

Dragonflies

for Saxophone Quartet (SATB)

Ania Vu
(2018-19)

Dragonflies

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Duration: ca. 8'

Score in C

Written for the Iridium Quartet as part of the Red Note New Music Festival, February 2019.

Program notes:

The piece attempts to bring a garden full of dragonflies to life. While small and delicate, they are vigorous and energetic: the music depicts these creature moving around space, alternating between being further from and closer to our ear, and between clustered and spread out. It captures their quick flutter vibrations and their wings' fleeting color changes. To evoke these visual effects, the piece uses several parameters -- various registral spans, dynamics, and speed -- and features flutter-tonguing and trills.

Performance notes:

flz.	flutter tongue
air tone	blow air into the instrument without producing any pitch
bisbigliando	timbral trill; alternate quickly between different fingerings of the same pitch

Dragonflies

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Ania Vu

Free, fragile ♩=80-85

flz. bisbigliando

ord.

rubato

flz.

air tones, flz.

air tones, flz.

n *ppp* *n* *3* *poco* *5* *n* *5*

[*pp*] < [*mp*] > [*pp*] [*pp*] < [*mf*] > [*p*]

[*pp*] < [*mp*] > [*pp*] [*pp*] < [*mf*] > [*p*]

5

pp *6* *n* *p* *mp* *6* *6*

[*p*] [*ff*] [*p*] [*p*] [*ff*] [*p*]

8

air tones
flz.
[ppp]

pp *p* *n*

ord.
interrupting, *pp*

ord. 3
interrupting, *pp*

[*pp*]

12

A
flz.

n *poco* *ppp* *p*

p *n*

p *n*

B Light, shimmering ♩=85-100

16

B Light, shimmering 85-100

The musical score is written for four staves. The first staff features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *ppp* and a tempo marking of 85-100. The second staff contains a flutist's part marked 'flz.' with a dynamic marking of *n*. The third and fourth staves are empty. The score is divided into two measures by a double bar line. The first measure contains a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *pp* and a tempo marking of 85-100. The second measure contains a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *ppp* and a tempo marking of 85-100.

22 bisbigliando

ppp

p

ppp

ppp

flz.

4

27

ord.

p

flz.

ppp

ppp

pp

ppp

pp

ppp

C

ord.

mp

pp

31

mp

pp

n

pp

ord.

p

ppp

flz.

ppp