



If I could see perfume on night air

for lute solo

Jean-Christophe Rosaz



If I could see perfume on night air

dedicated to Susan King

Music: Jean-Christophe Rosaz
from the poem of Judith E.P. Johnson (Tasmania)

I) If I could see perfume
on Night air
would I be able
to see your absent presence?

I ♩ = 60

Lute

mp sempre arpeggiato non arp. *mp* sempre arpeggiato non arp.

6 *mf* sempre arpeggiato non arp. *mf* sempre arpeggiato non arp. L.V. cantando

11 *accel.* *più legato*

14 *tremolo* *p* *meditativo* *legato*

18 *più presente*

22 *p* *più f*

27 *più p* L.V. 3

30 5 5

duration: around 1'20

with the tip
of the thumb

If I could see perfume on night air

II) Listen!
Listen closely
so that you may hear
what is not said.

II ♩ = 120
pizz.
p

41
mf *p*

46 *mp* *più presente*

50 *f* *gliss.* *simile* *accel. a tempo*
p *step felted* *pp* *mp* 3

54 *p* *gliss.* *simile* *mf* 5

57 *mp* *mf* *dolce*

60 *f* *diminuendo*

63 *mp* *L.V.* *allargando* *a tempo* *mf* *sempre arpeggiato*

67 *più p*
non arp. *duration: around 1'10*

III) Tread lightly
on the lives of others
you cannot know
their past.

III ♩ = 76
69 *as arising from the past* *L.V.* *accel.* *rubato* *mp*
p *f* *mf*
arpeggiando rapidamente

If I could see perfume on night air

a tempo ♩ = 92 *espress.*

77 *cantando* *mf* *mp*

82 *mf* *mp*

86 *accel.* *rit.* ♩ = 76

f *mp*

91 ♩ = 92

p *p* *p* *sfz*

97 *duration: around 1'20*

IV) Speak thoughtfully
so your thoughts
may not disturb
the mind of another.

100 *IV legato simile* *p* *L.V.*

103 *più presente*

106 *crescendo*

109 *diminuendo*

113 *accel.* *a tempo*

118 *accel.* ----- *a tempo* *mf* *accel.* -----
subito p

123 *a tempo* *mf* *accel.* ----- *a tempo* *rit.* ----- *a tempo*
p

127 *mf* *p*

133 *mf*

136 *più p* *accel.* ----- *a tempo*
molto

141 *tremolo* *non trem.* $\text{♩} = 104$ *poco più mosso as passes the wind* *duration: around 1'50*
p *simile*

V $\text{♩} = 60$ *sempre arpeggiato* *non arp.* *sempre arpeggiato*
p *mp*

V) I cannot catch the wind
or keep moonshine
yet I can feel you beside me
when you are not there.

151 *non arp.* $\text{♩} = 104$ $\text{♩} = 60$ *sempre arpeggiato* *non arp.*
p *mf*

156 $\text{♩} = 104$ $\text{♩} = 60$ *sempre arpeggiato*
pp

160 *non arp.* *allargando* ----- *sempre allargando* -----
L.V. *più p* *L.V.* *duration: around 1'*
total of the music part: 6'40

This composition for lute solo has been committed by Susan King who proposed me to write a sort of little suite from the beautiful poem of Judith E.P. Johnson (Tasmania). There is a certain affinity between its ambiance and the sounds of the lute. I tried to put this great sense of humanity, this infinite attention to the other in the music itself. The poem can be read or said at the beginning of the piece or throughout it. The music can be played alone too.

Thoughts

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V) I cannot catch the wind
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Judith E.P. Johnson (Tasmania)