

DAVID BIEDENBENDER

RED VESPER

for flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, electronics,  
percussion, piano, violin, and violoncello

BENT SPACE MUSIC

*Red Vesper* was commissioned by Bill Ryan and the  
Grand Valley State University New Music Ensemble.

Performance materials available from the  
composer at [davidbiedenbender@gmail.com](mailto:davidbiedenbender@gmail.com).

Published by Bent Space Music  
[www.davidbiedenbender.com](http://www.davidbiedenbender.com)

© Copyright 2014 by David Biedenbender  
International copyright secured. All rights reserved.  
First printed February 2014.

# INSTRUMENTATION

Flute  
B<sup>b</sup> Clarinet  
E<sup>b</sup> Alto Saxophone

Electronics

Percussion  
Piano

Violin  
Violoncello

Percussion List:

Vibraphone

**Duration: *ca.* 7:30**

# RED VESPER

for flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, percussion,  
piano, violin, cello, and electronics

DAVID BIEDENBENDER

Slowly, delicately pulsing ♩ = 60

[10-15"]

Flute

[10-15"]

*like a distant wind or ghostly birds*

*p*

[play breathy whistle tones, interspersed with silence; start very slowly and gradually building in intensity and frequency]

*mp*

*like a distant, howling animal*

[off stage/distant, improvised, *ad lib.*]

[play pitch bends, quarter tones, variety of pitches, etc., interspersed with silence and whistle tones to imitate animals howling and bird calls; begin very sparsely, and gradually make more frequent, then fade away again]

(Bb) Clarinet

(Eb) Alto Saxophone

*like wind and rustling leaves*

*mp*

[off stage/distant, improvised, *ad lib.*]

[breathe through horn, use key clicks, breath sounds only, etc.; begin very sparsely, and gradually make more frequent, then fade away again]

Laptop/ Electronics

[10-15"] [Cue 1: nature sounds: birds, wind, rain, wolves, etc.]

Vibraphone

bowed (motor off)

*pp*

*poco accel.* . . . . . *poco rit.* . . . . .

Piano

*p*

*ppp*

*expressive, fragile, push and pull the pulse very slightly*

*pp* → (l. h. to m. 10)

Violin

Violoncello

\*[trumpet sound: remove head joint and buzz lips like brass instrument into the flute]

Red Vesper

5 [let sound die away, return to stage]

Fl.

Sax.

Elec.

Vib.

Pno.

*sim.*

(bowed)

*p*

*ppp*

9

Fl.

Sax.

Elec.

Vib.

Pno.

*arco sul D*

*pp*

*p*

*ppp*

Red Vesper

13

Fl. [on stage]

Cl.

Elec.

Vib. (bowed) *mp*

Pno. *p* *a little more* *pp*

Vln.

Vc. pizz. *pp*

17

Fl. *mf*

Cl. *mf*

Sax.

Elec.

Vib. (bowed) *mp*

Pno. *mp* *p* *pp* *ppp* *mp*

*mp* → (l.h. through m. 21)

17

Vln. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

no vib.

22

Fl.

Cl.

Sax.

Elec.

[cue 1 keeps playing →]

*p* *mf*

Vib.

*p* *mp* *f*

soft mallets bowed

Pno.

*molto* 3 3 3

*mf* *p*

Vln.

*pp* *mf*

arco (sul D)

Vc.

*p* (*p*)



**26** Freely, as if frozen in time ♩ = 52

Fl. [off stage/distant→]

Cl. *f*

Sax. *f*

Elec. [sudden silence]

Vib. soft mallets *f* (Ped.→)

Pno. *f* *p* expressive, expansive, tenderly, unhurried *pp*

**26** Freely, as if frozen in time ♩ = 52

Vln. *f*

Vc.

Pno.

*p* *pp* *p*

Pno.

*poco accel.* *poco rit.*

*pp* *mp* *p* *pp*

*build* *pull back*

Pno.

Moving along ♩ = 66

*mp* *p* *pp* *mp*

*accel.*

**26** With more motion ♩ = 80

Fl.

*pp*

*like a distant, whistling wind*

[off stage/distant, improvised, *ad lib.*]  
[play breathy whistle tones in the C harmonic series and D natural minor scale, interspersed with silence; start very slowly and gradually building in intensity and frequency]

Vib.

medium mallets

*p* *mp*

Pno.

*p* *mp*

Vc.

*arco*  
sul D (move gradually toward sul pont. →)

*pp*

accel. . . . .

30

Fl.

Cl.

Sax.

Elec.

Vib.

Pno.

accel. . . . .

Vln.

Vc.

[harmonic glissandi on D string, freely; start very slowly and subtly, gradually building in intensity and frequency]

34 [let sound die away, return to stage]

Fl.

Cl.

Sax.

Elec.

Vib.  
*mp*  
*Red.*

Pno.  
*mp*

Vln.  
sul D  
no vib.

Vc.