

AARON HOUSTON

Whisp

- for solo viola -

For Perusal Use Only

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Performance time: ca. 1:00

PROGRAM NOTE

Whisp explores the transparent colors of the viola by exploiting the natural harmonics available on the instrument. The short work is demanding of the performer as it asks them to move swiftly across the viola with very light pressure and a delicate touch in order for the harmonics to speak and create ethereal melodies.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Accidentals – accidentals, including quarter tones, carry throughout the measure, but do not carry through octaves in any given measure unless otherwise notated.

Microtones – all microtones should be considered to be quarter-tones and are notated with arrow accidentals to show the direction of the microtonal adjustment (either up or down) in relation to the “in tune” accidental.

Techniques –

- s.t. = “sul tasto”
- s.p. = “sul ponticello”
- m.s.p. = “molto sul ponticello”
- ord. = cancels playing techniques

*This work was commissioned by Molly Gebrian
as part of the Georgia Runoff Commissioning Project.*

Whisp

Commissioned by Molly Gebrian

Aaron Houston

♩ = 96 *accel.*..... ♩ = 96 *accel.*.....

p cresc. *f < ff* *molto rit.*..... *s.p.* → *m.s.p.*

5 *ord.* *fp cresc.* *♩ = 96 accel.*.....

7 *♩ = 96 accel.*..... *♩ = 120 s.p.* *ord.* III + V *f* *mp*

9 *molto rit.*..... *a tempo* *gliss.* *s.t. off the string* IV III *ord.* III II *fp* *pp sub.* *f*

12 *accel.*..... *♩ = 96* III IV III *♩ = 120* *fp* *cresc. poco a poco* *f furiously* *pp sub.*

15 *m.s.p.* *ord.* (h) (long) *sfz* *pp* *ff* *sfz* *pp*