

Restless Birds

before the

Dark Moon

by

David Kechley

Restless Birds

before the Dark Moon

by

David Kechley

Commissioned
by the
United States Military Academy Band

LTC David Deitrick, Conductor
SSG Wayne Tice, Saxophone

Winner

Twenty Fourth Annual National Band Association
William D. Revelli Memorial Band Composition Contest
December, 2000

Protected by United States copyright law.

PERFORMANCE RIGHTS

Purchase or possession of performance materials does not constitute the granting of unlimited performance rights to the purchaser or holder.

Copyright for this work is held by Pine Valley Press and is licensed for performance by the American Society of Authors, Composers and Publishers(ASCAP). ASCAP holds license agreements with most educational institutions, artist management companies, professional ensembles, etc. Thus the reporting of performances is normally done by these licensees. It is the responsibility of the performer to verify that such licenses exist and that such reporting takes place. Send concert programs and/or a statement of dates, times and locations of performances to:

Symphony and Concert Division
American Society of Composers,
Authors and Publishers
ASCAP Building
One Lincoln Plaza
New York, NY 10023

Concert programs may also be sent directly to the publisher. Even when not required, the receipt of programs, newspaper reviews, etc. is always appreciated.

Pine Valley Press
Post Office Box 582
Williamstown, MA 01267
Fax 413 458 3202

To further facilitate successful presentation of this work, program notes and a brief biography of the composer are included on the following pages.

Instrumentation

Solo Alto Saxophone

Flute 1 & 2

Piccolo/Flute 3

Oboe 1&2

Eb Clarinet

Bb Clarinet 1, 2, & 3 (minimum 3 players per part)

Eb Alto Clarinet

Bb Bass Clarinet

Bb Contrabass Clarinet (not optional)

Bassoon 1

Contrabassoon

Horns 1, 2, 3, & 4 in F

Bb Trumpets 1 & 2 doubling Piccolo Trumpets in Bb

Bb Trumpets 3 & 4 doubling Flugel Horns in Bb

Bb Trumpet 5

Trombone 1 & 2

Bass Trombone

Euphonium 1 & 2

Tuba (divided part/minimum 2 players)

Percussion (minimum 4 players)

Perc. 1 - Marimba, Large Suspended Cymbal, Bongos, Timbales

Perc. 2 - Xylophone, Small Suspended Cymbal, Small, Medium, and Large Tom Toms, Tubular Bells, 2 Conga Drums, Marimba (use same instrument as Percussion 1)

Perc. 3 - Snare Drum, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, Log Drum

Perc. 4 - Timpani, Temple Blocks, Orchestra Bells, Tenor Drum

Piano (not optional)

Performance Materials Available

from

Pine Valley Press

PO Box 582

Williamstown, MA 01267

Fax: 413 458 3202

email: info@pinevalleypress.com

Visit Our Web Page at

www.pinevalleypress.com

Program Notes

Restless Birds before the Dark Moon was commissioned by the United States Military Academy Band and written for alto saxophone soloist, Staff Sergeant Wayne Tice for premiere at the World Saxophone Congress in Montreal, July 7, 2000. The work demands virtuosity and skill from both ensemble and soloist as it explores the possible many timbral combinations between the two.

As the title suggests, the mood ranges from foreboding to frenetic. Despite its extremely energetic opening there is also an underlying lyricism throughout much of the work. This lyricism comes to full fruition at the close of the middle section with the saxophone soaring above a darkly colored brass chorale. The composer employs both modal and chromatic materials with equal force and often presents the same idea transformed from one of these poles to the other. Although the opening passages are modal they are soon interrupted by sharp and sudden chromatic interjections which turn into sustained and sweeping descending harmonies in the middle section. The interjections return again in original form near the end of the piece just before a final burst of energy, which pits the soloist against the entire ensemble in rapid-fire unison.

Biography

Since the premiere of *Second Composition for Large Orchestra* by the Seattle Symphony in 1968, David Kechley's work has been commissioned and performed throughout North America, Europe and other parts of the world. Over 800 performances have taken place including those by the Minnesota Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Boston Pops, Seattle Symphony, North Carolina Symphony, Colorado Symphony, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Kronos Quartet, Lark Quartet, and the United States Military Academy Band.

His work is published by Pine Valley press and available on compact disc from Albany Records, Reference Recordings, and Liscio Recordings. His most recent disc, *In the Dragon's Garden: Music by David Kechley* released by Liscio features his award winning guitar and saxophone work by the same name as well as *Stepping Out* (for saxophone quartet), *Valencia* (for marimba and saxophone quartet) and *DRIVELINE: A Powerwalk for Guitar and Saxophone*.

Kechley's works have been featured at national and international conferences including the Music Educators National Conference(1968), American Harp Society(1974), American Society of University Composers(1981), College Music Society National Conference(1990), World Saxophone Congress (1985, 1988, 1992, 1997, 2000), Fifteenth Annual New Music and Art Festival at Bowling Green State University, North American Saxophone Alliance(1992,1996,1998,1999), and Guitar Foundation of America International Festival(1993).

Kechley has twice received grants from the **National Endowment for the Arts** and, in 1979, was awarded a Fellowship by the **John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation**. His *Five Ancient Lyrics on Poems by Sappho* was first prize winner of the 1980-81 Shreveport Symphony Composers' Competition and *Concerto for Violin and Strings* won the 1979 Opus I Chamber Orchestra Contest for Ohio Composers. *In the Dragon's Garden* was a winner of the 1994 Lee Ettelson Prize and two of his orchestral works, *Lightning Images* and *TRANSFORMATIONS: An Orchestral Triptych* received honorable mentions in the 1994 and 1998 ASCAP Nissim Competitions. Kechley received the only Artist Fellowship awarded to a composer in 1985-86 by the **North Carolina Arts Council** and received an Artist Grant from the **Massachusetts Cultural Council** in 1995. He was awarded a **Barlow Foundation** commission in 1999 along with several commission grants from the American Composers Forum and continuous ASCAP awards since 1979.

David Kechley was born in Seattle where he received a Bachelors Degree in 1970 and Masters in 1974 from the University of Washington. He completed a Doctorate in Composition at the Cleveland Institute of Music in 1979. He is presently Professor of Music at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts.

Restless Birds before the Dark Moon

David Kechley

♩ = 112

ff *mp* *ff*

5 *mp* *ff*

mp *ff*

10 *mp* *ff*

15 *p* *ff*

mp

20

mp *mf* *f* *ff*

25

ff

30

ff

mf *f*

35

mp *mf*

40

f

50

p

mf

55 *quasi slap tongue* -----

f 3 3 *ff* *mf* 3

quasi slap tongue ----- 3 3 3

60 *mf* 3 3 3

65 *mp* 3

70 *ff* 3 3 3

75 *f* *mf* 3 3 3

mp 3 3 3

80 *f* *ff* 3 3 3

quasi slap tongue -----

p *f* *ff* *mp*

quasi slap tongue -

85

f *mp* *p*

f

quasi slap tongue -----

90

ff *f*

ff

95

ff *p*

Subito $\text{♩} = 76$

100 11

ff

poco rit.. atempo 6

120 ritard..

poco rit.. atempo *6* *120* *ritard..*

Solo Alto Saxophone

• = 60

p *mp*

espr. *accel...* *ritard..* *atempo accel..*

125

3

• = 120

ff

130

• = 76

2

135

ritard...

• = 60

p

espr.

mp *mf*

3 3

140

accel...

f

• = 120

145

ff

150 *ff*

f *mf* *ritard molto...* *accel.. ritard*

155 $\text{♩} = 66$ *mp*

f *accelerando molto.....* *f*

160 $\text{♩} = 126$ *ff*

165 $\text{♩} = 76$ 170 3 *f* *mf* *mp*

Solo Alto Saxophone

-16-

(very free)

♩ = 56

175

pp

mp

poco rit..

mf³

pp

180

♩ = 66

f

185

atempo

mp

mf

mp

190

accelerando poco a poco...

mf

♩ = 76

ritard molto... *in new tempo*

$\bullet = 66$ **195**

f

ff

200 *ritard* $\bullet = 56$ *mf* *mp*

Subito $\bullet = 112$ **205** *f* *ff*

210

2

p 3

3 3 3

215

3 3 3 3

mf

220

3 3 3 3

mf *f* *ff*

quasi slap tongue

3 3 3 3

mf *ff* *f*

quasi slap tongue

225

3 3 3 3

mp

230

3 3 3 3

f *p*

235

3 3 3 3

f *ff*

3 3 3 3

fp

Solo Alto Saxophone

(b) *ff*

(b) *ff*

245 *ff* *fp* *f* *ff*

250 *fp* *fp* *f* *ff* *accel.* ♩ = 120

(b) *ff* *ff*

255

260

265 *f* *ff*

270

275

f

♩ = 126

8^{va}

280

f ossia 8vb until beat 2+ of bar 279

ff

285

mp

p

quasi slap tongue

290

ff

p

f

295

ff

f

300

ff