

COMPOSER'S NOTES:

Capriccio

Capriccio for string quartet, piccolo, flute, alto and bass flutes, and percussion was commissioned in 2002 by Mooredale Concerts with the financial assistance of the Laidlaw Foundation.

The piece is in four movements.

Movement 1: "Dreams" is a theme with four variations. The bass flute is featured throughout this movement. The main theme, introduced by the bass flute, is very dark and ominous. It is supported by metal wind chimes, rainstick, and finger cymbals. Variation 1: This is a trio for bass flute, solo violin and vibraphone. This combination creates an ethereal atmosphere. Variation 2: This variation is fast, loud and aggressive. It features the bass flute, bongos, congas, claves, and strings. The theme in this variation becomes disjointed, creating a nightmarish dream. Variation 4: This features the vibraphone, bass flute and strings. The constant 16th note figuration suggests a dream in which one sees themselves floating above the clouds.

Movement 2: "Dance". The music is very fast and rhythmic. It features the flute, strings and a variety of unpitched percussion. The music takes on a primitive quality. It includes a solo percussion section.

Movement 3: "Meditation". This movement is dedicated in memory of Karen Ann Keiser. The alto flute introduces a very sorrowful, yet beautiful melody. The flute is supported by the strings. The only percussion used in this movement are the chimes, suggesting the church bells tolling.

Movement 4: "Delirium". The music in the final movement is very fast and relentless in nature. It depicts a somewhat bad nightmare. It features the piccolo, flute, marimba, bongos, conga, and strings using a variety of string techniques.

Larysa Kuzmenko / 2002