

jeffrey ryan

yūrei

for solo flute or alto flute

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

Performance notes

Total performance time ca. 6:15.


Flute/Alto Flute

Unless notated with an articulation mark (accent, tenuto, etc.), all entrances are *non-articulated*. Sound emerges from exhale. Suggested special fingerings are given in the score; others may also be possible.

Accidentals hold within each beamed group.

-  1/4-tone sharp.
-  Wide embouchure (air sound only) / mix of pitch and air / normal embouchure.
-  Fingering only.
-  Pitched air sound (primarily used as transition from air to pitch and vice versa).
-  Key click (no air).
-  Pitch sounded with initial key click.
-  Note ends with a strong breath accent.
-  Give note a slight rhythmic and dynamic stress.
-  Bend pitch.
-  Completely cover mouthpiece opening (used with key clicks; sounds M7 lower).
- t.r.* Tongue ram (sounds M7 lower).

Voice

-  Whisper, always at the threshold of audibility for the audience; individual words need not be intelligible.

Other performance notes are given as required in the score.

Programme note

Yūrei are Japanese ghosts, spirits that for whatever reason have been kept from a peaceful afterlife. For centuries they have been a part of Japanese folklore, theatre and visual art, usually depicted dressed in the white burial kimono, with long black hair and without legs, seeming to float just above the ground. Traditionally, upon death, the soul (or “reikon”) awaits the proper burial rites, after which it joins its ancestors and protects the living family. However, if these rites do not take place, or if the soul is driven by powerful emotional conflicts, it can transform into a yūrei and can bridge the gap between the spirit and physical worlds.

This work for solo flute bridges the gap between pitch and air, sound and silence, incorporating the whispered text of a Japanese love poem. It imagines a restless spirit tied to the physical plane by love that was forbidden, and perhaps betrayed. This *Yūrei* remains forever caught between two worlds, at once seen yet unseen, heard yet unheard.

Acknowledgements

Yūrei is dedicated to flutist Mark McGregor with thanks for his invaluable advice.
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Canada Council
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Conseil des Arts
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Oya no iken dé
Akirameta no wo
Mata mo rin-yé dé
Omoi-dasu.

*Father and mother forbade,
and so I gave up my lover; —
Yet still, with the whirl of the Wheel,
the thought of him comes and goes.*

Kaäi, kaäi to
Naku mushi yori mo
Nakanu hotaru ga
Mi wo kogasu.
Nanno ingwa dé
Jitsu naki hito ni
Shin wo akashité, —
Aa kuyashi!

*Numberless insects there are that call
from dawn to evening,
Crying, "I love! I love!" — but the
Firefly's
silent passion,
Making its body burn, is deeper
than all their longing.
Even such is my love...yet I cannot think
through what ingwa
I opened my heart—alas! —
to a being not sincere!*

Wasuraruru
Mi naran to omō
Kokoro koso
Wasuré nu yori mo
Omoi nari-keré.

*To wish to be forgotten by the beloved
is a soul-task harder far
than trying not to forget.*

Hi kururéba
Sasoëshi mono wo —
Akanuma no
Makomo no kuré no
Hitori-né zo uki!

*At the coming of twilight I invited him to
return with me—
Now to sleep alone in the shadow of the
rushes of Akanuma—
Ah! what misery unspeakable!*

from *Japanese Lyrics*
trans. Lafcadio Hearn

to mark mcgregor,

yūrei

jeffrey ryan

for solo flute or alto flute

♩ = 84 As though seen out the corner of one's eye

♩ = ♪ throughout

mf whisper across mouthpiece

inhale

O-ya no i-ken i-ken i-ken i-ken dé dé dé (oo) no i-ken no i-ken no i-ken

finger only

i-ken dé dé (oo) A-ki-ra-me-ta A-ki-ra-me-ta no A-ki-ra-me-ta no wo

inhale

<f mf> *<f mf>*

rit. to... grad. ord.

♩ = 60 (ord.)

rit. to... ♩ = 48

p *pp* *pp* *<p> pp* *pp* *<p> pp*

*entries non-artic. unless otherwise indicated

**with key click

tr accel... decel... add air

pp *<mf>* *pp* *<p> pp*

(a sudden gust) *mf* *p* (♩ = 48)

cover mouthpiece

key clicks only

finger only

p

mf *p* (♩ = 48) *mf* *p* (♩ = 48)

Ma-ta mo rin-yé dé o-mo-i-da su Ma-ta mo rin-yé dé o-mo-i-da su

♩ = 72 sub. (♩ = 108)

p *mf*

p * for alto flute, use previous trill fingering

poco accel. to *tr* *f* *(non-artic.) rit. to*

(rit.) *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *pp*

tr *pp* *mf* *inhale*

O-mo-i-da-su (oo)

finger only

pp *With hesitation, con rubato, melting, unwinding emerge from exhale*

poco accel. (a cascade)

pp *(this phrase in one breath)* *mp*

rit. to *ppp* *p* *pp* *ppp* *pp* *pp* *ppp*

fast *slow* *tr*

♩ = 84 *mf* ♩ = 60 sub.

Ka-ä-i, ka-ä-i to na-ku mu-shi yo-ri mo na-ka-nu ho-ta-ru ga mi wo ko-ga su.

finger only

mp > p

♩ = 84 *mf* ♩ = 60 sub.

Na-n-no in-gwa dé ji-tsu na-ki hi-to ni shin wo a-ka-shi-té, A - a ku - ya shi!

finger only

mp > p

♩ = 72 *pp* *ethereally* *rit. to* ♩ = 60 ♩ = 48 ♩ = 120 sub. (ord.)

thumb only *sim.*

pp *< mf* *p > pp* *p > pp*

(tr) *ord.*

p > pp *pp < p > pp* *p > pp* *p > pp* *< p*

thumb sim. *audible inhale*

pp *p pp* *ff*

breath accent ♩ = 48 sub.

f *pp*

ff explosive

♩ = 60 sub.
gasp (non-artic.)

rit. to ----- ♩ = 48

mf **p** **pp**

accel... decel...

pp **mf** **p**

♩ = 60
p

Hi ku-ru-ré-ba sa-so-ë-shi mo-no wo
finger only

♩ = 48 fast → slow
tr non tr

♩ = 60 *rit. to* -----

p **mp**

♩ = 48 **mp (enter freely)**

A - ka - nu - ma no

(rit.) ----- ♩ = 48 ♩ = 36

pp

* for alto flute,
play ord.

♩ = 60 *mp sim.* ♩ = 48 *mp (in time)*

Ma-ko-mo no ku-ré no Hi-to-ri-né zo u-ki!

pp *(pp)* *p*

finger only

Hi-to-ri-né zo u-ki! Hi-to-ri-né zo u-ki! Hi-to-ri-

né zo u-ki!

* for projection, add very light air across the mouthpiece, if desired

lunga

> n.