

## 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 divided 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 leggiero

$\text{♩} = 70$

*molto espress.*

ANDREW DOWNES

Native American Flute

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Double bass

Nat.Fl.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*molto espress.*  
*legato*  
*solo*

Nat.Fl.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*legato*  
*tutti*  
*pp*  
*legato*  
*divisi*  
*pp*

20

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

25

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

*mf*

*mf*

*mp*

30 *molto espress.*

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

*divisi trem*

*ppp subito*

*divisi trem*

*pp subito*

35

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

*molto espress.*

*legato*

*solo*

*pp*

40

Nat.Fl. 45

Violin I  
Violin II  
Viola  
Vc  
Db.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 40 through 45. The flute part (Nat.Fl.) features a melodic line with slurs and a dynamic marking of *f* at measure 45. The string parts (Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass) provide harmonic support with sustained chords and rhythmic patterns.

Nat.Fl. *f*

Violin I  
Violin II  
Viola  
Vc  
Db.

*legato tutti*  
*pp legato divisi*  
*pp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 46 through 50. The flute part (Nat.Fl.) has a dynamic marking of *f*. The string parts (Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass) are marked *pp* and *legato divisi*. The Viola part has a *legato tutti* instruction. A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is overlaid on the page.

Nat.Fl. 50

Violin I  
Violin II  
Viola  
Vc  
Db.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 51 through 55. The flute part (Nat.Fl.) has a dynamic marking of *f*. The string parts (Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass) continue with their respective parts, maintaining the *pp* dynamic.

Nat.Fl. 55

Violin I  
Violin II  
Viola  
Vc  
Db.

*mf*  
*mf*  
*mp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 56 through 60. The flute part (Nat.Fl.) has a dynamic marking of *f*. The string parts (Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass) are marked *mf* and *mp*.

*molto espress.*

60

Nat.Fl.

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

Vln I

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

Vln II

*divisi*  
*trem*

Vla

*ppp*  
*divisi*  
*trem*

Vc

*ppp*  
*pizz*

Db.

*p*

65

Nat.Fl.

*mf*

Vln I solo

Vln I

*tutti*  
*divisi*  
*trem*

*ppp*

Vln II solo

Vln II

*tutti*  
*divisi*  
*trem*

*ppp*

Vla

*molto espress. e legato*  
*p*

Vc

*molto espress. e legato*  
*p*

Db.

*mp*

70

Nat.Fl.

Vln I solo

Vln I

Vln II solo

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

*mf*

Nat. Fl.

Vln I solo

Vln I

Vln II solo

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

*f*

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

75

*f subito*

*ff*

*trem*

*divisi a 3*

*ff*

*f*

*ff*

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

80

*espressivo*

*mf*

*f*

*ppp subito*

*mp*

*mf*

*ppp subito*

*p*

*mf*

*ppp subito*

*pizz*

*p*

*mp*

*arco*

*f*

*pizz*

*mp*

Nat.Fl. *85* *ff* *cresc*

Vln I *pizz divisi* *mp*

Vln II *pizz divisi* *mp*

Vla *(pizz) divisi* *p* *f*

Vc *(pizz) divisi* *p*

Db. *mf*

Nat.Fl. *90* *fff cresc* *ff* *cresc*

Vln I *mp*

Vln II *mp*

Vla *divisi* *p* *f*

Vc *divisi* *p*

Db.

Nat.Fl. *fff cresc*

Vln I *f subito*

Vln II *f subito*

Vla *arco* *ff*

Vc *arco* *ff*

Db. *ff subito*

95

Nat. Fl. *fff*

Vln I *mp subito* *f subito*

Vln II *mp subito* *f subito*

Vla *ff*

Vc *ff*

Db. *ff*

Nat. Fl. *fff*

Vln I *mp subito*

Vln II *mp subito*

Vla

Vc

Db.

100

Nat. Fl. *molto espress.* *mf*

Vln I *arco divisi trem* *ppp subito*

Vln II *arco divisi trem* *ppp subito*

Vla *appass.* *fff*

Vc *appass.* *fff*

Db. *appass.* *fff*



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 *tutti pizz*  
*mp*

Vc *divisi*  
*mp*

Db. *pizz*  
*mf*

115

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *leggero legato*  
*mp*

Vln II *leggero legato*  
*mp*

Vla *p*

Vc *p*

Db. *mp*

Nat.Fl. *120*

Vln I *fff* *solo* *mf*

Vln II *solo* *mf*

Vla *pizz* *mp* *p*

Vc *pizz* *mp* *p*

Db. *pizz* *mf* *mp*

Nat.Fl. *125*

Vln I *arco solo* *mf*

Vln II *arco solo 1* *mf*

Vla *divisi tutti* *arco solo 2* *mf*

Vc *divisi tutti* *arco solo 2* *mf*

Db. *mf*

Nat.Fl. *fff*

Vln I *tutti* *mf*

Vln II *tutti* *mf*

Vla *mp* *p*

Vc *mp* *p*

Db. *arco* *mf* *p*

Nat.Fl. *130*

Vln I

Vln II

Vla *tutti*  
*mf*

Vc *tutti 1*  
*mf*

Db. *tutti 2*  
*mf*

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla *mp*

Vc *mp*

Db. *arco*  
*b*  
*p*

Nat.Fl. *135*

Vln I *pizz*  
*p*

Vln II *pizz*  
*p*

Vla *pizz*  
*p*

Vc *solos*  
*p*

Db. *pizz*  
*mp*

Nat.Fl. *140*

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc

Db.

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *arco solo* *pp* *ppp*

Vln II *arco solo* *pp* *ppp*

Vla *arco solo* *pp* *ppp*

Vc *(solo)* *pp* *ppp*

Db. *(pizz)* *p*

length 8 approx

all repeats are obligatory

Allegro Vivace

$\text{♩} = 116$

Native American Flute *mf*

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Double bass

Nat. Fl. *mf*

Vin I

Vin II *mp*

Vla

Vc.

Db.

Nat. Fl. *mf*

Vin I

Vin II

Vla *p cresc*  
*divisi*

Vc. *p cresc*

Db.

Nat. Fl.

Vin I *mp*

Vin II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

Nat. Fl. *mf*

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Db. *mf*

25

Nat. Fl. *ff*

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *mf*

Via

Vc.

Db.

30

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Via

Vc. *p cresc*  
*divisi*

Db. *p cresc*  
*pizz*

35

Nat. Fl. *mf*

Vln I *mf* *solo*

Vln II *mf* *solo*

Via *f* *solo*

Vc. *f*

Db. *fff*

40

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

*f*

*arco*

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

*ff*

*tutti*

*divisi*

*fff*

*ff*

*fff*

*ff*

Nat. Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

*fff*

*mf*

*mf*

*ff*

Nat. Fl. *f* *mp* 60

Vln I *2*

Vln II *2* *pp*

Vla *p*

Vc. *mp*

Db. *mf*

Nat. Fl. *mf* *f* 65 70

Vln I *pp* *pp*

Vln II *ppp* *pp*

Vla *pizz* *p*

Vc. *pizz* *p* *mp* *pizz* *mp*

Db. *mp*

*divisi*

Nat. Fl. *ff* *mf* 75 80

Vln I *divisi* *p* *ppp*

Vln II *p* *ppp*

Vla *pizz* *mf* *f*

Vc. *mf* *f* *mp*

Db. *mf* *f* *mp*



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

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

Vln II *pp* *p* *pp*

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

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

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

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

Vln I *ppp* *ppp* *pp*

Vln II *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *divisi* *pp*

Vla *pp* *pp* *ppp*

Vc. *pp* *pp* *ppp* *mp*

Db. *pp* *pp* *ppp* *pizz* *mp*

Nat. Fl. 105 110 *ff*

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

Vln II *p* *pp* *ppp*

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

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

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

115 120 125

Nat. Fl. *mf*

Vln I *solo mp*

Vln II *solo mp*

Vla *pp* *ppp* *p* *arco solo*

Vc. *pp* *ppp* *p* *arco solo*

Db. *pp* *ppp*

130 135

Nat. Fl. *mf cresc* *f* *ff* *mf* *fff* *mf*

Vln I *tutti mf* *divisi f*

Vln II *tutti mf* *divisi f*

Vla *cresc* *mp cresc* *tutti mf* *divisi f*

Vc. *cresc* *mp cresc* *divisi tutti mf* *divisi f*

Db. *f cresc* *ff* *pizz* *f* *arco*

140

Nat. Fl.

Vln I *mp*

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

Nat. Fl. *mf* 145

Vln I *mp*

Vln II *mp*

Vla *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Db. *mf*

Nat. Fl. *ff* 150

Vln I *mf*

Vln II *mf*

Vla

Vc.

Db.

Nat. Fl. 155

Vln I

Vln II

Vla *p cresc*  
*divisi*

Vc. *p cresc*

Db. *mf cresc*

Nat. Fl. *mf* 160

Vln I *solo*  
*mf*

Vln II *solo*  
*mp*

Vla *solo*  
*mf*

Vc. *f*

Db. *fff*

Nat. Fl. 165

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

arco

f

Nat. Fl. 170

Vln I *tutti* *ff*

Vln II *tutti* *ff*

Vla

Vc.

Db.

*divisi* *fff*

*tutti* *ff*

*fff*

Nat. Fl. 175

Vln I *fff*

Vln II *mf*

Vla

Vc.

Db.

*ff*

Nat. Fl. 180

Vln I *f*

Vln II *pp*

Vla *P*

Vc. *mp*

Db. *mf*

185

Nat. Fl. *mp*

Vln I *divisi pizz* *ppp*

Vln II *pizz* *ppp*

Vla *pizz* *pp* *divisi pizz* *p*

Vc. *pp* *p*

Db. *(arco)* *mp*

190

Nat. Fl. *mf* *f*

Vln I *pp* *mp divisi*

Vln II *pp* *mp divisi*

Vla *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Db. *mf*

200

Nat. Fl. *ff* *ff*

Vln I *mf cresc* *f*

Vln II *mf* *f*

Vla *mf* *f*

Vc. *mf* *arco ff*

Db. *pizz ff* *arco ff*

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

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.

Db.

**||**  
poco rall..... a tempo

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

Vln I

Vln II

Vla *arco* *p cresc*

Vc.

Db.

Nat. Fl. 220 *mf*

Vln I *arco* *f*

Vln II *arco* *f*

Vla

Vc. *divisi* *mp cresc*

Db. *pizz* *ff*

Nat. Fl. *mp* 225

Vln I *mf* *mp*

Vln II *mp*

Vla *tutti* *mf*

Vc.

Db.

Nat. Fl. 230

Vln I *f*

Vln II *f*

Vla *f*

Vc. *f*

Db. *arco* *f*

Nat. Fl. 235

Vln I *ff*

Vln II *ff*

Vla *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Db. *ff*

Nat. Fl. 240

Vln I *ff*

Vln II *ff*

Vla *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Db. *ff*

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.

length 5'30"



all repeats are obligatory  
Adagio espressivo  
♩ = 60

Native American Flute

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Double bass

5

*leggiere solo*  
*pp*

*leggiere solo*  
*pp*

*leggiere solo*  
*pp*

*leggiere solo*  
*pp*

*p*

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

10

*mp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

15

*ppp*

*ppp*

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

Vln I *mp*

Vln II *mp*

Vla

Vc.

Db.

Nat.Fl. <sup>20</sup> *f*

Vln I *mp*

Vln II *mp*

Vla *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Db.

Nat.Fl. <sup>25</sup> *mp*

Vln I *f* *divisi ff*

Vln II *f* *divisi ff*

Vla *f* *divisi ff*

Vc. *divisi ff*

Db.

Nat.Fl. <sup>30</sup> *f*

Vln I *solo p* *pp*

Vln II *solo p* *pp*

Vla *p*

Vc. *divisi pp* *p*

Db. *pizz* *mp*

35

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *tutti* *p*

Vln II *tutti* *p*

Vla *pp* *p*

Vc. *pp* *p*

Db. *p* *mp*

40

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *f* *p*

Vln II *p*

Vla *pp* *mp* *p*

Vc. *pp* *mp* *p*

Db. *mf* *mp*

45

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *mp solo* *pp* *p* *pp solos*

Vln II *pp* *solo* *p* *pp*

Vla *mp*

Vc. *mp* *pizz*

Db. *mp*

50

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *tutti* *mp* *divisi*

Vln II *tutti* *mp*

Vla

Vc.

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 *arco mf*

Vla *arco mf*

Vc. *arco mf*

Db.

60

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *mf mp p*

Vln II *mf mp p*

Vla *mp subito*

Vc. *mf mp*

Db. *arco pp*

65

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *solos*

Vln II *solos p*

Vla *solos p*

Vc. *pp*

Db. *pp*

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *tutti*  
*ppp*

Vln II *tutti*  
*ppp*

Vla *tutti*  
*ppp*

Vc. *tutti*  
*mp*

Db. *pizz*  
*p*

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *f*

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db. *arco*  
*pp*

Nat.Fl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc. *divisi*  
*p*

Db. *pizz*  
*p*

Nat.Fl. *mf*

Vln I *divisi*

Vln II

Vla *mp*  
*p*

Vc. *solos divisi*  
*fp*  
*mp*  
*p*

Db. *pizz*  
*p*

85

Nat.Fl. *mp* *mp*

Vln I *solo* *ppp*

Vln II *solo* *ppp*

Vla *divisi* *ppp* *solo* *ppp*

Vc. *ppp* *solo* *mp* *p* *pp*

Db. *arco* *p*

90

Nat.Fl. *mp*

Vln I *leggiere tutti* *pp* *solos* *pp*

Vln II *leggiere tutti* *pp* *solos* *pp*

Vla *leggiere tutti* *pp*

Vc. *leggiere tutti* *pp*

Db.

95

Nat.Fl.

Vln I *tutti* *pp*

Vln II *tutti* *pp*

Vla *solo*

Vc.

Db.

rall. ----- duration 9' approx

Nat.Fl. 100

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Vc.

Db.

duration of Concerto 23' approx

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Published by:-

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