

commissioned by Wally Wallace

like a blossom unfolding

for Clarinet and Piano

2015

Ash Stemke

Transposed Score

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Performance Notes

Tempo

The music should be performed with plenty of rubato at phrase-boundary locations marked with *rit.* and *a tempo.* However, the overall tempo should not be allowed to drag; it may help to feel a half-note “ballad” pulse at 54 bpm instead of the quarter-note at 108 bpm.

Dynamics

When the piano music uses cross-staff beaming notation, the dynamic markings for the piano are located underneath the lower staff. These markings apply to both hands.

Articulations and Ornaments

A trill *without* an accidental () indicates a trill from the written note to the pitch a step above *within the key signature*. Trills *with* accidentals (or) are used when the upper note of the trill is not in the key signature.

The tenuto line () indicates extra "weight" on a note - think *pesante*, not necessarily *accent*.

Approximate Performance Time

8:00

Program Note

In Schenkerian theory, "unfolding" is a technique of melodic prolongation where a simple voice-leading pattern is extended over a longer period of time. This stretching of small materials into larger, more complex structures reminds me of how a blossoming flower opens itself up to the sun. I am often mesmerized by time-lapse videos of these flowers' movements, and I would like to imagine that *like a blossom unfolding* is a musical representation of this process, beginning introspectively but unfolding over time to reveal hidden beauty. Additionally, several melodic fragments are direct quotes from actual Schenkerian graphs.

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Pensive $\text{♩} = 108$

Clarinet in B♭

Piano

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

5

5

9

9

cantabile

p mp

sempr legato

Ped.

pp

mp

pp

pp

II

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

like a blossom unfolding

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

I2

mp

pp

mp

(*Reed.*) * *Reed.* * *Reed.* *

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

I6

mf

3

mp

3

Reed. * *Reed.* *

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

I9

p *mp*

3

p

3

mf

3

p

Reed. * *Reed.* * *Reed.*

(22) *poco rit.----- a tempo*

23

B♭ Cl. *mp* *pp*

Pno. *(Ped.)* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

26

B♭ Cl. *mp*

Pno. *pp* *p* * *Ped.* *

29

B♭ Cl. *pp* *pp*

Pno. *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

(30)

like a blossom unfolding

32

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

32

32

Ped. * Ped. * Ped.

35

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

35

(Ped.) * Ped. * Ped. *

mf *p* *mf*

mf *warm*

38

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

38

Ped. * Ped. *

p

40
poco rit.----- a tempo

42

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

mp

mf

mp

mf

f

p

46

B♭ Cl.

46

Pno.

f

mf

f

f

Re.d.

*

Re.d.

*

48

50

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

mf

f

f

Re.d.

*

Re.d.

*

like a blossom unfolding

53

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

53

mf

53

mf

(*Red.*) * *Red.* *

56

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

56

f

56

f

Red. * *Red.* *

58

a tempo

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

ff

ff

Red. * *Red.*

Pno.

61

Pno.

f

mf

Rit.

a tempo

p

dolce

Rit.

Rit.

Rit.

Rit.

65

66

68

Pno.

Rit.

Rit.

Rit.

Rit.

71

73

Pno.

Rit.

Rit.

Rit.

Rit.

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for piano across four staves. Staff 1 (measures 61-62) starts with a dynamic 'f' and ends with 'mf'. Staff 2 (measures 63-64) begins with a dynamic 'p' and ends with 'dolce'. Staff 3 (measures 65-66) includes a circled measure number '66' above 'a tempo'. Staff 4 (measures 67-68) features a key change to G major. Staff 5 (measures 69-70) shows a return to the previous key signature. Staff 6 (measures 71-72) includes a circled measure number '73' above a dynamic 'p'.

like a blossom unfolding

74

B♭ Cl. Pno.

74

p dolce

75

76

77

B♭ Cl. Pno.

cresc.

cresc.

80

B♭ Cl. Pno.

f *tr.*

f

p

p

measures 74-77: Bb Cl. (p dolce), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 78: Bb Cl. (cresc.), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 79: Bb Cl. (cresc.), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 80: Bb Cl. (f tr., eighth-note patterns), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns).

measures 74-77: Bb Cl. (p dolce), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 78: Bb Cl. (cresc.), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 79: Bb Cl. (cresc.), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 80: Bb Cl. (f tr., eighth-note patterns), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns).

measures 74-77: Bb Cl. (p dolce), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 78: Bb Cl. (cresc.), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 79: Bb Cl. (cresc.), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 80: Bb Cl. (f tr., eighth-note patterns), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns).

measures 74-77: Bb Cl. (p dolce), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 78: Bb Cl. (cresc.), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 79: Bb Cl. (cresc.), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns). measure 80: Bb Cl. (f tr., eighth-note patterns), Pno. (chords, eighth-note patterns).

like a blossom unfolding

9

84

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

86

84

5

p

f

3

3

3

3

* *Rédo.*

* *Rédo.*

* *Rédo.*

*



87

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

sf

87

5

3

3

sf

3

3

3

3

* *Rédo.*

* *Rédo.*

*



90

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

f

90

f

3

3

3

3

* *Rédo.*

* *Rédo.*

*

like a blossom unfolding

92

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

92

cresc.

sf sff

ff

ff

ff

95

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

95

sempre ff

dim.

dim.

dim.

99

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

99

(dim.)

p

(dim.)

p

like a blossom unfolding

II

rit.

103 **B♭ Cl.** rit. **Pno.**

(105) Faster $\text{♩} = 128$

f *tr.*

103 **B♭ Cl.** **Pno.**

tr. *tr.* *tr.*

107 **B♭ Cl.** **Pno.**

Tempo I $\text{♩} = 108$ *tr.*

p *p* *mf*

107 **B♭ Cl.** **Pno.**

p *3* *3* *cresc.*

tr. *** *tr.* ***

III **B♭ Cl.** **Pno.**

Faster $\text{♩} = 128$ *tr.* (113) Tempo I $\text{♩} = 108$

f *p*

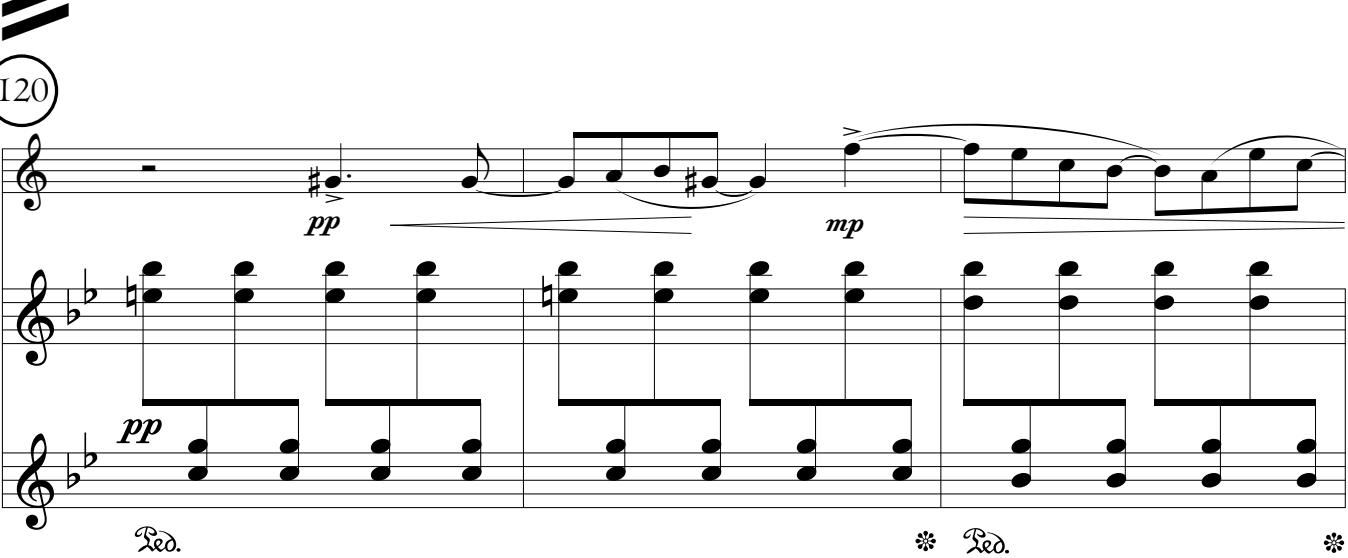
tr. *** *tr.*

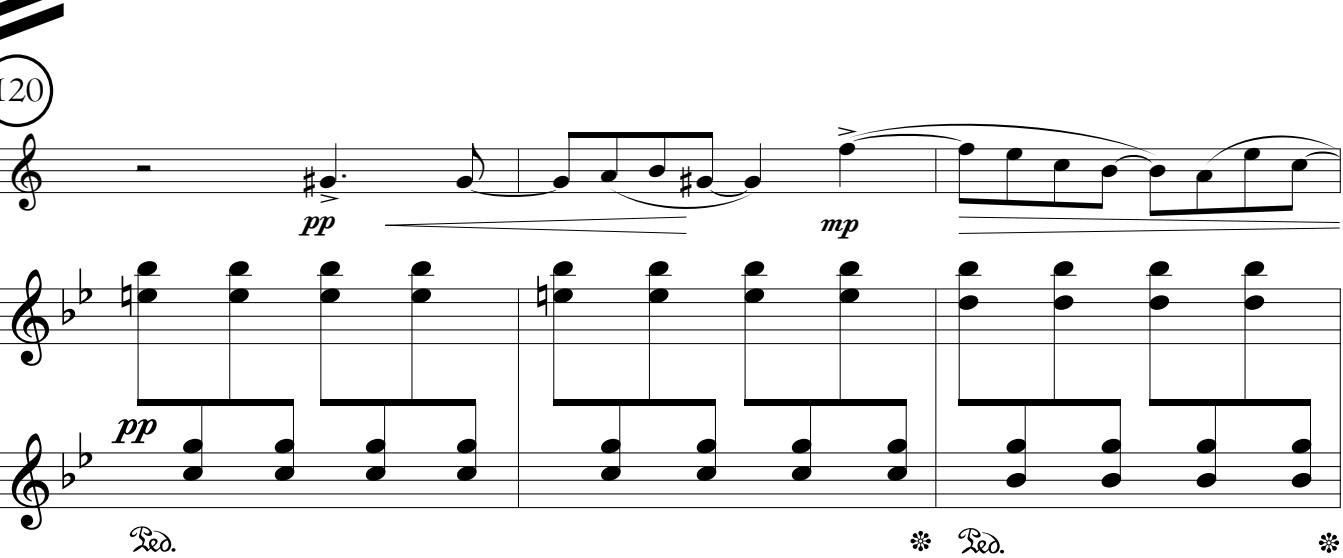
poco rit.----- a tempo

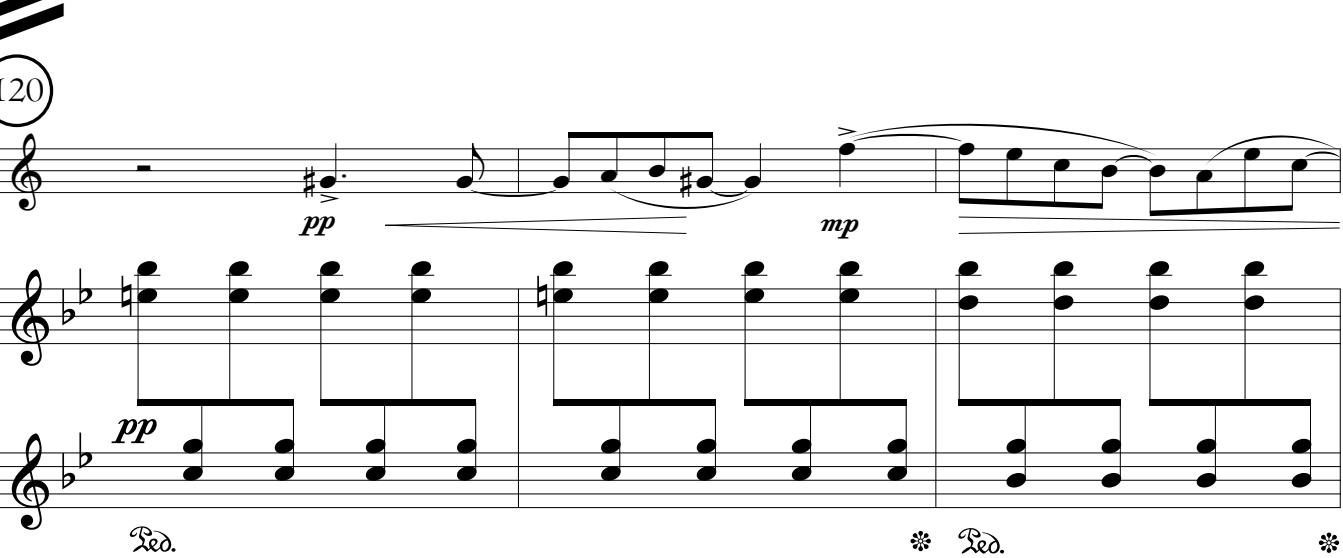
B♭ Cl. 114 3


Pno. 114


B♭ Cl. 117 3


Pno. 117


B♭ Cl. 120


Pno. 120


I23

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

123

127

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

127

poco rit. I3I a tempo

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

130

(Rед.) * Rед. * Rед.

130

Detailed description: The musical score consists of three systems of music. The first system (measures 123) shows the Bb Clarinet and Piano parts. The Bb Clarinet has eighth-note patterns with dynamics pp, mp, and mf. The Piano part has sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics mp and mf. The second system (measure 127) continues with the Bb Clarinet's eighth-note patterns and the Piano's sixteenth-note patterns, including a bass line with a bass clef. The third system (measures 130) begins with a 'poco rit.' instruction followed by 'I3I a tempo'. The Bb Clarinet part has eighth-note patterns with dynamics p and mp. The Piano part has sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics p and mp. The piano bass line is shown in the first two measures of this system.

like a blossom unfolding

I34

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

(Ped.) * Ped. *

137

B♭ Cl.

f p mf

137

Pno.

f * Ped. * Ped. *

(138)

I40

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

mf f

140

140

Pno.

f f

144

B♭ Cl.

f

Pno.

f f

(Ped.) * Ped.

I43

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

(Ped.) * Ped. * Ped. *

rit.

I46

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

mf * f

Pno.

mf * f

Ped. * Ped. *

I48

B♭ Cl.

a tempo

ff

Pno.

ff

Pno.

ff

Ped. *

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

158 a tempo (159)

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

158 *pp*

159 *pp*

3 5

Red. * Red. * Red. *

162

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

162 5 tr. cresc. cresc. dashed

162 5

Red. * Red. * Red. *

165

B♭ Cl.

(cresc.)

167

f fff

Pno.

(cresc.)

165 5

165 5

tr. fff

Red. * Red. * Red. *

I69

B♭ Cl. *f* warm *tr* ~~~~~

Pno. *f* warm *p* *ff* *mf* *f*

 * * * * *

 =

 rit. ----- 175 a tempo *tr* ~~~~~

I73

B♭ Cl. *f* *3* *3* *#* *#* *o*

Pno. *ff* *3* *3* *fff* *fff* *fff*

 * * * * *

 =

I76

B♭ Cl. *mf* *3* *ffff* *mf* *3* *5*

Pno. *mf* *8* *ffff* *mf* *8* *mp*

 * * * * *

 =

180

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

tr ~~~~~ rit. -----

p

p

(*Red.*) *

==

a tempo rit. -----

184

B♭ Cl.

Pno.

pp *mf*

pp

Red. * *Red.* *