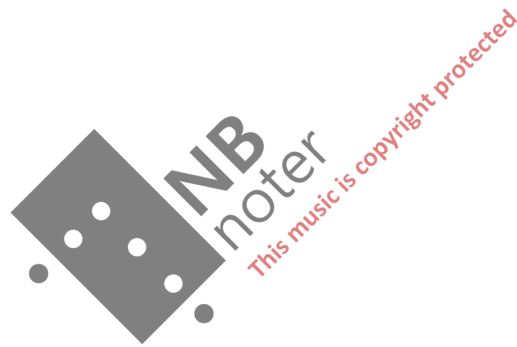
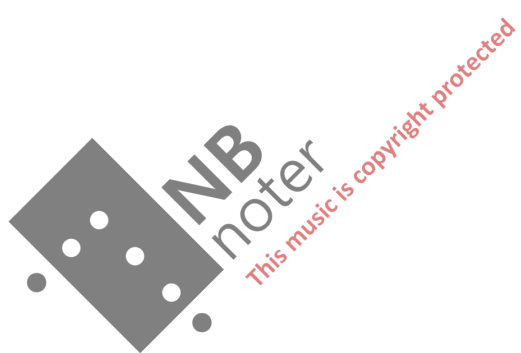


Mathieu Lacroix

North Star

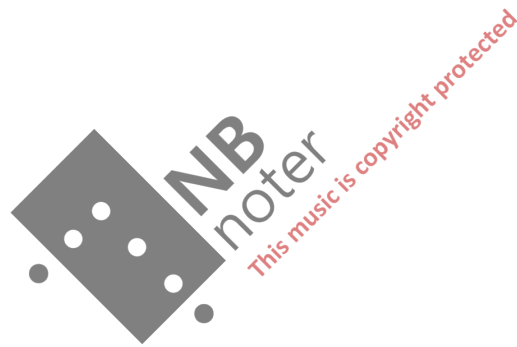
For solo flute & electronics





To all of the world's oppressed

Mathieu Lacroix
North Star (2018)
For solo flute & electronics



James Whitfield (1822-1871), like many other African-American intellectuals of his time, has been forgotten in the annals of history. However, the lessons that these poets and intellectuals teach us are still relevant. Even though laws can forbid slavery, African-Americans know that it does not mean equality as there is still a large gap of inequality.

In the rest of the world, we might not have the same context, but these themes are still relevant today. The migrants from warzones such as Syria and Eritrea could closely relate to this poetry. All immigrants, genders or minorities that have felt discrimination can also understand. This composition is dedicated to these groups that have felt oppression and are fighting for justice. We all need a North Star that can give us faith in a better future. The piece is also dedicated to all the nameless souls that have fought for civil rights and liberties.

The electronics are created in a way that they will follow the musician's interpretation. This permits the flutist to play more freely and comfortably. Just like every flutist will play music differently, the electronics will interpret the piece differently for each flutist. Musical processes are always based on the musician's sound and actions, creating more tight-knit music that feels organic. The piece was originally written to show classical musicians that playing with electronics is not too difficult or dehumanizing.

*Star of the north! whose steadfast ray
Pierces the sable pall of night,
Forever pointing out the way
That leads to freedom's hallowed light:
The fugitive lifts up his eye
To where thy rays illumine the sky.*

*Not like that moon, now dark, now bright,
In phase and place forever changing;
Or planets with reflected light,
Or comets through the heavens ranging;
They all seem varying to our view,
While thou art ever fixed and true.*

*That steady, calm, unchanging light,
Through dreary wilds and trackless dells,
Directs his weary steps aright
To the bright land where freedom dwells;
And spreads, with sympathizing breast,
Her ægis over the oppressed.*

*So may that other bright North Star,
Beaming with truth and freedom's light,
Pierce with its cheering ray afar,
The shades of slavery's gloomy night;
And may it never cease to be
The guard of truth and liberty.*

*Though other stars may round thee burn,
With larger disk and brighter ray,
And fiery comets round thee turn,
While millions mark their blazing way;
And the pale moon and planets bright
Reflect on us their silvery light.*

Electronics

The electronics are done by using a score follower. The electronics include physical modelling, harmonized delays, harmonic overtones made through FM synthesis and some spatialization. All of the electronics are played by following the musician and adapt themselves to the musician's playstyle. The electronics use audio descriptors to influence the electronics' spectral components dependant on how the musician sounds.

The latest electronics will always be available at: www.mlcroix.com

Feel free to take contact with me for more information. Detailed signal chains and tips are also available on my website.

Notation Explained

M.V. - Molto Vibrato

S.V. - Senza Vibrato

If no instruction is given, you may assume that the amount of vibrato is to be normal / at the discretion of the performer.

→ Indicates a change from, and to a state.

breath

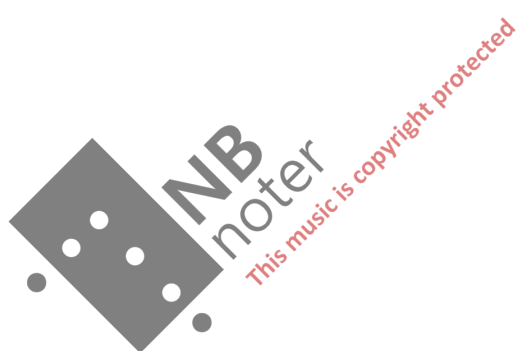


Aeolian sound

,

Means a pause. This is especially relevant when the poem is recited in the electronics.

By enharmonic trill, the meaning is for the player to shift between different fingerings for the same note in the rhythmic values written. This is sometimes also referred to as bisbigliando. See www.flutexpansions.com for a fuller description.



q = 60 Smoothly

North Star

Mathieu Lacroix

4

S01
Flute
mf
3
tr
enharmonic trill
3

S02
Fl.
ff
tr
enharmonic trill
3
3
3
3
3
3
3
3
mf

S03
Fl.
p
p
mp
tr
tr
tr
tr
poco accel.

S04
Fl.
f
sub mp
p
sfz
mf
p
poco rit.
q = 70
S.V.
gliss.

S05
Fl.
mp
5
ff
mp
enharmonic trill
tr

S06
Fl.
poco rit.
3
f
3

S07
Fl.
mp
S.V.
breath

S08
Fl.
mf
poco accel.
q = 63
3
3
6
6
S.V.
subito p
mf
mf

S09
Fl.
mf
S.V.
mf
S.V.
mf
S.V.

S10 Fl. *q = 78*
mp *f* *p*
 3

S11 Fl.
f *mf* *mp*

S12 Fl.
mf *f* *mp* *ff* *mp*
 3

S13 Fl. *tr* *M.V.* *tr* *S.V.*
fff *mp*
 7 3

S14 Fl. *Ord.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*
p *mp* *mp* *mf*

S15 Fl. *M.V.*

S16 Fl. *S.V.*
ff *mf*
 3 3

S17 Fl. *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*
 3 3

S18 Fl. *A tempo q = 60*
tr *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*
3 *3* *3* *3* *3* *3*
enharmonic trill

S19
Fl. *mp* 3 *mf* *ff* 3

S20
Fl. *mf* 3 *enharmonic trill* 3 3 *f*

q = 50
S.V. *gliss.*
S21
Fl. *mp* *enharmonic trill*

S.V. *gliss.* *tr* *poco rit.*
S22
Fl. *enharmonic trill* *mf* 3 3 3

q = 45
M.V. -> S.V. M.V. -> S.V. M.V. -> S.V. M.V. -> S.V. *tr* *S.V.*
S23
Fl. *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf* *enharmonic trill* *mp*

tr 3 3 *S.V.* *wait until silent*
S24
Fl. *mf* *enharmonic trill* *f*

