

Gabriel De Guzman

A Sigh of Relief...

For Flute Quartet

2024

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Written for the San Diego State University Flute Quartet. Please contact the composer using the information below to purchase a score and parts. First performed by Radha Castro, Rebecca Jaworski, Carmela Harkins and Mimi Wisdom.

Please contact the composer if interested in purchasing or performing this work:

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Instrumentation

(Full Score: All instruments are notated in their written pitch)

Flute I

Flute II

Alto Flute

Flute III (doubles on piccolo)

Program Notes

The lack of original, difficult repertoire for a flute quartet ensemble provides a challenge for groups of flute performers to play chamber music together. The ensemble itself is difficult to compose for considering the range of the instrument and the lack of a fundamental “bass” line. However, I wanted to take advantage of the flute’s melodic, virtuosic ability and air extended techniques.

“A Sigh of Relief...” reflects my own personal feelings about finishing my undergraduate degree at San Diego State University. The stress of being a music major is one that often goes unnoticed and unappreciated. We take multiple classes a semester while performing and rehearsing for ensembles and attending concerts for credit. Not only that but we have private instruction to further our own ability and skill. During my undergraduate years, I was often maxed out on school units. Hitting the maximum of 21 units, while still participating in ensembles and performing groups with no credit, resulted in a lot of built-up stress.

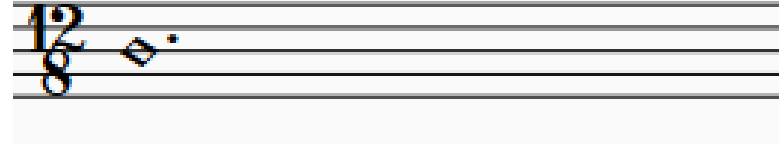
I wrote this piece during my final few months of my undergraduate studies. Partly to reflect the feeling of finally being finished with a stressful three years of my life. And partly as a momentary relief before I enter my graduate studies. A sigh is often a great reliever of stress, and while my studies may not be finished, I can feel relieved and proud of the work I have done so far.

- Gabriel De Guzman

Performance Notes

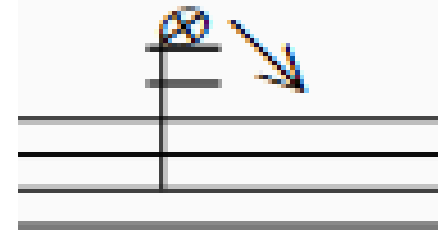
- Perform the following notation with air only through the instrument. Avoid a pitch being produced.

Air through instrument, no pitch



- A jet whistle or J. W. is a very loud glissando-like sound produced by sealing the embouchure hole completely with the lips and blowing a fast, high-pressure air stream through the flute.

Jet Whistle



Peruse/Use Only

*Dedicated to all those who may be under a lot of stress.
Keep going. Everything will work out in the end.
Take a deep breath...*

A Sigh of Relief...

Gabriel De Guzman (b. 2003)

Relaxed ♩ = 60

Musical score for Flute I, Flute II, Alto Flute, and Flute III (Piccolo). The score is in 5/4 time and features a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The tempo is marked "Relaxed ♩ = 60". The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *f* (forte). The Flute I part includes a "Fl. 1 Play" instruction. The Flute II part includes a "Fl. 1 Play" instruction. The Alto Flute part includes a "Fl. 1 Play" instruction. The Flute III (Piccolo) part includes a "fl. tongue" instruction. The score is marked with various dynamics and articulations, including "airy", "play", and "fl. tongue".

Musical score for Flute I, Flute II, Alto Flute, and Piccolo. The score is in 5/4 time and features a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The tempo is marked "Moderato ♩ = 84". The dynamics range from *p* (piano) to *fp* (fortissimo). The Flute I part includes a "p" instruction. The Flute II part includes a "p" instruction. The Alto Flute part includes a "p" instruction. The Piccolo part includes a "fp" instruction. The score is marked with various dynamics and articulations, including "bring out but light".

20

Fl. I *fp*

Fl. II *mf*

A. Fl. *f*

Picc. *fp*

tr

fp

6

Jet Whistle

ff

5

3

24

Fl. I *fp*

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc. *fp*

C

p *f* *p*

f *p* *f* *p*

f *p* *f* *p*

f *f* *mp*

7

9

5

7

3

28

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

p *f* *p* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

J. W.

5

7

D

32

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

p *p* *mp* *f* *mf* *mf* *p* *mf* *mf*

3 6 6

3

3

Present but subtle

Breathe when necessary

E

37

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

molto rit.

F Slow, Longing ♩ = 80
Air through instrument, no pitch

p *n*

p

mp *p*

pp

Air through instrument, no pitch

p expressive

Air through instrument, no pitch

46

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

G Solo

mf cantabile

p

To Fl.

Flute

53 H

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Fl.

mp

mp

mp

bend pitch

To Picc.

60 I

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Fl.

p

p

p

f

p

f

Piccolo

mf emotional, delicate

66

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

p *f* *p* *f*

Bend Pitch

mp *mp*

J

72

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

mf *mf*

78

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

f

ff

ff

f

81

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

84

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

L

mf

f

mf

mf

88

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

M

f

f

f

93

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

ff Bell-tone

Detailed description: This system covers measures 93 to 97. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). Flute I and Flute II play a sixteenth-note pattern: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, with accents and breath marks. Piccolo plays a rhythmic pattern: quarter note G4, eighth notes A4, B4, C5, quarter note G4, eighth notes A4, B4, C5, quarter note G4. Alto flute has a bell-tone (ff) on G4. The music is in 2/4 time.

98

Fl. I

Fl. II

A. Fl.

Picc.

Detailed description: This system covers measures 98 to 102. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). Flute I and Flute II play a sixteenth-note pattern: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, with accents and breath marks. Piccolo plays a rhythmic pattern: quarter note G4, eighth notes A4, B4, C5, quarter note G4, eighth notes A4, B4, C5, quarter note G4. Alto flute has a bell-tone (ff) on G4. The music is in 2/4 time.

