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Ghost Break Dance

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Publication Date

2020

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Ghost Break Dance

for

Violin and Violoncello

About this work:

Knowing that *Petrushka* would be on the program when premiered/performed in September by Ensemble ARI, I wanted the story and rhythmic elements of Stravinsky's *Petrushka* to have some influence to the motives, human themes, and dance elements in *Ghost Break Dance*.

The rhythm and satirically composed themes in *Petrushka* are what energized the subtitles and dance elements in *Ghost Break Dance*. However, the story, although many times satirical, joyful, and humorous, touches upon some complex human themes.

The four movements in my duo are arguably independent of each other, individually touching upon the human emotions satirically presented in Stravinsky's ballet masterpiece. On a tangent, *Ghost Break Dance* is an adieu, not to the puppet, but to the spirit, the "Ghost" of *Petrushka* that comes back to face his maker, and that still lives with us today in concert music.

The final movement, *Fire and Fury*, is arguably the most complex and structurally dissonant, and at times, "atonal" segment. The music develops to less dissonance, and finally ends on a powerful C major chord, questionably, to give the listener a sense of hope and optimism.

Commissioned by and written for Ensemble ARI / Dedicated to my brother, James

Ghost Break Dance

for Violin and Violoncello

I. Satire and Mockery: Ghost Meets His Magician

Michael Lee (May 2019, Los Angeles, CA)

Adagio misterioso e coloroso ♩ = 76 - 72

Violin

Violoncello

pp freely *mf* *molto dim.* *p* *mf* *pp al niente* *poco* *scratch!* *poco*

ord. (to) (molto sul pont.) m.s.p. ord. sul pont. ord. *3* *poco*

pp freely *mf* *molto dim.* *p* *mf* *pp* *poco dim.* *pp*

A Allegro Fuoco ♩ = 120 - 112

(bold accented notes longer)

Vln.

Vc.

ppp *f* *mf con brio* *poco marc.* *espress.* *poco*

all gliss. start immediately

gliss. (approx.) *ppp* *f* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *mf* *espress.* *poco*

ord. sul pont. ord. sul pont. ord. sul pont. ord. m.s.p. *poco*

11 *poco* ord. *p* *mf* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *mf* *poco dim.* *sfz mp* *sfz*

poco ord. *p* (approx. pitch) *mp* *sfz*

ord. sul pont. ord. sul pont. ord. m.s.p. *poco*

all gliss. start immediately *gliss.* *p* *mf* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *mf* *poco dim.* *sfz mp* *sfz*

Repeat 4x; after first repeat, increase tempo and feel free to ad lib. on rhythm(s); not together
molto espress.

in time

freely, ad lib. on speed, but when able, play as fast as possible

Vln. *m.s.p.* *sfz* *ord.* *sfz* *sfz* *f* *mf* *ff*

Vc. *mp* *mf* *poco cresc.* *f molto espress.* *mf* *ff*

(B)

Vln. *f* *mf pesante* *f* *ff* *sul pont.* *mf* *sf-p* *f* *ff* *brash and gritty* *m.s.p.*

Vc. *mf pesante* *f* *ff* *sul pont.* *mf* *sf-p* *f* *ff* *brash and gritty* *m.s.p.* *scratch!*

Vln. *ord.* *mf* *3* *poco dim.*

Vc. *ord.* *mf* *3* *poco dim.*

poco rall.

Vln. *mf* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

Vc. *mf* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

II. Humor and Joy

Allegro giocoso ed energico ♩ = 120 - 112

(ord.)

1

Vln. *mf* playfully *poco rubato, cantabile*

Vc. *mp* playfully

sul pont.

all gliss. start immediately

ord.

poco con brio

sul pont.

ord.

non dim.

ord.

9

Vln. *pp* sul tasto *poco cresc.* *mp* ord. *senza vib.* ord. (with vib.) *f* pesante *p* sul pont.

Vc. *mf* *poco rubato, cantabile* *mp* *coloroso* *f* pesante *mp* m.s.p. *non dim.*

17

Vln. ord. m.s.p. ord. sul pont. m.s.p. ord. *molto rit.*

Vc. sul pont. m.s.p. ord. sul pont. m.s.p. ord. *cantabile!*

mp *sfz* *f* feelings of confusion *mf* *cantabile!*

pp *p* *sfz* *f* feelings of confusion *mf* *with growing visions of hope* *cantabile!*

25

Vln. *mf* *leggero molto ritmico; in unis. with violin; poco marc.*

Vc. *mf* *leggero molto ritmico; in unis. with violin; poco marc.*

3

29 *with growing tension*

Vln.

Vc.

33 *with growing tension*

Vln.

Vc.

37 *f molto espress.* *sub. p* *sub. mf* *sub. p*

Vln.

Vc.

40 *mf* *f* *ff* *fff* *ff*

Vln.

Vc.

43 *poco rall.* *poco dim.* *mf* *mf*

Vln.

Vc.

III. Envy and Desire

46 *Andante con eloquenza e fluente* ♩ = 84 - 92
con sord.

Vln. *pp* misterioso e coloroso, con rubato, freely
ppp *p*

Vc. con sord.
ppp misterioso e coloroso, con rubato, freely
poco *pp*

poco; con vib.

50 **E**

Vln. *cresc. ed animando*
mp *poco dim.*

Vc. *cresc. ed animando*
mf espress. *poco dim.*

53

Vln. *mp* *dim.* *poco rall.* *ppp*

Vc. *mf grandioso* *dim.* *ppp*

Meno Mosso ♩ = 76 - 72

57 senza sord. *pp* senza rubato, misterioso e cantabile, eerily *poco cresc.* *sub. pp* cristallino *pizz.* *poco cresc.*

Vln. *pp* senza rubato, misterioso e cantabile, eerily *poco cresc.* *sub. pp* cristallino *pizz.* *poco cresc.*

Vc. *pp* senza rubato, misterioso e cantabile, eerily *poco cresc.* *arco* *sub. pp* *arco sul tasto* *ord.* *poco cresc.*

63 *sub. pp* *poco cresc.* *ord. sul G* *p* pesante *ppp* *p* *mf*

Vln. *sub. pp* *poco cresc.* *ord. sul G* *p* pesante *ppp* *p* *mf*

Vc. *sub. pp* *poco cresc.* *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *ppp* *p* *arco* *mf*

69 *pp* *mesto* *morendo* *pp* *p* *dim. e cresc.* *poco vib.*

Vln. *pp* *mesto* *morendo* *pp* *p* *dim. e cresc.* *poco vib.*

Vc. *pizz.* *pp* *mesto* *arco* *morendo* *pp* *p* *dim. e cresc.* *poco vib.*

IV. Fire and Fury

Fieramente con forza ♩ = 116 - 112

75

Vln. *ff* molto espressivo e aggressivo, preciso

Vc. *ff* molto espressivo e aggressivo, preciso

79

Vln. *sff sff* **F** *sff sff*

Vc.

82

Vln. *sff sff* con bio 3

Vc. *sff sff* con bio

86

Vln. **G** 6 6 6

Vc. 6 6 6

89

Vln. *ord.* *m.s.p.* *ord.* *m.s.p.* *ord.*

Vc. *ord.* *m.s.p.* *ord.* *m.s.p.* (scratch)

92

Vln. *ord.* *sul pont.*

Vc. *ord.* *sul pont.* *con brio*

95 **H** *ord.* *sff* *sff* *sff* *sff* *sff*

Vc. *ord.* *sff* *molto espress.* *sff* *sff* *sff* *sff*

98

Vln. *ord.* *con brio*

Vc. *ord.* *con brio*

I
 103 CODA

Vln. *fff con rubato, molto espress.*

Vc. *fff con rubato, molto espress.*

106

Vln. *gliss.*

Vc. *gliss.*

J

molto pesante e brillante

110

Vln. *rall.*

Vc. *rall.*

con brio