

# Night Music

**Jack Parton**

2017

This music is a response to a particular production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the first I'd ever seen in which Oberon and Titania and the rest of the fairy world are portrayed, I felt far more fittingly, as capricious, arrogant, belligerent creatures for whom the intrusion of these mortals into their woods was cause for aggression. This feels truer to an older sense: fairies in Shakespeare's day were forest creatures to be taken seriously, capable of tremendous deviousness, often borne of sheer caprice, on those who come upon them. The woods are meant to be a frightening place where it might not be unheard of to find one's self magically transformed and as often as not for the far worse than for the better, and where the lovers flee to escape each other. It was refreshing to see Puck be genuinely astonished when Oberon asks him to anoint a mortal's eyes to assist a lady love, and even then still expects some entertaining mischief and is understandably perplexed when Oberon scolds him for mangling the assignment. The woods are not meant to be romanticized, although that is the final outcome of the play; they are meant to present a "darkest hour" scenario, a terror and tribulation, from which the lovers emerge transformed and confirmed.

NIGHT MUSIC is an impression of those denizens of the Athenian woods.

Duration: approx. 12 minutes.

# Night Music

for **Dennis Cadena** who made this work possible  
and for **Peter Tilling** who makes this score reality.

## I. Chaconne $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 66$

9

Musical score for measures 9-16. The score includes parts for Flute, English Horn, Clarinet in B $\flat$ , Bass Clarinet in B $\flat$ , Percussion, Celesta, Harp, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The Harp part features a prominent arpeggiated accompaniment. Dynamic markings include *pp* and *p*. The strings play a rhythmic pattern, with the Violoncello and Contrabass parts marked *pizz.* and *p*. The Violin II and Viola parts have a *con sord.* marking.

Musical score for measures 17-25. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), English Horn (Eng. Hn.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Percussion (Perc.), Celesta (Cel.), Harp (Hp.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The Clarinet and Bass Clarinet parts feature melodic lines with *mp* and *cresc.* markings. The Harp part continues with arpeggiated accompaniment, marked *p* and *mp*. The Violoncello and Contrabass parts have *p* and *mf* markings. The Viola and Violoncello parts have *senza sord.* markings. The Violoncello part has *arco* and *cresc.* markings.







87 91

Fl. *f*

Eng. Hn. *f* *p*

Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *p* *f* *p*

Timp. *f*

Cel.

Hp. *f*

Vin. I *p* *f*

Vin. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *pizz.* *p* *arco* *f* *pizz.* *p*

Cb. *p* *f* *p*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 87 through 91. The score is for a full orchestra. The woodwinds (Flute, English Horn, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet) and strings (Violins I & II, Viola, Violoncello, Contrabass) are active. The percussion (Timpani, Celesta, Harp) also has parts. Dynamic markings include *f* (forte), *p* (piano), and *mp* (mezzo-piano). Performance techniques like *pizz.* (pizzicato) and *arco* (arco) are indicated for the strings.

98 99 107

Fl. *mp* *mf*

Eng. Hn. *mp* *mf*

Cl. *mp* *mf*

B. Cl. *p* *mp*

Timp.

Cel.

Hp. *p* *mp*

Vin. I

Vin. II *p cresc.*

Vla. *arco* *pizz.*

Vc. *mp*

Cb. *mp*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 98 through 107. The woodwinds and strings continue their parts. The harp has a steady accompaniment. The strings use *arco* and *pizz.* techniques. Dynamic markings include *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *p* (piano). A *cresc.* (crescendo) marking is present for the Violin II part.

Musical score for measures 109-114. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), English Horn (Eng. Hn.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Timpani (Timp.), Cymbals (Cel.), Harp (Hp.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). Dynamics include *cresc.*, *mf*, *ff*, *p*, *f*, *mp*, *arco*, and *cresc. sempre*. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 114.

Musical score for measures 118-123. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), English Horn (Eng. Hn.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Timpani (Timp.), Cymbals (Cel.), Harp (Hp.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). Dynamics include *ff*, *mf*, *cresc.*, *f*, *sf*, *ff sub.*, and *ff*. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 123.

125 Trio  $\text{♩} = 56$

131

Fl. *mp*

Eng. Hn. *p*

Cl. *p*

B. Cl. *p*

Timp. *ppp*

Cel. *pp*

Hp. *p*

Vln. I *p*

Vln. II *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Cb. *pizz.* *p* *arco* *p*

135

136

Tempo 1o ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 102$ )

143

Fl. *mf* *f* *sf* *sf*

Eng. Hn. *mf* *f* *sf* *sf*

Cl. *mf* *f* *sf* *sf*

B. Cl. *mf* *f* *sf* *sf*

Timp. *p* *mf* *f* *ff*

Cel. *mf* *f* *ff*

Hp. *mf* *ff* *dim.*

Vln. I *mf* *f* *sf* *sf*

Vln. II *mf* *f* *sf* *sf*

Vla. *mf* *f* *ff* *sf*

Vc. *mf* *f* *ff* *sf*

Cb. *mf* *f* *ff* *sf* *p*

144 151

Fl. *f* *mp* *ff*

Eng. Hn. *f* *ff*

Cl. *f* *ff*

B. Cl. *f* *p* *ff* *p*

Timp. *f* *f*

Cel. *f* *ff* *f*

Hp. *f* *f*

Vln. I *f* *f*

Vln. II *f* *f*

Vla. *f* *f*

Vc. *f* *p* *f* *mf* *pizz*

Cb. *f* *p* *f* *p*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 144 to 151. The score is for a full orchestra. The Flute part starts with a dynamic of *f*, then *mp*, and ends with *ff*. The English Horn, Clarinet, and Bass Clarinet parts also have dynamic markings. The Timpani part has a consistent *f* dynamic. The Cello and Double Bass parts have various dynamics including *f*, *ff*, and *f*. The Violin and Viola parts are marked *f*. The Violoncello part has dynamics *f*, *p*, *f*, *mf*, and *pizz*. The Contrabass part has dynamics *f*, *p*, *f*, and *p*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

154 159

Fl. *mp*

Eng. Hn. *mp*

Cl. *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

Timp. *pp*

Cel. *pp*

Hp. *p*

Vln. I *p* *mp*

Vln. II *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Cb. *p*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 154 to 159. The score is for a full orchestra. The Flute part has a dynamic of *mp*. The English Horn, Clarinet, and Bass Clarinet parts also have a dynamic of *mp*. The Timpani part has a dynamic of *pp*. The Cello and Double Bass parts have dynamics *pp* and *p*. The Violin and Viola parts have dynamics *p* and *mp*. The Violoncello part has a dynamic of *p*. The Contrabass part has a dynamic of *p*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.



179

Fl. *ff* *f* *sf* *ff*

Eng. Hn. *ff sub.* *f* *sf* *ff*

Cl. *ff sub.* *f* *sf* *ff*

B. Cl. *ff sub.* *f* *sf* *ff*

Timp. *ff* *sf* *f* *sf* *ff*

Cel. *ff* *ff*

Hp. *sf* *f* *sf* *ff*

Vln. I *ff* *mf* *f* *sf* *ff*

Vln. II *ff* *mf* *f* *sf* *ff*

Vla. *ff* *mf* *f* *sf* *ff*

Vc. *ff sub.* *ff* *mf* *f* *sf* *ff*

Cb. *ff sub.* *ff* *mf* *f* *sf* *ff*

185 III. Nocturne  $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 86$

Fl. *pp molto legato*

Eng. Hn.

Cl.

B. Cl. *pp molto legato*

Vibraphone

Vib.

Cel. *pp molto legato*

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

191

Fl.  
Eng. Hn.  
Cl.  
B. Cl.  
Vib.  
Cel.  
Hp.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vc.  
Cb.

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 191 through 196. The Flute (Fl.) and Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) parts feature long, expressive melodic lines with slurs and breath marks. The Cello (Cel.) part has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The Harp (Hp.) and other instruments (Vib., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., Cb.) are marked with rests, indicating they are silent during this passage.

197

Fl.  
Eng. Hn.  
Cl.  
B. Cl.  
Vib.  
Cel.  
Hp.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vc.  
Cb.

*p* (sempre legato)  
*cresc. poco*  
*p*  
*pizz.*  
*p*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 197 through 202. Measures 197 and 200 feature melodic lines in the Flute and Bass Clarinet parts, both marked *p* (piano) and *(sempre legato)*. The Cello part continues with a rhythmic pattern, marked *cresc. poco* (crescendo a little) and *p*. The Harp part has a melodic line starting in measure 197, marked *p*. The Bassoon (Cb.) part has a pizzicato (*pizz.*) line in measure 197, marked *p*. Other instruments (Vib., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc.) are marked with rests.

205

Musical score for measures 203-205. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), English Horn (Eng. Hn.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Cymbals (Cel.), Harp (Hp.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.).

Measure 203: Flute and Bass Clarinet play a melodic line with a slur. English Horn, Clarinet, and Viola are silent. Vibraphone plays a rhythmic pattern. Cymbals play a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Harp plays a chordal accompaniment. Violin I and II are silent. Cello and Contrabass play a bass line.

Measure 204: Flute and Bass Clarinet continue their melodic line. English Horn, Clarinet, and Viola are silent. Vibraphone continues its pattern. Cymbals continue their accompaniment. Harp continues its accompaniment. Violin I and II are silent. Cello and Contrabass continue their bass line.

Measure 205: Flute and Bass Clarinet continue their melodic line. English Horn, Clarinet, and Viola are silent. Vibraphone continues its pattern. Cymbals continue their accompaniment. Harp continues its accompaniment. Violin I and II are silent. Cello and Contrabass continue their bass line.

Dynamic markings: *pp* poco marcato (Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone), *mp* (Flute, Bass Clarinet, Cymbals), *p* (Cello, Contrabass), *p* (Harp), *pp* con sord. (Clarinet, Viola).



Musical score for measures 209-211. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), English Horn (Eng. Hn.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Cymbals (Cel.), Harp (Hp.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.).

Measure 209: Flute and Bass Clarinet play a melodic line with a slur. English Horn, Clarinet, and Viola are silent. Vibraphone is silent. Cymbals play a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Harp is silent. Violin I and II are silent. Cello and Contrabass play a bass line.

Measure 210: Flute and Bass Clarinet continue their melodic line. English Horn, Clarinet, and Viola are silent. Vibraphone is silent. Cymbals continue their accompaniment. Harp is silent. Violin I and II are silent. Cello and Contrabass continue their bass line.

Measure 211: Flute and Bass Clarinet continue their melodic line. English Horn, Clarinet, and Viola are silent. Vibraphone is silent. Cymbals continue their accompaniment. Harp plays a chordal accompaniment. Violin I and II are silent. Cello and Contrabass continue their bass line.

Dynamic markings: *mp* (Flute, Bass Clarinet, Harp), *p* (Cello, Contrabass).

215

Fl. *mf*

Eng. Hn. *p (marcato)*

Cl.

B. Cl. *p* *mf*

Vib. *p (marcato)*

Cel. *mf*

Hp. *mf*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p* *mf* senza sord. pizz.

Cb. *mp* *mf*

*mp* *mf*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 215 through 223. The score is for a full orchestra. The Flute (Fl.) part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The English Horn (Eng. Hn.) part is marked *p (marcato)*. The Clarinet (Cl.) part is silent. The Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) part starts with *p* and then *mf*. The Vibraphone (Vib.) part is marked *p (marcato)*. The Cello (Cel.) part is marked *mf*. The Harp (Hp.) part is marked *mf*. The Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) parts are silent. The Viola (Vla.) part is marked *p*. The Violoncello (Vc.) part starts with *p* and then *mf*, with the instruction "senza sord. pizz." (without mutes, pizzicato). The Contrabass (Cb.) part is marked *mp* and *mf*. There are dynamic markings of *mp* and *mf* at the bottom of the page.

224

Fl.

Eng. Hn.

Cl.

B. Cl.

Vib.

Cel. *dim*

Hp. *mf*

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vla.

Vc. *mf* senza sord. pizz.

Cb. arco *mp* *mf*

*mp* *mf*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 224 through 232. The score is for a full orchestra. The Flute (Fl.) part is silent. The English Horn (Eng. Hn.) part is marked *mp*. The Clarinet (Cl.) part is silent. The Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) part is marked *mp*. The Vibraphone (Vib.) part is marked *mp*. The Cello (Cel.) part is marked *dim*. The Harp (Hp.) part is marked *mf*. The Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) parts are marked *mp*. The Viola (Vla.) part is silent. The Violoncello (Vc.) part is marked *mf* with the instruction "senza sord. pizz." (without mutes, pizzicato). The Contrabass (Cb.) part is marked *arco* and *mp*, and *mf*. There are dynamic markings of *mp* and *mf* at the bottom of the page.

226

Fl. *dim.* *p*

Eng. Hn. *p*

Cl. *p*

B. Cl. *dim.* *p*

Vib. *p*

Cel. *p dim.* *pp*

Hp. *mp* *mp*

Vln. I *p*

Vln. II *p*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Cb. *pizz.* *arco* *p* *pizz.* *mp*

*mf*

232

235

Fl. *p* *cresc.* *ff*

Eng. Hn. *pp* *cresc.* *ffp*

Cl. *pp* *cresc.* *ffp*

B. Cl. *p* *cresc.* *ff* *ffp*

Vib. *p* *cresc.* *ff* *p*

Cel. *p cresc.*

Hp. *pp* *cresc.* *f* *ff* *p cresc.*

Vln. I *pp cresc.* *ffp*

Vln. II *pp* *cresc.* *ffp*

Vla. *arco* *pp* *arco* *cresc.* *ffp*

Vc. *pp* *cresc.* *ffp*

Cb. *pp* *cresc.* *ffp*

Musical score for measures 243-247. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), English Horn (Eng. Hn.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Cello (Cel.), Double Bass (Cb.), Horns (Hp.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The Flute part starts at measure 243 with a *ffp cresc.* dynamic, followed by *ff*, *ffp*, and *ffp cresc.*. The English Horn, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, and Vibraphone parts all follow a similar dynamic pattern: *cresc.*, *ff*, *ffp*, and *cresc.*. The Cello and Double Bass parts have *ff* and *mf cresc.* dynamics. The Horns, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello parts all follow a dynamic pattern of *cresc.*, *ff*, *ffp*, and *cresc.*. The Cello and Double Bass parts have *ff* and *mf cresc.* dynamics.

Musical score for measures 248-252. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), English Horn (Eng. Hn.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Cello (Cel.), Double Bass (Cb.), Horns (Hp.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The Flute part starts at measure 248 with a *ff* dynamic, followed by *f*, *ffp cresc.*, and *ff*. The English Horn, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, and Vibraphone parts all follow a dynamic pattern of *ff*, *ffp*, *cresc.*, *ff*, *ffp*, and *f*. The Cello and Double Bass parts have *mf cresc.* and *ff* dynamics. The Horns, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello parts all follow a dynamic pattern of *ff*, *ffp*, *cresc.*, *ff*, *ffp*, and *f*. The Cello and Double Bass parts have *ff* and *mf cresc.* dynamics.

IV. Cortège ♩ = 88

Musical score for measures 253-261. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), English Horn (Eng. Hn.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Cello (Cel.), Harp (Hp.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major/D minor) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 88. Measure 253 is marked with a rehearsal sign. Measure 261 is marked with a box containing the number 261. Dynamics include *mp*, *cresc.*, *ff*, *p*, and *pizz.*

Musical score for measures 263-271. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), English Horn (Eng. Hn.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Cello (Cel.), Harp (Hp.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major/D minor) and the time signature is 3/4. Measure 263 is marked with a rehearsal sign. Measure 267 is marked with a box containing the number 267. Measure 271 is marked with a box containing the number 271. Dynamics include *f*, *mf*, *mp*, and *arco*.

273

278

Fl. *f* *cresc.* *ff*

Eng. Hn. *f* *cresc.* *ff* *mf*

Cl. *f* *cresc.* *ff* *p*

B. Cl. *f* *cresc.* *ff* *mf*

Vib. *ff*

Cel. *f* *cresc.* *ff* *mf*

Hp. *f* *cresc.* *ff* *mf*

Vln. I *f* *cresc.* *ff* *pizz.*

Vln. II *f* *cresc.* *ff* *pizz.* *arco*

Vla. *f* *cresc.* *ff* *pizz.* *f*

Vc. *f* *cresc.* *ff* *f*

Cb. *f* *cresc.* *ff* *f*

282

286

Fl. *mf* *dim.*

Eng. Hn. *mf* *dim.*

Cl. *mf* *dim.*

B. Cl. *mf* *mp dim.*

Vib. *mf* *dim.*

Cel. *mf* *dim.*

Hp. *mf* *dim.*

Vln. I *mf* *dim.*

Vln. II *mf* *dim.*

Vla. *mf* *dim.*

Vc. *mf* *dim.*

Cb. *mf* *dim.*

292 300

Fl. *p* *f*

Eng. Hn. *p* *f* *mf*

Cl. *mp* *f* *mf*

B. Cl. *p* *f* *mf*

Vib. *p*

Cel. *p*

Hp. *p* *f*

Vln. I *f* *arco*

Vln. II *f* *poco marcato*

Vla. *p* *f* *poco marcato* *mf*

Vc. *p* *f* *poco marcato*

Cb. *mf* *f* *mf*

302

Fl. *f* *cresc.*

Eng. Hn. *f* *cresc.*

Cl. *f* *cresc.*

B. Cl. *mf* *f* *cresc.*

Vib. *f* *cresc.*

Cel. *f*

Hp. *f* *cresc.*

Vln. I *f* *cresc.*

Vln. II *f* *cresc.*

Vla. *f* *cresc.*

Vc. *mf* *f* *cresc.*

Cb. *f* *cresc.*

312 **314** **321**

Fl. *ff*

Eng. Hn. *ff*

Cl. *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

Vib. *ff*

Cel. *ff*

Hp. *ff*

Vln. I *ff*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f* *pizz.* *p*

Vc. *f* *pizz.* *p*

Cb. *ff* *mp*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 312 through 321. The score is for a full orchestra. The woodwinds (Flute, English Horn, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, and Cello) and strings (Violins I and II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass) are all playing with a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The Harp is also playing with a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The Viola and Violoncello parts include a *pizz.* (pizzicato) instruction with a *p* dynamic. The Contrabass part has a *mp* dynamic at the end of the section. Measure numbers 312, 314, and 321 are indicated in boxes above the Flute staff.

322

Fl.

Eng. Hn.

Cl. *mp* *mf*

B. Cl. *mp* *mf* *mf*

Vib. *mp* *mf*

Cel.

Hp. *cresc.* *mp*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla. *cresc.* *mp*

Vc. *cresc.* *mp*

Cb. *cresc.* *mf* *mf*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 322 through 328. The woodwinds (Clarinet and Bass Clarinet) and Vibraphone are playing with *mp* and *mf* dynamics. The Harp is playing with a *cresc.* (crescendo) dynamic, reaching *mp* by measure 328. The Viola and Violoncello parts are playing with a *cresc.* dynamic, reaching *mp* by measure 328. The Contrabass part is playing with a *cresc.* dynamic, reaching *mf* by measure 328. The Flute, English Horn, and Violins I and II are silent in this section.





