

An Inflorescence

for flute, clarinet, violin, viola, violoncello, percussion and piano

DANIEL OTT

commissioned by the
New York Choreographic Institute
in celebration of its tenth anniversary season

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An Inflorescence was commissioned by the New York Choreographic Institute in celebration of its tenth anniversary season. The work was intended as a surprise gift for a dear mentor, colleague, and friend, Pia Gilbert. It is dedicated to Pia with love and admiration, and much awe and appreciation for all she has done for the world of “Music and Dance” in her long and illustrious career as musician and educator.

Composed for seven players (playing a flute, a clarinet, a trio of strings, a small battery of percussion, and a piano), An Inflorescence is a short work lasting no more than three minutes, thirty seconds. It opens with a trochaic four-note motto which musicalizes the dedicatee’s name (“PI-a GIL-ber”). This brief tune is heard, in constantly varied versions, throughout the piece’s 105 measures. Overall, the work begins in near stasis, slowly gaining momentum, and ending in a burst of color and energy.

The title of the work refers to a particular type of flower which is, in fact, a cluster of flowers, often having the appearance of a single entity. The Flowering Dogwood, ubiquitous in the east, is one example of a plant which produces these kinds of flowers. It also happens to have been in bloom around the time of the composition of this work, and in that sense served as a near-constant reminder of Pia.

At its premiere, in November 2010 at the Miller Theatre in New York, An Inflorescence was choreographed by three brilliant dance-makers (Larry Keigwin, Alexei Ratmansky, and Christopher Wheeldon), and performed thrice by the magnificent American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME).

for Pia
AN INFLORESCENCE

Commissioned by the New York Choreographic Institute

Daniel Ott
(2010)

Flute

Clarinet in B \flat

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

Percussion

Piano

$\bullet = 44 \sim 48$

non vibr.

pp

non vibr.

pp

(ord.) V

non vibr.

mp *espress.*

non vibr.

pp

non vibr.

pp

CROTALES:

mf

$\bullet = 44 \sim 48$

declamatory

f

3

Ped. *sempre l.v.* (Depress prior to first note. Do not lift pedal!)

9

Fl. *p* *pp* *vibr. gradualmente*

B♭ Cl. *p* *pp* *f*

Vln. *mp* *sul G* *pp*

Vla. *p* *pp* *vibr. gradualmente*

Vcl. *p* *pp* *vibr. gradualmente*

Perc. (Susp. Cymb.) **SMALL SUSP. CYMBAL:** wire brushes *ppp*

Pno.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, numbered '2' at the top left and '9' at the beginning of the first staff, contains seven staves. The top six staves are for Flute (Fl.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vcl.), each with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. The Percussion (Perc.) staff uses a snare drum clef and includes a box labeled 'SMALL SUSP. CYMBAL:' with the instruction 'wire brushes' and a dynamic marking of 'ppp'. The Piano (Pno.) staff is at the bottom, consisting of two staves with treble and bass clefs. The score features various dynamics such as *p*, *pp*, *mp*, and *f*, along with performance instructions like 'vibr. gradualmente' and 'sul G'. The music is characterized by melodic lines with slurs and crescendos, and a rhythmic accompaniment in the lower staves.

Poco accel.....

15

Fl. *f* vibr. ord. *fp*

B♭ Cl. *fp*

Vln. *f* *fp* sul A *gliss.*

Vla. *f* *fp* *gliss.*

Vcl. *f* *fp* sul A *gliss.*

(Mba.) MARIMBA: *f* *p*

(Susp. Cymb.) *mf*

Pno. *f* *fp* *8vb*

Poco accel.....

Mosso ♩ = 56

19

Fl. *ff*

B♭ Cl. *ff*

Vln. *ff* *p liscio*

Vla. *ff* *p liscio*

Vcl. *ff* *mp* *pizz.*

(Mba.) *ff* *mf*

Perc. *ff* *mf*

(Bngs.) *pp*

VIBRAPHONE:

BONGOS: hard sticks

Pno. *ff* *mf* *mp*

pp soave

p *mf* *p*

p *mf* *p*

p *mf* *p*

mp

pp

mp

mp

23

Fl. *mf*

B♭ Cl.

p

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

mp

(Vib.)

Perc.

(Bngs.)

pp

23

Pno.

mp

p

mp

p

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score, page 5, starting at measure 23. The score is arranged in a system with eight staves. The instruments are: Flute (Fl.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Percussion (Perc.), Bongos (Bngs.), and Piano (Pno.). The Flute part begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a dynamic marking of *mf*. It features a melodic line with slurs and ties. The B♭ Clarinet part is mostly silent until measure 25, where it enters with a treble clef and a dynamic marking of *p*. The Violin and Viola parts play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs. The Violoncello part is silent until measure 25, where it enters with a bass clef and a dynamic marking of *mp*. The Vibraphone part is silent until measure 25, where it enters with a treble clef and a dynamic marking of *p*. The Percussion part includes Bongos (Bngs.) which play a rhythmic pattern starting in measure 25 with a dynamic marking of *pp*. The Piano part is silent until measure 25, where it enters with a grand staff and a dynamic marking of *mp*. The score concludes at measure 25.

26

Fl.

B \flat Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

(Vib.)

Perc.

mf *p*

f

p

sf

sf

arco

sf

MARIMBA:

mf

mf

26

Pno.

mf

sost. *ped.*

mp sempre

29

Fl. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *sim.*

B♭ Cl. *mf* *p* *mf* *sim.*

Vln. flautando *p* pizz. *f* arco flaut. *p*

Vla. *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf*

Vcl. *sf* *sf* *sf*

(Mba.) Perc.

Pno. *f*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 29, 30, and 31. The Flute part (Fl.) starts with a *p* dynamic, moving to *mf* by measure 30, and then *sim.* (sustained) in measure 31. The B♭ Clarinet part (B♭ Cl.) starts with *mf*, then *p* in measure 30, and *sim.* in measure 31. The Violin part (Vln.) is marked *flautando* and *p* in measure 29, then has a *pizz.* (*f*) in measure 30, and *arco flaut.* (*p*) in measure 31. The Viola (Vla.) and Violoncello (Vcl.) parts are marked *sf* throughout. The Mba. part has a rhythmic pattern with accents. The Piano part (Pno.) has a *f* dynamic in measure 30 and a *pizz.* marking in measure 31. A dashed line with an asterisk is at the bottom left.

This musical score page, numbered 8, features seven staves. The Flute (Fl.) staff begins at measure 32 with a melodic line of eighth notes. The Clarinet in B-flat (B♭ Cl.) staff provides a supporting line. The Violin (Vln.) staff starts with a tremolo and a forte (*f*) dynamic, then switches to *pizz.* (pizzicato) and later to *arco* (arco) with a forte *espress.* dynamic. The Viola (Vla.) staff includes a triplet of eighth notes marked *f*, followed by a *mp* section marked *flautando*. The Violoncello (Vcl.) staff features a triplet of eighth notes marked *f* and another triplet marked *espress.*. The Percussion (Perc.) staff, including Mba., shows rhythmic patterns with triplets and accents. The Piano (Pno.) staff begins at measure 32 with a complex texture in both hands, including a forte (*f*) dynamic.

Poco accel.

Animato $\text{♩} = 120$
scherzando

35

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

(Vib.)

Perc.

(Trgl., Susp. Cymb., Cab.)

Pno.

f

sub. mp

f

schierzando

sub. mp

IV. pizz.

III.

arco

flaut.

pizz.

f

mp

f

sub. mp

3

5

6

ff

mp

VIBRAPHONE:

3

6

3

p

f

SMALL SUSP. CYMBAL:

hard stick, strike near dome

CABASA:

p

sub. mp

f

Animato $\text{♩} = 120$

35

3/16

*These notes may be omitted.

This musical score page contains measures 39 through 44. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Fl. (Flute):** Measures 39-44. Starts with a melodic line in 3/16 time, marked *pp* from measure 41 onwards.
- B♭ Cl. (B♭ Clarinet):** Measures 39-44. Mostly rests, with a melodic entry in measure 44 marked *p* and *f*.
- Vln. (Violin):** Measures 39-44. Melodic line, marked *pp* from measure 41.
- Vla. (Viola):** Measures 39-44. Melodic line, marked *pp* from measure 41.
- Vcl. (Violoncello):** Measures 39-44. Bass line, marked *pp* from measure 41.
- Perc. (Percussion):** Measures 39-44. Includes Triangle (measures 40-43), Bongos (measures 43-44), and Suspended Cymbal/Castanets (measures 43-44) marked *p*.
- Pno. (Piano):** Measures 39-44. Accompanying bass line, marked *pp* from measure 41.

The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings (*pp*, *p*, *f*). The percussion part includes specific instrument labels in boxes: TRIANGLE:, BONGOS:, and (Trgl., Susp. Cymb., Cab.).

45

Fl.

B \flat Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

Perc.
(Bngs.)

Pno.

p *f* *mf* *ff*

mp *f* *ff*

p *mf* *ff*

mp *f* *pp* *f*

mf *ff*

arco sul pont. ord. ord.

SMALL SUSP. CYMBAL:

timp. mallets

8^{va} 8^{va}

50 Poco agitato ♩ = 132

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

mf ben marcato

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

pizz.

f

mp

TIMPANO:

(Timp.)

Perc.

f

p

50 Poco agitato ♩ = 132

Pno.

mf ben marcato

60

Fl. *f ben marcato*

B♭ Cl. *sub. f* *mf* *p* *f* *mf* *p* *f*

Vln. *sub. f* *mf* *f*

Vla. *sub. f* *mf* *f*

Vcl. *sub. f* *mf* *f*

(Timp.) *sub. f* *mp*

Perc.

Pno. *sub. f* *mf* *f*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, numbered 60, features seven staves. The Flute staff (Fl.) has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature, starting with a rest and then playing a series of eighth notes with accents and slurs, marked *f ben marcato*. The B♭ Clarinet staff (B♭ Cl.) has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature, playing a similar eighth-note pattern with dynamic markings *sub. f*, *mf*, *p*, *f*, *mf*, *p*, and *f*. The Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vla.) staves have treble clefs and a 4/4 time signature, playing a steady eighth-note accompaniment with dynamic markings *sub. f*, *mf*, and *f*. The Violoncello (Vcl.) staff has a bass clef and a 4/4 time signature, playing a similar accompaniment with dynamic markings *sub. f*, *mf*, and *f*. The Percussion (Perc.) staff includes a Timpani part (Timp.) with a bass clef and a 4/4 time signature, playing a rhythmic pattern with dynamic markings *sub. f* and *mp*. The Piano (Pno.) staff has a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a 4/4 time signature, with the right hand playing a complex eighth-note pattern and the left hand playing a simpler accompaniment, marked *sub. f*, *mf*, and *f*.

*From here to m. 66, cover the A on the G string in case of incidental resonance during pizz.

66

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

(Timp.)

Perc.

Pno.

f *p* *f* *p* *f*

mf *sim.* *mf* *sim.*

VIBRAPHONE: hard mallets *f*

cantabile *f* *mf*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score covers measures 66 to 70. The Flute (Fl.) and B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.) parts feature melodic lines with dynamic markings of *f* and *p*. The Violin (Vln.) part has a rhythmic pattern starting with *f*. The Viola (Vla.) and Violoncello (Vcl.) parts play chords, with the Viola marked *mf* and *sim.* (sustained). The Percussion (Perc.) section includes Timpani (Timp.) and Vibraphone. The Vibraphone part is marked "VIBRAPHONE: hard mallets" and *f*. The Piano (Pno.) part has a *mf* accompaniment in the left hand and a *cantabile* melody in the right hand, marked *f*.

71

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

(Vib.)

Perc.

Pno.

ff

f

sim.

arco

ff

ff

ff

ff

Detailed description: This page of a musical score covers measures 71 to 74. The instruments are Flute (Fl.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Percussion (Perc.), and Piano (Pno.). The score is in 4/4 time and features a variety of dynamics and articulations. The Flute and B♭ Clarinet parts are marked with *ff* and include accents and slurs. The Violin part is marked with *ff* and includes accents. The Viola and Violoncello parts are marked with *f* and *sim.* (sordina). The Vibraphone part is marked with *f* and includes accents. The Percussion part is marked with *ff* and includes accents. The Piano part is marked with *ff* and includes accents. The score is written in a standard musical notation style with a clean, professional layout.

75

Fl.

B \flat Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

Perc.

(Trgl.)

Pno.

75

TRIANGLE:

p

mp

75

Pno.

80

Fl.

mf

sim.

B♭ Cl.

mf

sim.

Vln.

f spirito

sim.

Vla.

mf

f

mf

f

Vcl.

mf

f

mf

f

(Vib.)

f

f

f

Perc.

SMALL SUSP. CYMBAL:
scrape with trgl. beater

mp

CROTALES:

Pno.

80

f

f spirito

85

Fl.

B \flat Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

(Vib.)

Perc.

Pno.

mf

f

sul D

f *spirito*

f

f

VIBRAPHONE:

f

f

spirito

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, numbered 18, contains measures 85 through 87. The score is arranged in a system with seven staves. The instruments are: Flute (Fl.), B-flat Clarinet (B \flat Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), Vibraphone (Vib.), and Piano (Pno.). The music is in a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. Measures 85 and 86 are in 3/4 time, while measure 87 is in 4/4 time. The Flute and B-flat Clarinet parts feature melodic lines with dynamic markings of *mf* and *f*. The Violin part includes a 'sul D' instruction and dynamic markings of *mf* and *f* *spirito*. The Viola and Violoncello parts play rhythmic patterns with dynamic markings of *mf* and *f*. The Vibraphone part has a box labeled 'VIBRAPHONE:' above it, with dynamic markings of *f* and *spirito*. The Piano part consists of a right-hand melodic line and a left-hand accompaniment, with dynamic markings of *f* and *spirito*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

88

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

(Vib.)

Perc.

Pno.

f

sim.

sul D

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for an orchestral ensemble. The score is arranged in a system with eight staves. From top to bottom, the staves are for Flute (Fl.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Percussion (Perc.), and Piano (Pno.). The Flute and B♭ Clarinet parts feature a melodic line with a long slur across the first two measures and a dynamic marking of *f* at the end of the second measure. The Violin part has a melodic line with accents and a dynamic marking of *f* at the end of the second measure. The Viola and Violoncello parts play a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with slurs. The Vibraphone part has a melodic line with accents and a dynamic marking of *f*. The Percussion part has a simple rhythmic pattern. The Piano part has a complex accompaniment with slurs and a dynamic marking of *sim.* (simile). The tempo marking 88 is present at the beginning of the Flute and Piano staves. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is written in 4/4 time.

91

Fl.

B \flat Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

(Crts.)

Perc.

Pno.

ff

f

f

ff

f

f

mf crisp, clear

CROTALES:

Exuberantly

94

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

(Crts.)

Perc.

(Tam-T.)

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

mf

SMALL TAM-TAM:
med. hard mallet

Exuberantly

94

Pno.

ff

8vb

(loco)

98

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vcl.

Perc.
(Tam-T.)

Pno.

8vb

8vb

8vb

8vb

5

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, numbered 22, covers measures 98 to 101. It features seven staves: Flute (Fl.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), Percussion (Perc. / Tam-Tam), and Piano (Pno.). The Flute, B♭ Clarinet, Violin, Viola, and Violoncello parts are highly active, with complex rhythmic patterns and many accidentals. The Percussion part consists of a single melodic line on a Tam-Tam instrument. The Piano part is divided into two systems: the upper system shows chords and arpeggios, while the lower system shows a more rhythmic accompaniment. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings like *8vb* (pianissimo) and a fingering of 5.

This musical score page, numbered 23, covers measures 102 through 105. The instrumentation includes Flute (Fl.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), Percussion (Perc.), and Piano (Pno.).

- Flute (Fl.):** Measures 102-105 feature a melodic line with slurs and accents. A dynamic marking of *fff* is present in measure 105.
- B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.):** Similar to the flute, it plays a melodic line with slurs and accents, reaching a *fff* dynamic in measure 105.
- Violin (Vln.):** The violin part consists of a melodic line with slurs and accents, also reaching a *fff* dynamic in measure 105.
- Viola (Vla.):** The viola part follows a similar melodic pattern with slurs and accents, reaching a *fff* dynamic in measure 105.
- Violoncello (Vcl.):** The cello part plays a melodic line with slurs and accents, reaching a *fff* dynamic in measure 105.
- Percussion (Perc.):** The percussion part includes a section for Cymbals (Crts.) and Tam-tam (Tam-T.). The Cymbals play a rhythmic pattern starting in measure 103, with dynamics *ff* and *fff l.v.*. The Tam-tam has a single note in measure 102 with a *ff* dynamic.
- Piano (Pno.):** The piano part features a complex texture. The right hand plays a dense chordal texture with slurs and accents, reaching a *fff l.v.* dynamic in measure 105. The left hand plays a melodic line with slurs and accents, reaching an *8vb* dynamic in measure 102 and 105.