PHILLIP SINK

FLEX!

(2015)

for flute, clarinet, percussion, piano, violin, viola, and cello
Flex!
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for flute, clarinet, percussion, piano, violin, viola, cello
by Phillip Sink

I. Genuflect Before Thee
II. Thanks for Being Flexible
III. Deflected Attempts
IV. Upward Inflection?

Duration: 6:30 minutes

Transposed Score

Percussion requirements:
Movements I – III: glockenspiel.
Movement IV: two splash cymbals (small, medium), hihat, temple blocks (5), two floor toms

Program Note:
I composed a set of short movements using words that contain either the Latin root *flex* or *flect*, which mean “to bend.” The first movement “Genuflect Before Thee” pits the strings against the rest of the group. Each side rudely interrupts the other until someone in the ensemble decides to give in. “Thanks for Being Flexible” is a thank-you note to the strings for being so flexible with pitch. The strings carry the movement by gliding to each pitch within the harmony while the other instruments play melodic fragments and textural goodies. The third movement “Deflected Attempts” is inspired by the myriad of YouTube videos of cats knocking objects off tables. I composed the movement with a series of rising gestures that continuously get knocked down. The final movement “Upward Inflection?” is dedicated to all of the late-teens, early-20-somethings, and Californians who consistently speak with an upward inflection at the end of declarative sentences…?
III. Deflected Attempts

\( j = 60 \)

\( j = 132 \)

quasi jet whistle

black key gliss

white key gliss

blk. gliss
IV. Upward Inflection?

= 120

Flutter tongue

Flutter tongue (or growl)

Yarn mallets

Loco

Pno.

Flute

Clarinet

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

Percussion

Piano

Woodwinds

Strings

molto rit.

with shaft of mallet

on rim with shaft of mallet