

Seasons of Blithewood Garden

First Prize Winner of The Blithewood Garden Composition Competition

Ethan Isaac

October 2019-February 2020

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Performance Time: Approx. 5"

Insturmentation:

Trumpet

French Horn

Trombone

Bass Trombone

Rainsticks for each player

Prepared Electronics or Live Guitar with effects

Seasons of Blithewood Garden is a compilation of experiences I've had at Blithewood's beautiful garden.

I recall my first nights here; if I close my eyes and listen, I'm still meandering the long road during a frosty winter night, happening upon static of the broken intercom. I'm still basking in the whistling breeze of spring and fall. The aura of Bard College shifts alongside the garden's seasons.

From fall to spring, my undergraduate years at Bard began and ended at Blithewood Garden. The music conveys the graceful momentum of nature that the Garden continues to gift to the student body.

On the Electronics - It is entirely possible to perform this with a live guitarist, with a pink/white noise generator on a volume pedal along with a Eventide Blackhole pedal or similar for the guitar(Acoustic or Electric with a clean sound). If this is not feasible then someone operating a laptop connected to a PA system would be able to trigggle the prepared files at the appropriate times.

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2
4 Faulty Door Intercom/Winter ♩ = 128

Rainstick

Rainstick 1

pp *f*

Rainstick 2

pp *f*

Rainstick 3

pp Stagger, to make continuous

Rainstick 4

pp Stagger, to make continuous

Electronic Noise

Guitar + Electronics

Strum calmly
p

8

Rain. 1

Rain. 2

Rain. 3

Rain. 4

Gtr. + Ele.

16

Rain. 1

Rain. 2

Rain. 3

Rain. 4

Gtr. + Ele.

mp

f

mp

f

24

Rain. 1

Rain. 2

Rain. 3

Rain. 4

Gtr. + Ele.

mp

mp

33

Rain. 1

Rain. 2

Rain. 3

Rain. 4

Gtr. + Ele.

ff

ff

42

Rain. 1

Rain. 2

Rain. 3

Rain. 4

Gtr. + Ele.

fff

fff

51

Rain. 1

Rain. 2

Rain. 3

Rain. 4

Gtr. + Ele.

Measures 51-58. Rain. 1 and 2: Triplet eighth notes. Rain. 3 and 4: Sustained notes with a *p* dynamic. Gtr. + Ele.: Percussive pattern.

59

Rain. 1

Rain. 2

Rain. 3

Rain. 4

Gtr. + Ele.

rit.....

Measures 59-66. Rain. 1 and 2: Triplet eighth notes. Rain. 3 and 4: Sustained notes with a *mf* dynamic. Gtr. + Ele.: Percussive pattern. A *rit.* marking is above measure 62.

67 To Tpt in Bb **4/4** Thawing $\text{♩} = 66$ Tpt in Bb

Rain. 1 To Hn. in F Hn. in F

Rain. 2 To Tbn Tbn

Rain. 3

Rain. 4

Gtr. + Ele.

74 **5/4** **4/4**

Tpt in Bb

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

80 **4/4**

Tpt in B♭

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 80 through 85, written in 4/4 time. The score is for five parts: Tpt in B♭, Hn. in F, Tbn, B. Tbn, and Gtr. + Ele. Measures 80-81 feature a melodic line in the brass instruments, starting with a half note G4 (Tpt) and F4 (Hn), followed by a quarter note G4 (Tbn) and F4 (B. Tbn), and a half note G4 (Gtr. + Ele.). Measures 82-83 feature a sustained note G4 (Tpt) and F4 (Hn), with a half note G4 (Tbn) and F4 (B. Tbn), and a half note G4 (Gtr. + Ele.). Measures 84-85 feature a sustained note G4 (Tpt) and F4 (Hn), with a half note G4 (Tbn) and F4 (B. Tbn), and a half note G4 (Gtr. + Ele.). Dynamics include *mp*, *pp*, *p*, and *mf*.

86 **2/4 4/4 5/4 4/4**

Tpt in B♭

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 86 through 90, with changing time signatures: 2/4, 4/4, 5/4, and 4/4. The score is for five parts: Tpt in B♭, Hn. in F, Tbn, B. Tbn, and Gtr. + Ele. Measures 86-87 are in 2/4 time, measures 88-89 are in 4/4 time, measure 90 is in 5/4 time, and measure 91 is in 4/4 time. The melodic line in the brass instruments starts with a half note G4 (Tpt) and F4 (Hn), followed by a quarter note G4 (Tbn) and F4 (B. Tbn), and a half note G4 (Gtr. + Ele.). Dynamics include *p*, *mp*, and *pp*.

91

Tpt in B♭

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

p

mp

mp

94

Tpt in B♭

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

mp cresc.

mp cresc.

f

mf

mp cresc.

mp cresc.

mp cresc.

97

accel.....

Tpt in Bb

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

100

a tempo ♩ = 66

Tpt in Bb

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

Summer's Peak ♩ = 76

104

Tpt in B♭

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

This musical score block contains measures 104 through 108. The instruments are Tpt in B♭, Hn. in F, Tbn, B. Tbn, and Gtr. + Ele. The key signature has four flats (B♭, E♭, A♭, D♭). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 76. The dynamics for each instrument are as follows: Tpt in B♭ (mf, mp), Hn. in F (mf, p, mp, mf sub., >mf), Tbn (mf, pp, mf), B. Tbn (mf, p, mf), and Gtr. + Ele. (mf, p, mf). The Gtr. + Ele. part features a complex rhythmic pattern in the first measure, consisting of sixteenth and thirty-second notes.

110

Tpt in B♭

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

This musical score block contains measures 110 through 114. The instruments are Tpt in B♭, Hn. in F, Tbn, B. Tbn, and Gtr. + Ele. The key signature has four flats (B♭, E♭, A♭, D♭). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 76. The dynamics for each instrument are as follows: Tpt in B♭ (f, ff, f sub., mp, fff), Hn. in F (f, ff, f sub., fff), Tbn (f, ff, f sub., fff), B. Tbn (f, ff, f sub., fff), and Gtr. + Ele. (f, ff, f sub., fff). The Gtr. + Ele. part features a complex rhythmic pattern in the first measure, consisting of sixteenth and thirty-second notes. The score concludes with a double bar line and a final measure of rest for all instruments.

116 $\frac{4}{4}$ rit..... Cooling Down ♩ = 66 (Insert Straight Mute)

Tpt in B♭

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

Electronic Noise

mf *mp* *p* *pp*

120 straight mute

Tpt in B♭

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

To Rain.

pp *p* *mf* *pppp*

Strum calmly

129

rall.....
open

Tpt in Bb

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gr. + Ele.

132

Tpt in Bb

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

135

Tpt in Bb

Hn. in F

Tbn

B. Tbn

Gtr. + Ele.

To Rain.

ppp

pp

ppp

pp

ppp

pp

ppp

pp