

Judith Shatin

Kassia

Clarinet, Harp & String Quintet



Instrumentation

Bb Clarinet
Harp
Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Contrabass

Program Note

Kassia was a 9th-century Byzantine abbess, poet and hymnographer. She is the only woman whose hymns are represented in the Eastern Orthodox liturgy and is likely the first named woman whose music has survived until now. The Kassia Ensemble, with support from the Spark Foundation and Opportunity Fund of Pittsburgh, commissioned this piece as the first for their complete ensemble, and asked that it reflect their namesake in some way. The ensemble consists of clarinet, harp and string quintet offering a unique timbral world. In responding to their desire for reference to Kassia, I decided to reach back across time, drawing on a few melodic fragments from Kassia's major chants The Fallen Woman and Augustus the Monarch, translated into contemporary notation thanks to the meticulous research of musicologist Diane Touliatos-Banke. I also arranged for classical scholar Christina Boltsi to record some of Kassia's poetry in the original Greek to get a sense of their sound and rhythmic flow. My music moves from a gentle opening and meditation to cries of regret, and from pensive yearnings to dreams of a world beyond. During the 2020 pandemic, my virtual sessions with the members of the Kassia Ensemble provided inspiring connections in dark times. Imagining across the centuries in composing this piece reminded me how music is of time yet enables us to feel outside of it. For more information, visit www.judithshatin.com. –JS

World Premiere Kassia Ensemble Wilson Center Pittsburgh, PA 05/21/2022
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Duration: 12:30

Performance Notes

General

Accidentals apply to the note within register throughout the measure

- Denotes a brief pause, a breath
- 10" A number like this in brackets indicates seconds. Return to the prevailing tempo at the end of this symbol.
- n.v. non vibrato

Strings

-  Increase bow pressure, with increasing noise content
- x x notehead and indication 'chop' indicate a quick, strong attack with heavy bow pressure. The sound is mainly noise with a small amount of pitch.
- sp. sul ponticello
- msp. molto sul ponticello

Harp

-  Fingernail
-  Mute
- p.d.l.t. Prés de la table
-  Pedal Buzz
-  Thunder

Clarinet

- T. Tr. Timbral Trill
- t.s. Tongue slap

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Tranposed Score

Commissioned by the Kassia Ensemble
with thanks to the Opportunity Pittsburgh
and the Sparkplug Foundation

Kassia

In Tempore Plaga

With Infinite Gentleness ♩ = 68

Cello solo
con sord.

Judith Shatin

PERUSAL SCORE! NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

Cello

n *mp* *p* *mp* *cresc.*

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

pp *p* *pp* *p*

mf *pp*

con sord. *III.* *con sord.* *con sord.*

pp *p*

[illegible]

A Animated

21 T. tr.

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

24

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

mf

bis.

gliss.

f

mp

mf

p

mf

mf

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

p

28

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

33

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

37

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

40

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

pp

pp

pp

pp

f

p

mp

p

mp

p

mp

p

mp

PERUSAL SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

43

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

ff
Aeolian rustle

Vln. I

f

Vln. II

f

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

45

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

l.v.

bis.
ff

Vln. I

mf

Vln. II

mf

Vla.

f

Vc.

f

D.B.

f

PERUSAL SCORE! NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

47

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Passionate Solo

B

mf

p

p

p

p

I.v.

PERUSAL SCORE! NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

55

B $\flat$ Cl. *f*

Hp. *f*

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf*

D.B. *f* *mf*

57

B $\flat$ Cl. *mp*

Hp. *mp* *ord.* *mf*

Vln. I *p*

Vln. II *p* *mp*

Vla. *p* *mp*

Vc. *p* *mp*

D.B. *mp*

PERUSAL SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

62

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

67

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

72

B $\flat$ Cl. *mf* Solo

Hp. *mf*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc. *mf*

D.B.

76

B $\flat$ Cl. *f* *sf*

Hp. *f* *sf*

Vln. I *f* *sf*

Vln. II *f* *sf*

Vla. *f* *sf*

Vc. *f* *sf*

D.B. *f* *sf*

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

80

B $\flat$ Cl.

mf

3

Hp.

P.d.l.t.

mf

Vln. I

mf

3

Vln. II

mf

3

Vla.

mf

Vc.

mf

D.B.

mf

86

B $\flat$ Cl.

p

ord.

6

3

3

Hp.

f

mp

Vln. I

mp

Vln. II

mp

p

Vla.

mp

p

con sord.

p

Vc.

mf

pp

D.B.

mp

pp

C Yearning, Poco più mosso

Score for Yearning, Poco più mosso, featuring instruments: B♭ Cl., Hp., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The score includes dynamic markings (mp, p, mf) and performance instructions (con sord., ord., arco, pizz.).

First System (Measures 1-8):

- B♭ Cl.:** *mp*. Melodic line with slurs and ties.
- Hp.:** *p*. Accompanying figures in both staves.
- Vln. I:** *con sord.*, *p*. Enters in measure 4.
- Vln. II:** *p*. Enters in measure 1.
- Vla.:** *con sord.*. Enters in measure 4.
- Vc.:** *con sord.*. Enters in measure 4.
- D.B.:** *p*. Enters in measure 4.

Second System (Measures 9-16):

- B♭ Cl.:** *mf*. Continues melodic line.
- Hp.:** Continues accompaniment.
- Vln. I:** *mp*. Continues with slurs.
- Vln. II:** *mp*. Continues with slurs.
- Vla.:** *mp*. Continues with slurs.
- Vc.:** *mp*. Continues with slurs.
- D.B.:** *mp*. Continues with slurs.

Third System (Measures 17-24):

- B♭ Cl.:** Continues melodic line.
- Hp.:** Continues accompaniment.
- Vln. I:** Continues with slurs.
- Vln. II:** Continues with slurs.
- Vla.:** Continues with slurs.
- Vc.:** Continues with slurs.
- D.B.:** Continues with slurs.

Fourth System (Measures 25-32):

- B♭ Cl.:** Continues melodic line.
- Hp.:** Continues accompaniment.
- Vln. I:** Continues with slurs.
- Vln. II:** Continues with slurs.
- Vla.:** Continues with slurs.
- Vc.:** Continues with slurs.
- D.B.:** Continues with slurs.

Final System (Measures 33-40):

- B♭ Cl.:** Continues melodic line.
- Hp.:** Continues accompaniment.
- Vln. I:** Continues with slurs.
- Vln. II:** Continues with slurs.
- Vla.:** Continues with slurs.
- Vc.:** Continues with slurs.
- D.B.:** Continues with slurs.

[illegible]

D Ominous and Rough

Score for Ominous and Rough, featuring parts for B♭ Cl., Hp., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f*, *ff*, *ord.*, *to sp.*, and *sp.*, and a rehearsal mark *112*. The music is written in 3/4 time.

114

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

119

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

123

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

L.V.

ord.

f

sf

pizz.

f

3/4

128

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

l.v.

Pd.l.t.

arco

arco

5

3

3/4

E Cri de Cœur

Score for **Cri de Cœur**, measures 135-140.

Instrumentation: B♭ Cl., Hp. (Piano), Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., D.B., B♭ Cl. (starting at measure 135).

Key Signature: E major (indicated by the key signature change at measure 135).

Tempo/Style: Not explicitly marked, but the dynamics suggest a powerful, dramatic passage.

Measure 135: B♭ Cl. enters with a melodic line. Hp. provides harmonic support with chords. Vln. I and Vln. II play sustained notes. Vla., Vc., and D.B. provide a rhythmic foundation.

Measure 136: B♭ Cl. continues its melodic line. Hp. plays chords. Vln. I and Vln. II play sustained notes. Vla., Vc., and D.B. provide a rhythmic foundation.

Measure 137: B♭ Cl. continues its melodic line. Hp. plays chords. Vln. I and Vln. II play sustained notes. Vla., Vc., and D.B. provide a rhythmic foundation.

Measure 138: B♭ Cl. continues its melodic line. Hp. plays chords. Vln. I and Vln. II play sustained notes. Vla., Vc., and D.B. provide a rhythmic foundation.

Measure 139: B♭ Cl. continues its melodic line. Hp. plays chords. Vln. I and Vln. II play sustained notes. Vla., Vc., and D.B. provide a rhythmic foundation.

Measure 140: B♭ Cl. continues its melodic line. Hp. plays chords. Vln. I and Vln. II play sustained notes. Vla., Vc., and D.B. provide a rhythmic foundation.

Dynamic Markings: *ff* (fortissimo) is used throughout the passage. *sf* (sforzando) is used in measures 139 and 140.

Performance Notes: The score includes various performance markings such as accents (>), slurs, and breath marks (⊕) for the woodwinds. The piano part includes markings for "P.d.l.t." (Piano del tutto) and "ord." (ordinario).

140

B $\flat$ Cl.

growl

TS.

Hp.

P.d.l.t.

ff

fing. nail buzz

Vln. I

chop

ord.

Vln. II

chop

ord.

Vla.

chop

ff

Vc.

chop

ff

D.B.

chop

ff

143

B $\flat$ Cl.

growl

TS.

Hp.

P.d.l.t.

ff

dead slap

ord.

Vln. I

chop

ff

Vln. II

chop

ff

Vla.

chop

ff

Vc.

chop

ff

D.B.

chop

ff

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

Ferocious

145

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

146

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

P.d.l.t.

ff

P.d.l.t., except glissandi

PERUSAL SCORE! NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

147

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

148

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE! NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

149

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

150

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

151

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

152

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

153

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

6"

154

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

sfz

ff

ff

hit metal strings

ord.

sp.

F Wild

Start with sharp accent, hold for ca. 1", then separate, becoming more and more dense and out of control

Draw on these pitch classes & techniques; Strong accents, multiphonics, tongue slaps, rough sounds, dense, wild, jagged rhythms & registers.

Draw on these pitch classes & techniques; Thunder, pedal buzz, wood sounds, pizz, gliss, fingernails, chords and individual notes; wild, jagged rhythms & registers.

Draw on these pitch classes; Distorting sounds, changing bow pressure, MSP, sp, ord, scrapes, pizz, double-stops tremolo gliss, rough dense, wild, jagged rhythms & registers

Increasingly sparse, Still intense

Kassia

Score for the first system, measures 159-163. Instruments: B♭ Cl., Hp., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., D.B. The music is marked **fff** and includes various performance instructions in text boxes. A large diagonal watermark "PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE" is overlaid.

Still Struggling (♩ = 68)

Score for the second system, measures 164-168. Instruments: B♭ Cl., Hp., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., D.B. The music includes dynamic markings like **ff**, **sf**, and **ff**, and performance instructions like "P.d.l.t.". A large diagonal watermark "PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE" is overlaid.

162

B $\flat$ Cl.

f

ord.

f

Vln. I

sf

pizz.

arco

Vln. II

sf

f

sf

Vla.

sf

f

Vc.

sf

f

D.B.

f

165

B $\flat$ Cl.

sf

ff

sf

f

Hp.

sf

ff

Vln. I

ff

pizz.

arco

sf

f

Vln. II

ff

pizz.

arco

sf

f

Vla.

arco

ff

pizz.

arco

sf

f

Vc.

ff

pizz.

f

D.B.

ff

ff

169

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

173

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

178

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

182

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

186

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

mp

mp

mp

mp

G **Pensive, poco più mosso**
(cl. & hrp. duet)

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

Intensifying ♩ = 68

Intensifying

194

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

198

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Imploring

203

B $\flat$ Cl.

Solo

Hp.

mf

3

6

mp

Vln. I

pizz.

mf

Vln. II

pizz.

mf

Vla.

pp

mf

Solo arco

3

Vc.

pp

mp

D.B.

pp

mp

207

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

3

mp

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

3

mp

Vc.

p

D.B.

p

H Brightening

212

B $\flat$ Cl. *mp*

Hp.

Vln. I *arco* *p*

Vln. II *arco* *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc.

D.B.

217

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp. *mf*

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vla.

Vc.

D.B. *mp* pizz.

222

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

arco

227

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mp

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

246

B♭ Cl. *mf*

Hp. *mf* *f*

Vln. I *mf*

Vln. II *mp* *mf* *f*

Vla. *mf* *f*

Vc. *mf* *f*

D.B. *f*

251

B♭ Cl. *mf*

Hp. *mf*

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

D.B. *mf*

255

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

259

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

261

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

265

B $\flat$ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Floating

PERUSAL SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

269

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

275

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE