

Linda Dusman

Dream Prayer Lullaby

for solo violin

9'

When violinist Airi Yoshioka asked me to compose a new work for solo violin, I began to study the Paganini *Caprices*, monumental violin works that explore many nuances of expressive possibilities on the instrument. At the same time my heart was breaking at the news of the world immigrant crisis, especially for Syrian refugees, and especially for the children. Listening to an Arabic lullaby, I realized it used a mode similar to the Paganini 6th Caprice. Combining the two as a metaphor for the peaceful and fruitful uniting of cultures became the gestalt of the work.

As I worked to complete the piece in the spring and summer of 2018, the US government had started separating children from their families at its southern border. I decided to fold in another lullaby, this time from the Andes Mountains. The focus of *Dream Prayer Lullaby* ultimately became three-fold: a dream of a peaceful integration of peoples as they are forced from one land to another, a prayer that this dream might be realized, and a lullaby to comfort the children who wait.

I want to thank the peoples of Arabia, the Andes, and Nigeria whose lullabies are quoted in this piece, and whose music inspired my work.

Dream Prayer Lullaby (for the children of Syria)

solo violin
(dedicated to Airi Yoshioka)

Extremely slow, with rubato (c. $\text{♩} = 40$)
note: accidentals carry through the measure

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The sheet music for solo violin contains eight staves of music, each with specific performance instructions:

- Staff 1 (Measures 1-3):** Key signature changes from G major to A minor to F# minor. Measure 1: dynamic *f*. Measure 2: instruction "slow gliss.". Measure 3: instruction "rit."
- Staff 2 (Measures 4-6):** Measure 4: dynamics *p*, *cresc.*, *inc. bow pressure*, *sub. p*. Measure 5: dynamics *12*, *12*. Measure 6: instruction "rit."
- Staff 3 (Measures 7-8):** Measure 7: dynamic *pizz.*, tempo $\text{♩} = 100$. Measure 8: instruction "random bow tapping with 4 finger LH flutters", dynamic *p*, tempo $\text{♩} = \text{c.} 40$.
- Staff 4 (Measures 9-10):** Measure 9: dynamic *f*, instruction "rit.". Measure 10: instruction "bow tapping", dynamic *f*.
- Staff 5 (Measures 11-12):** Measure 11: instruction "LH flutters". Measure 12: instruction "I/II har. gliss down".
- Staff 6 (Measures 13-14):** Measure 13: dynamic *A*. Measure 14: instruction "molto", dynamic *12*.
- Staff 7 (Measures 15-16):** Measures 15-16 show a continuous eighth-note pattern with instruction "12" above each group of notes.

3 $\text{♩} = 72$

15 *pizz.* *molto rit.* $\text{♩} = 64$ *1/2 col legno, sul tasto*

LH pizz. *LH pizz.*

19 *RH pizz/strum*

B $\text{♩} = 92$
 $8^{\text{va simile}}$
 (♩)

mf - flautando

23

26 nor. (harmonics on II)

28

30 **12**

32 **12** **12** **12** *rit.*

$5/8$

33 *battuto molto rit.* **C** $\text{♩} = 72$ *1/2 col legno, sul tasto*

LH finger taps *LH pizz.*

37 *rit.*

39 *a tempo* rit. II. 4
arco

42 rit. 5 5 6 col legno battuto-random open strings
piu mosso - punta d'arco slower, contemplative

44 5 5 I. hammer finger 3
ppp

LH pizz/strum

47 5 3 I. o LH pizz. 3 3 ppp

51 3 sub. mf pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz.

D piu mosso (c. ♩ = 80)

55 8va a tempo

60 (8) 4# 3 2 mf

64 flautando sub. p

68 *rapido - col legno battuto - random placement* *molto rit.*

69 **E** *Extremely slow (c. $\text{♩} = 40$)*
punta d'arco *1/2 col legno, sul tasto*
I/II $\text{♩} = 55-60$
nor., espressivo

73 *nor.*
II/III *I/II* *inc. pressure* $\rightarrow mp$

77 III.

82 *piu mosso c. $\text{♩} = 80$*
 $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{10}{16}$ $\frac{14}{16}$ $\frac{10}{16}$

85 $\frac{10}{16}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$

87 $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$

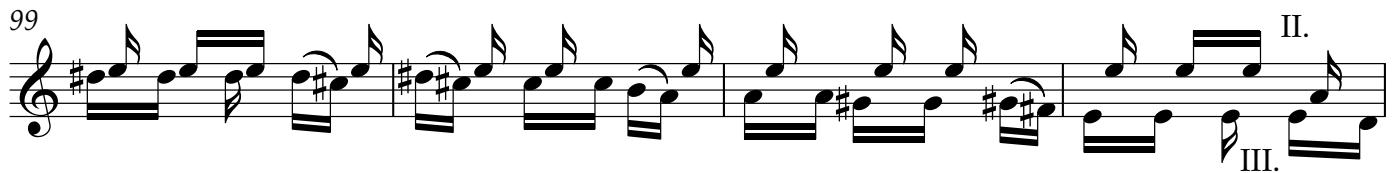
90 IV.
floating $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{6}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$

92 *floating* $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{6}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{9}{16}$
pp *sub. p*

F Gently $\text{♩} = \text{c.56}$ 6

95 I. 

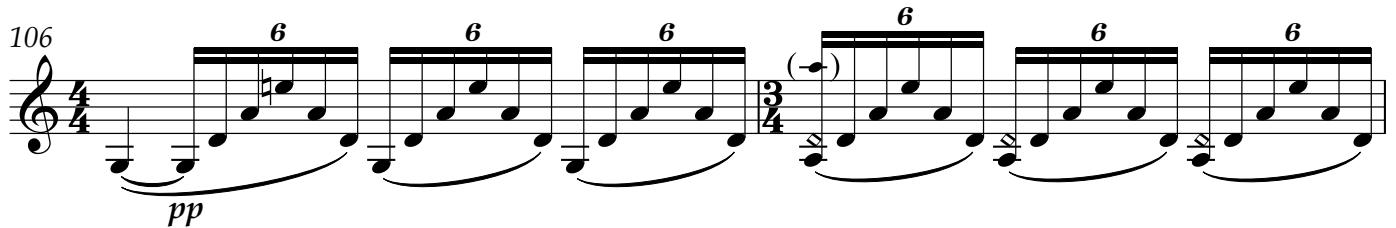
II. 

99 

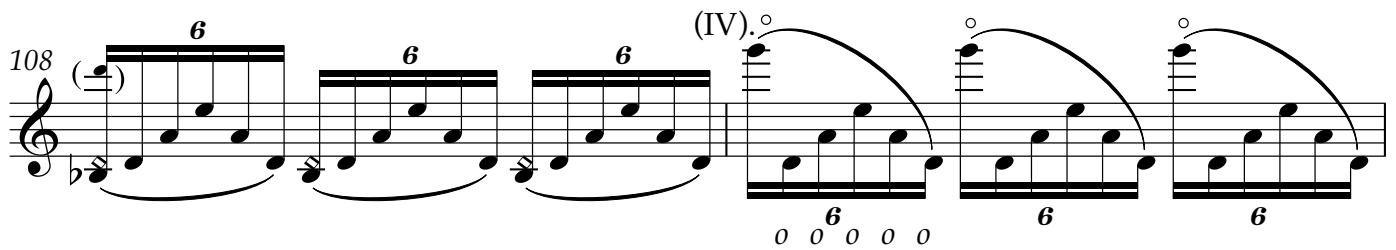
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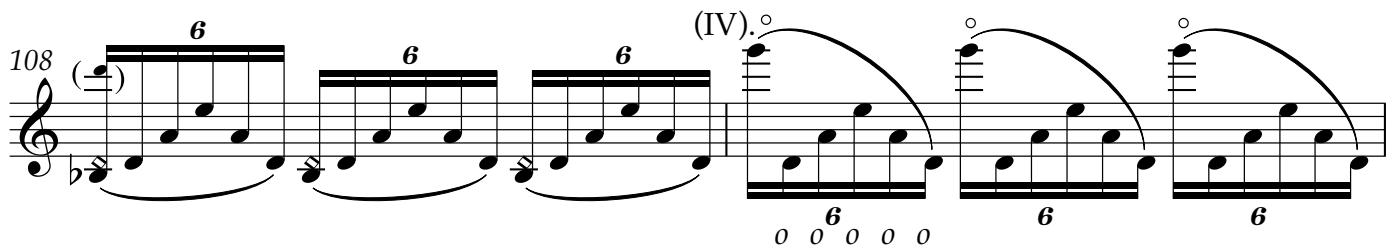
III. 

103 

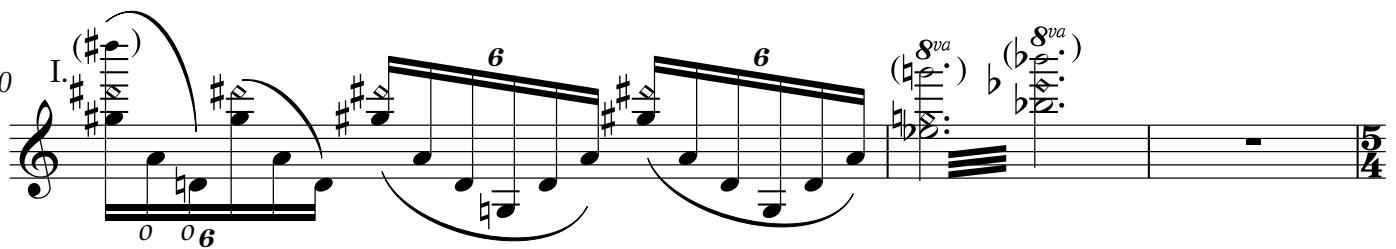
106 

pp

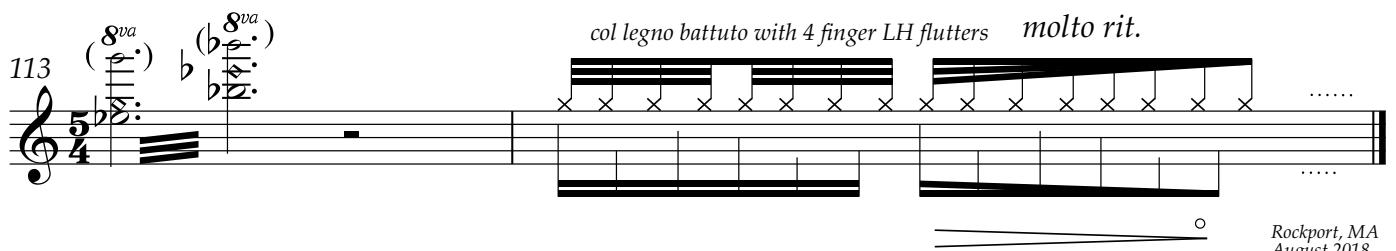
108 

(IV). 

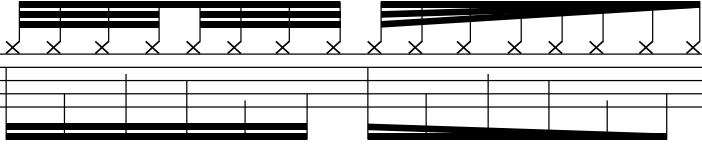
$o\ o\ 6\ o\ o$ $6\ 6$

110 I. 

$o\ o\ 6$

113 

col legno battuto with 4 finger LH flutters *molto rit.*





Rockport, MA
August 2018