

A

Squirrely Scherzo

Shenanigans for Flute and Piano

Josh Trentadue

© 2015 M.O.T.I.F.

<http://joshtrentadue.weebly.com>

PROGRAM NOTES

“A Squirrelly Scherzo” was composed for the senior recital of Jessica Thomas, a flautist whose favorite animal is indeed squirrels. I’m reminded of the cartoons in the Golden Age of cinema and its wacky characters getting into all sorts of trouble in such a short amount of time. A famous and noteworthy fact among the student community at Michigan State is the abundant number of squirrels that seemingly overpopulate the campus. As such, it was a fun project and an immensely gratifying experience.

The piece begins with a bright morning, using a quote from a popular Rossini overture, as our furry friend wakes up from its slumber. From there, the squirrel jumps down from its home in the trees and begins its daily search for food. The music matches the quirkiness of this animal through the use of pauses throughout the piece and figures representing the quick movements of the squirrel. Throughout its sporadic adventures, the squirrel manages to fulfill its search for food while also avoiding several dangers, including dogs and getting run over by cars when crossing the street. Fortunately, our furry friend survives to live another day.

I owe it to Jessica for not only mastering the technical challenges of this piece, but also giving it a life and character far surpassing the boundaries of the music.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

- Rehearsal marks are not present in the piece – replacing it are boxes representing each moment in the music where the story takes place.
- All repeats are optional and at the discretion of the performers.
- Measures 1-6: Music Taken From Gioachino Rossini’s *William Tell Overture*

**WORLD PREMIERE AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY; HART RECITAL HALL;
MARCH 29, 2015 – JESSICA THOMAS, FLUTE; JOSH TRENTADUE, PIANO**

A
Squirrely Scherzo
Shenanigans for Flute and Piano
for Jessica

Josh Trentadue

MORNING

Adagio (♩ = 76)

Flute

Piano

mp *mp* *knock on piano frame* *p*

Fl.

Pno.

freely *mp* *mf*

Fl.

Pno.

very freely *f* *mp*

SEARCHING FOR FOOD

with energy, like scampering

Suddenly Quicker, Brighter (♩ = 160)

Fl. 17

Pno.

pp

mf

Fl. 25

Pno.

decresc. 2nd time ONLY

p

suddenly

p

f

knock on piano frame

Fl. 31

Pno.

mp

f

decresc. 2nd time only

(Do not play this note 2nd time)

Fl. 37

Pno.

mp

p

f

mp

mp