

Commissioned by Taylor Giorgio

Baybirds

for two violins

Music by Jaclyn Breeze

2023

Performance Notes

Vertical accents (pelican grunt) indicate a higher bow pressure, partly scratchy and over the bridge.

X note heads indicate taps. Do whatever works best for you.

Program notes

Baybirds is made up of calls from birds that can be found around Green Bay and Fox River in Wisconsin. The piece is divided into 3 sections, with light hummingbird themes to separate them. The opening lays out the calls as one might hear them near the water. Then the first hummingbird comes and whisks us away into a swirl of calls, where they are developed and extended with a few added birds. The next hummingbird transition is a dance between two hummingbirds, which releases us back into the clear-cut calls like the beginning.

This piece was commissioned by Taylor Giorgio in 2023 for her faculty recital at St. Norbert College.

Birds

American White Pelican: One of the heaviest flying birds in the world. Lives near the water and are usually silent, but will grunt quickly if needed. They have slow and methodical wingbeats.

Their wings are represented by repeated long notes, and their grunts a heavy and quick bow.



Belted Kingfisher: About the size of a robin, they spend most of their time perched along the water looking for fish. They have loud, rattling calls.

Their calls are made here made by bouncing the bow on the string.



Great Blue Heron: A very large bird, they wade slowly or stand still in the water when looking for fish. They snap their bills together as a territorial display.

Their bill snap is represented by the performers tapping on their instruments.



Goldeneye Duck: The oldest known Goldeneye Duck was found in Wisconsin in 2012, and was at least 20 years old. This bird's quick wings make a whistling sound in flight, and they will make short, quick calls if needed.

Their wings are represented by tremolo harmonics sliding between each other, and their calls by groups of staccato sixteenths with an emphasis on an off beat.



Rubythroated Hummingbird: One of the most common hummingbirds in the U.S., they are about 3 inches tall and have a light, chirpy sound and buzzing wings.

Hummingbirds are represented in triple time signatures, to give them a flitting, dance feel.



Yellow Bellied Sapsucker: This woodpecker makes shallow holes to collect sap and any trapped insects. They often sit still for a long time to feed, and their drumming is slower and more irregular than other woodpeckers. Their holes often attract hummingbirds who also feed off the sap.

The woodpecker sounds are made with pizzicato and mixed 16ths and 32nds to give it an uneven, pecking feel.



Baybirds

Lightly, lifted (♩ = 80)

Violin I

Violin II

pp p mp p mp

5

mf mp mf mp

9

mf f mp f mp

12

mp p mp p f mf

15

f mp f mp

18 *mp* *accel.* **20** Quick and fluttery! (♩ = 112) *f*

21 *f* 3

24 5 7 5 5 5

27 *rit.* **28** Lightly, lifted (♩ = 80) *mp* *f* *p*

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

33

Musical score for measures 33-35. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked with dynamics *p*, *f*, and *p*. The lower staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and a few moving lines, marked with dynamics *f* and *p*.

36

Musical score for measures 36-39. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff has a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked with dynamics *f*, *mf*, and *mp*. The lower staff has a more rhythmic accompaniment with slurs and accents, marked with dynamics *p* and *mp*.

40

Musical score for measures 40-42. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked with dynamics *p* and *mp*. The lower staff has a rhythmic accompaniment with slurs and accents, marked with dynamics *p* and *mp*.

43

Musical score for measures 43-45. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff has a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked with dynamics *p*, *mf*, *p*, *p*, and *f*. The lower staff has a rhythmic accompaniment with slurs and accents, marked with dynamics *mf* and *p*.

46

Musical score for measures 46-48. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked with dynamics *p*, *p*, and *f*. The lower staff has a rhythmic accompaniment with slurs and accents, marked with dynamics *p*, *mf*, *p*, and *mf*. The word "ricochet" is written above the notes in measures 47 and 48.

49

p \longleftarrow *f* *mf*

mp *p* *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 49 through 52. The upper staff features a melodic line with a dynamic range from *p* to *f* in measures 49-50, followed by a *mf* dynamic in measures 51-52. The lower staff provides accompaniment with dynamics of *mp*, *p*, and *mf*. Measure 52 includes a fermata over the final note.

53

rit. **55** A little slower ($\text{♩} = 76$)

f *mp*

p *f* *p* *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 53 through 55. Measure 53 starts with a *f* dynamic. Measure 54 includes a *rit.* marking and a change to 2/4 time. Measure 55 is marked with a box containing the number 55 and the instruction 'A little slower (♩ = 76)'. Dynamics in the upper staff are *f* and *mp*. Dynamics in the lower staff are *p*, *f*, *p*, and *mf*. Measure 55 includes a fermata over the final note.

56

pizz. *f* *mp* *f* *mp* pizz.

pp *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 56 through 58. The upper staff has dynamics of *f*, *mp*, *f*, and *mp*. The lower staff has dynamics of *pp* and *mf*. Both staves include 'pizz.' (pizzicato) markings. Measure 58 includes a fermata over the final note.

59

3 3

arco *p*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 59 and 60. Both staves feature triplet markings (3). The lower staff includes an 'arco' marking and a *p* dynamic. Measure 60 includes a fermata over the final note.

61

f *p* *mf* \longleftarrow *p*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 61 and 62. The upper staff has a *f* dynamic in measure 61. The lower staff has dynamics of *p*, *mf*, and *p*. Measure 62 includes a fermata over the final note.

63

63

f

f

arco

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 63 and 64. Measure 63 is in 4/4 time and features a melody in the upper voice with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a tremolo effect. The lower voice provides a simple accompaniment. Measure 64 is in 2/4 time, with the upper voice playing a sustained note marked 'arco' and 'f', while the lower voice continues with a rhythmic accompaniment.

65

65

p

Detailed description: This system contains measures 65 and 66. Measure 65 is in 4/4 time and features a complex, rapid melodic line in the upper voice with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The lower voice has a more rhythmic accompaniment. Measure 66 continues the melodic line in the upper voice and the accompaniment in the lower voice.

68

68

pizz.

mf

pizz.

mf

Detailed description: This system contains measures 68 and 69. Measure 68 is in 4/4 time, with the upper voice playing a rapid melodic line marked 'pizz.' and 'mf'. The lower voice has a rhythmic accompaniment. Measure 69 continues the melodic line in the upper voice and the accompaniment in the lower voice.

71

71

mf

arco

mp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 71 and 72. Measure 71 is in 4/4 time, with the upper voice playing a melodic line marked 'mf'. The lower voice has a rhythmic accompaniment. Measure 72 is in 2/4 time, with the upper voice playing a sustained note marked 'arco' and 'mp', while the lower voice continues with a rhythmic accompaniment.

74

74

arco

mp

p

mp

f

mf

p

mf

Detailed description: This system contains measures 74 and 75. Measure 74 is in 2/4 time, with the upper voice playing a melodic line marked 'arco' and 'mp'. The lower voice has a rhythmic accompaniment. Measure 75 is in 4/4 time, with the upper voice playing a melodic line marked 'p', 'mp', and 'f'. The lower voice has a rhythmic accompaniment.

77 *rit.*

mf *p* *pp*

rit. *p* *pp*

80 Dance-like (♩ = 80)

f

82

mp *f*

86

p *ff* *ff*

90

p *mp* *mp*