

Lonesome Whistle

for unaccompanied flute

John Howell Morrison

Performance Notes

What follows is a description of special notation indications and symbols, in order of appearance in score. The first appearance of each device is referenced by line number in the score that contains it.

■ Indicates closed blow-hole. Fingered pitch is notated in parentheses, along with resulting pitch, both as key clicks (see below). [Line 1]

+ above note head means that the pitch should be articulated by a key click. [Line 1]

WT indicates whistle tone. [Line 1]

X as note head indicates performance as key click only (no air). [Line 1]

T above or below note head indicates tongue ram/slap tongue.. [Line 1]

A



Note head shape calls for alternate fingering; "**A**" above clarifies intention. In spots where any confusion may arise, "ord." is used to indicate return to normal fingering. [Line 2]

"**timbre high-low**" above staff, followed by lines, indicates that one should get a brighter sound as the line ascends, and a darker, more purely pitched sound as it descends. [Line 3]

"**(sss)**" following the above-described timbral change indicates that one may emphasize the air sound at the end with the "s" sound. In effect, this would be a timbral brightening. As one executes the timbral shifts, change of intonation is likely to be involved, and is desirable. [Line 3]

"**keys: mf sempre**" above the staff indicates that the sound of keys being fingered should be at a level of medium audibility in the range of such sounds. Pitches will only begin to sound gradually against this background. [Line 4]

Intonation instructions above the staff, such as "**start flat -- in tune**" intend to clarify indications of pitch bend carried by the traditional means of a directional line. [Line 6]

The indication such as "**air sound mp, key clicks mp-mf**", when combined with a dynamic of *niente*, means that the notated pitches don't sound as such, but the sound produced is air being blown and keys being depressed (and lifted). [Line 7]

Isolated thirty-second notes during held note are intended to produce brief bursts in the prevailing pitch, rather than truly audible pitches. [Line 8]

Microtonal notations (pitch bends) are deviations from the notated pitch. For example, a Db 1/6 flat would be a D 2/3 flat. [Line 10]

Small noteheads at the end of pitch bends indicate the approximate extent of the final pitch change. [Line 11]

Program Note

Lonesome Whistle was composed at I-Park Artists' Enclave from June 26 to July 7, 2007. The piece is for Linda Toote, who loves whistle tones as I do. The title refers to a favorite old song by Hank Williams, among other references, and has echoes of that haunting tune. The premiere took place in Pickman Hall at the Longy School of Music on February 19, 2008, with Linda Toote performing.

for Linda Toote || composed at I-Park

Lonesome Whistle

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♩ = ca. 144
(♩ = ca. 48)

WT
+ (ca. 5")

(bend pitch down slightly at end) ca. 3.75"

(♩ = ca. 72)

3 5

2

f f

ppp mf

T T

p > ppp mp > ppp mp > ppp

3

A

ca. 3.75"

timbre (high-low): + - (sss)

mp > p = n mf sfp < mp = n

4

WT (ca. 6.5")

keys: mf sempre

6

pp ppp n pp n p

5

6 3

pp n p

6

a tempo (♩ = ca. 72)

ca. 8.33"

timbre (high-low): start flat -- in tune --- go flat

ppp = p = n mf mf mp

7 *A A ord.* $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 120 \text{ slowing} \text{ ---- } \text{♩} = \text{ca. } 104$ *air sound mp, key clicks mp-mf*
 $(\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 52)$
p ppp mp n

8 *(ca. 7")*
pp ppp fff
(mostly key clicks and air sound)
WT

9 *pppp* *6 6* *ppp* *(ca. 6.5")*
WT

10 *breathy, rich* *measured but freely*
 $1/6 \#$ $1/6 \flat$ $1/6 \flat$ --- and down $1/6 \#$ $1/6 \flat$ $1/6 \flat$ in tune $1/4 \flat$
mp > pp *n* *mp* *p pp < p ppp*

11 $1/4 \flat$ in tune *(whole step flat)* *A ord.*
ddd < d ppp mp mp mp pp

12 *A ord.* *A ord.* *A (bend up and back)* *ord. (bend up and back)* $1/6 \#$
pp pp pp < p n p pp < p p

13 *start sharp* *almost to D* *as low as possible* *WT* $(> 9")$ $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 72$ *sotto voce* *3 3*
pp < p ppp ppp

14 *poco rit. - - - a tempo* *just air, over hole, getting as close to pitched sound as possible* *WT* $(> 9")$
mp mp *ppp < p n ppp* *f*