. e legato*
p

Db.

65

Nat.Fl. *70*

Vln I solo

Vln I

Vln II solo

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db. *mf*

Preview File Only

Nat.Fl.

Vln I solo

Vln I

Vln II solo

Vln II

Vla

Vc

D. b.

==

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

D. b.

Preview File Only

==

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

D. b.

85

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

D. b.

pizz divisi

mp

pizz divisi

mp

(pizz) divisi

p

mf

90

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

D. b.

fff cresc

ff

cresc

mp

mp

f

divisi

p

divisi

p

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

D. b.

fff cresc

f subito

f subito

ff

ff

ff subito

95

Nat.Fl. *ffff*

Vln I *mp subito*

Vln II *mp subito*

Vla

Vc

Db. *ff*

PREVIEW FILE ONLY

Nat.Fl. *ffff*

Vln I

Vln II *mp sion*

Vla

Vc

Db. *mp subito*

100 b

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla *appass.*

Vc *fff*

Db. *fff*

molto express.

arco divisi trem

ppp subito arco divisi trem

ppp subito

arco appass.

105

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla *molto espress. e legato solo*
p

Vc *pizz*
pp

Db.

110

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc *divisi*
mp

Db. *pizz*
mf

Preview File Only

115

Nat.Fl.

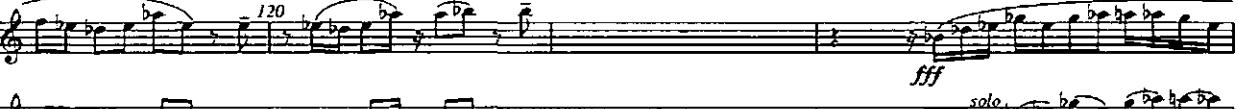
Vln I *leggiere legato*
mp

Vln II *leggiere legato*
mp

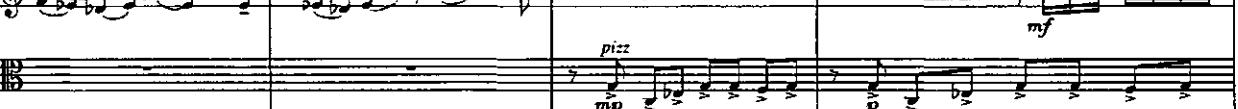
Vla *p*

Vc *p*

Db. *mp*

Nat.Fl. 

 Vln I 

 Vln II 

 Vla 

 Vc 

 Db. 

=

Nat.Fl. 

 Vln I 

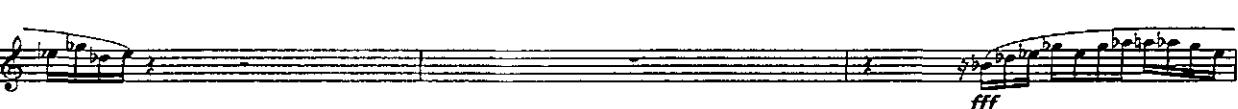
 Vln II 

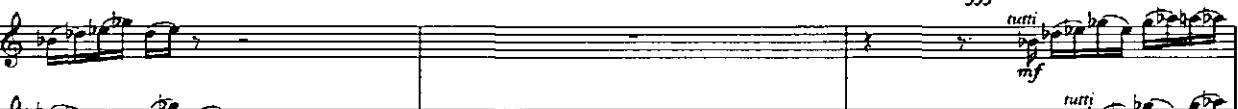
 Vla 

 Vc 

 Db. 

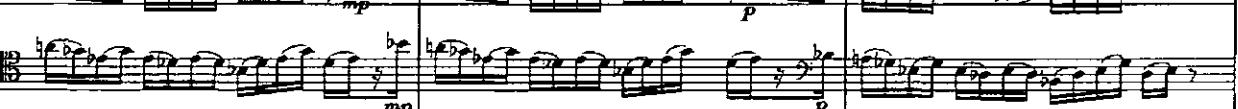
=

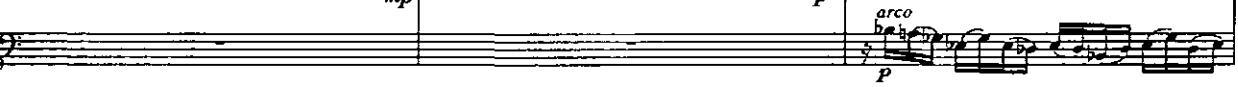
Nat.Fl. 

 Vln I 

 Vln II 

 Vla 

 Vc 

 Db. 

Nat.Fl.

 Vln I

 Vln II

 Vla

 Vc

 Db.

Nat.Fl.

 Vln I

 Vln II

 Vla

 Vc

 Db.

Preview File Only

Nat.Fl.

 Vln I

 Vln II

 Vla

 Vc

 Db.

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

D. b.

140

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

D. b.

length 8' approx

arco solo

pp

pp

arco solo

pp

(solo)

pp

ppp

ppp

pizz

p

[all repeats are obligatory]

Allegro Vivace

♩ = 116

Native American Flute 

≡

Nat. Fl. 

≡

Nat. Fl. 15 

≡

Nat. Fl. 20 

Nat. Fl.

 Vln I

 Vln II *mp*

 Vla *mf*

 Vc. *mf*

 Db. *mf*

= =

Nat. Fl. *ff*

 Vln I *mf*

 Vln II *mf*

 Vla *mf*

 Vc.

 Db.

= =

Nat. Fl. *mf cresc*

 Vln I

 Vln II

 Vla *p cresc* *divisi*

 Vc. *p cresc* *pizz*

 Db. *mf cresc*

= =

Nat. Fl. *mf* *mp*

 Vln I *mf* *mp* *solo*

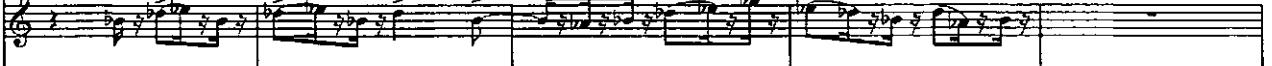
 Vln II *mp* *solo*

 Vla *f* *mf* *solo*

 Vc.

 Db. *fff*

Nat. Fl. 

 Vln I 

 Vln II 

 Vla 

 Vc. 

 Db. 

arco

f

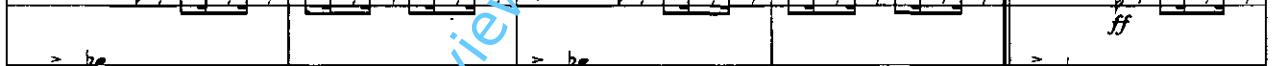
==

Nat. Fl. 

 Vln I 

 Vln II 

 Vla 

 Vc. 

 Db. 

50

Preview FILE ONLY

divisi

fff

tutti

fff

divisi

fff

tutti

fff

fff

==

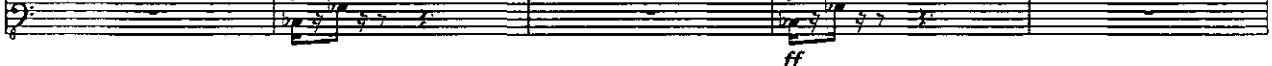
Nat. Fl. 

 Vln I 

 Vln II 

 Vla 

 Vc. 

 Db. 

55

fff

mf

fff

==

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. B.

f
mp
pp
p
mf

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. B.

mf
f
pp
ppp
pizz
mp
pp
mf

Preview File Only

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. B.

ff
mf
p
ppp
pizz
f
mp
f

Nat. Fl. *f* 85 *ff* 90

Vln I *pp* *divisi* *p* *pp*

Vln II *pp* *p* *pp*

Vla *pizz* *mf* *mf* *mp* *p*

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

Db. *mf* *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Nat. Fl. 95 *mf* 100 *f*

Vln I *PPP* *PPP* *divisi* *PPP* *PP*

Vln II *PPP* *PPP* *PPP* *PP*

Vla *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

Vc. *pp* *pp* *pp* *mp* *pizz* *bp*

Db. *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *mp* *bp*

Nat. Fl. 105 *ff* 110

Vln I *divisi* *p* *pp* *ppp*

Vln II *p* *pp* *ppp*

Vla *pizz* *mf* *mf* *mp* *p* *pp*

Vc. *mf* *mf* *mp* *p* *pp*

Db. *mf* *f* *mf* *mp* *p* *pp*

115

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. b.

120

125

130

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. b.

1. 12. 135

3

Review File Only

140

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. b.

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. b.

mf

145 *b>*

Nat. Fl.

Vln I.

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. b.

ff

mf

mf

150 *b>*

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. b.

p cresc

divisi

p cresc

pizz

mf cresc

155

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. b.

mf

mp

solo

mp

solo

mp

f

mf

f

fff

160

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. B.

arco f

f

165

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

tutti

ff

Vln II

ff

tutti

fff

Vla

Vc.

D. B.

divisi

fff

170

divisi

fff

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. B.

fff

mf

mf

ff

175

b>

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. B.

f

mp

pp

p

mf

180

b>

♩ = ♩

185

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. B.

mp

divisi pizz

ppp

pizz

pp

divisi pizz

pp

p

(arco)

mp

==

190

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. B.

mf

pp

pp

mp

divisi

mp

divisi

mp

mp

mf

==

200

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

D. B.

ff

mf cresc

mf

mf

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

pizz

ff

ff

ff

20

Nat. Fl. 205 f mf mp 210 f subito mf mp

Vln I mp subito P pp mp subito P pp

Vln II mp subito P pp mp subito p pp

Vla mp subito P pp mp subito p pp

Vc.

D. b. b. b. b.

poco rall. a tempo

Nat. Fl. p pp mf subito 215 b. b. b. b.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla arco p cresc

Vc.

D. b. b. b. b.

Preview File Only

Nat. Fl. 220 mf

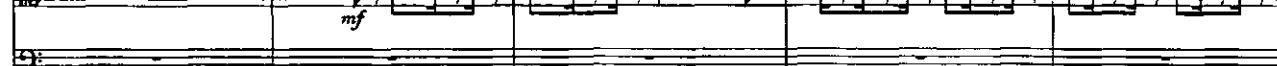
Vln I arco b. b. b. b. f

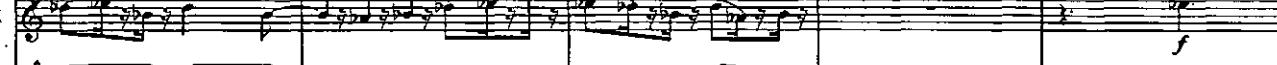
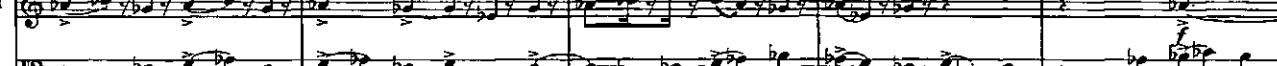
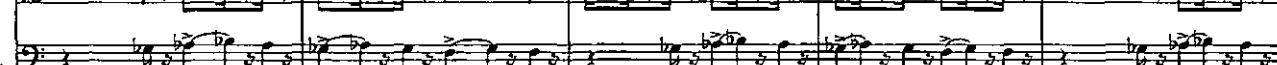
Vln II arco b. b. b. b. f

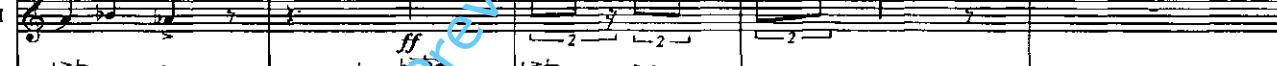
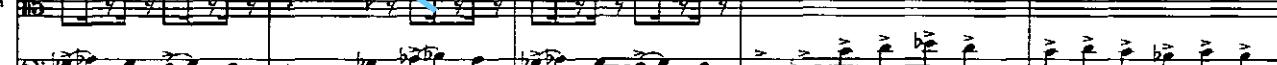
Vla

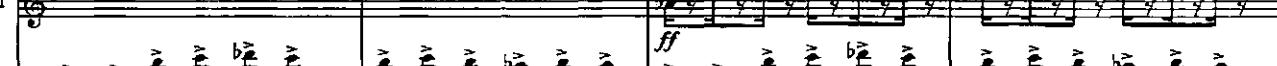
Vc. divisi b. b. b. b. mp cresc b. b. b. b.

D. b. b. b. b. pizz ff

Nat. Fl. 
 Vln I 
 Vln II 
 Vla 
 Vc. 

Nat. Fl. 
 Vln I 
 Vln II 
 Vla 
 Vc. 

Nat. Fl. 
 Vln I 
 Vln II 
 Vla 
 Vc. 

Nat. Fl. 
 Vln I 
 Vln II 
 Vla 
 Vc. 

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

245

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

length 5'30"

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

all reports are obligatory

Adagio espressivo

$$\beta = 60^\circ$$

5

Native American Flute

Violin I

leggiero

2015

1

*leggiero
solo*

*leggiero
solo*

Violoncello

pp

Double bass

13

Nat.Fl.

10

三

Nat. Fl.

Vln 1

131-II

v_c

121

三

15

• 11

V_a

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Nat.Fl. *mf cresc* *f cresc*

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

20

Nat.Fl. *f*

Vln I

Vln II

Vla *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Db.

25

Nat.Fl. *divisi* *mp*

Vln I *f* *divisi*

Vln II *f* *ff divisi*

Vla *f* *ff divisi*

Vc. *ff* *ff divisi*

Db.

30

Nat.Fl. *solo* *f*

Vln I *p solo* *pp*

Vln II *p* *pp*

Vla *p* *divisi* *p*

Vc. *p* *p* *p* *p*

Db. *pizz* *mp*

Nat.Fl. 35
 Vln I *tutti* *f*
 Vln II *tutti* *p*
 Vla *pp*
 Vc. *pp*
 Db. *p*
mp

Nat.Fl. *f*
 Vln I *p*
 Vln II *p*
 Vla *pp*
 Vc. *mp*
 Db. *p*
mf
mp

Nat.Fl. *mp*
 Vln I *solo* *p*
 Vln II *pp*
 Vla *solo* *pp*
 Vc. *pp*
 Db. *mp*
pizz.
mp

Nat.Fl. *ff*
 Vln I *tutti* *mp*
 Vln II *tutti* *mp*
 Vla divisi
 Vc. *mp*
 Db. *mf*

55

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *divisi*

Vln II *pizz.* *mf*

Vla *pizz.* *mf*

Vc. *pizz.* *mf*

Db.

==

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *divisi*

Vln II *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc. *mf* *divisi* *arco*

Db.

==

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla *mp subito*

Vc.

Db.

1. 2.

60

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

f

mf *mp* *p*

mf *mp* *p*

mf *mp*

solo *p*

arco

pp

==

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

solos

PPP

PP

P

pp

65

70

Nat.Fl. *tutti*

Vln I *PPP* *tutti*

Vln II *PPP* *tutti*

Vla *PPP* *tutti* *mp*

Vc. *pizz*

Db. *p*

Nat.Fl. *f*

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db. *arco* *pp*

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc. *divisi* *p*

Db. *p*

Nat.Fl. *mf* *divisi*

Vln I

Vln II

Vla *solos* *divisi* *mp* *p*

Vc. *pp* *mp* *p*

Db. *pizz*

85

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

solo

ppp

solo

ppp

divisi

ppp

solo

mp

pp

arco

p

90

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

leggiere tutti

pp

solo

pp

leggiere tutti

pp

leggiere tutti

pp

leggiere tutti

pp

95

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

tutti

pp

tutti

pp

solo

#

#

duration 9' approx

rall.

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

100

rall.

duration of Concerto 23' approx

Preview File Only

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