

Commissioned by, and written especially for, Chamber Music Palisades
Delores Stevens and Susan Greenberg, Artistic Directors
And dedicated to Conrad Susa, the Master of Musical Alchemy, on his seventieth birthday

VARIATIONES ALCHEMISTICAE

flute, viola, violoncello and piano (2005 - ca. 27')

Thema: Prima Materia

Byron ADAMS (*1955)

Moderato (♩ = 68 - 70)

Flute: *like an incantation* *mp*

Viola: *pizz., quasi guitarra*

Cello: *p leggero e secco* *p*

Piano: *misterioso* *p*

6

Flute: *niente* *mp* *mp* *Sul D*

Viola: *p*

Cello: *p*

Editions Bim, CH-1674 Vuarmarens, Switzerland
+41 (0)21 909 1000 (Phone) - +41 (0)21 909 1009 (Fax)
www.editions-bim.com

10

Fl. *mp*

Vla. *niente* *mp*

Vc.

14

Fl. *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc.

cresc.

18

Fl. *poco rall.* *A tempo* *cold and remote* *p*

Vla. *cold and remote* *p*

Vc. *arco, sul D* *like a distant knell*

poco rall. *A tempo* *pp*

Red. una corda *Red.*

23 rall.

Fl.

Vla.

Vc. *pizz.*
niente

Operatio I: Solutio (By Water)

Meno mosso *accel. poco a poco*

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

Meno mosso *accel. poco a poco*
L.H.

tentative

mp *pp* *mp*

Ped. *Ped.*

Moderato; flowing (♩ = ca. 118 - 120)
glistening

3

mp leggero

Ped. *L.H.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

Editions Bim, CH-1674 Vuarnarens, Switzerland
 +41 (0)21 909 1000 (Phone) - +41 (0)21 909 1009 (Fax)
 www.editions-bim.com

5

Vc. arco
mp

Ped.

7

Vc. *mf* *mf ben cantando, ardent*

mp

9

Vc. *mf*

11

Vc.

Editions Bim, CH-1674 Vuarnans, Switzerland
+41 (0)21 909 1000 (Phone) - +41 (0)21 909 1009 (Fax)
www.editions-bim.com

13

Fl. *mf ben cantando*

Vla. *mf ben cantando*

Vc. *pp*

15

Fl.

Vla.

17

Fl.

Vla.

Vc. *pizz.*
mf

19

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

Piano

21

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

mf

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

Piano

23

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

Piano

cresc.

Vc. *mf*

Operatio II: Sublimatio (By Air)

Allegro scherzando, ma misterioso (♩ = ca. 52 - 54; in one)

Fl. *mocking* *f* *mp leggero; f.*

Vla. *mocking* *f* *pizz.*

Vc. *arco* *f*

Allegro scherzando, ma misterioso (♩ = ca. 52 - 54; in one)

8va

f with malign joy *mp*

9

Fl. *p*

Vla. *arco* *mp leggero; frivolous and cold*

p

p serpentine; l

Editions Bim, CH-1674 Vuarnarens, Switzerland
 +41 (0)21 909 1000 (Phone) - +41 (0)21 909 1009 (Fax)
 www.editions-bim.com

15

Fl. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

p *leggero; frivolous and cold*

8^{vb}

21

Fl. *mf*

Vla. *pizz.* *mf* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

Vc. *mf* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

mf *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

(8)

26

Fl. *mf* *f*

Vla. *solo* *f* *f* *f* *f*

Vc. *mf* *f*

f

(8)

32

Fl. *sfz* *sfz* *f* pizz. 3

Vla. *sfz* *sfz* *f* pizz.

Vc. *sfz* *sfz* *f*

sfz 3 *sfz* 3 *f* 3

37

Fl. *ff* arco

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

ff *coldly brilliant*

42

Fl. *f* pizz.

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

f

Editions Bim, CH-1674 Vuarnans, Switzerland
 +41 (0)21 909 1000 (Phone) - +41 (0)21 909 1009 (Fax)
 www.editions-bim.com

95

Fl. *poco rall.* *A tempo*
pp

Vla. *p* *pp*

Vc. *p* *pp*

poco rall. *A tempo*
p *pp*

(8)

100

Fl. *rall. poco a poco*
ppp

Vla. *ppp pizz. via sord.*

Vc. *ppp pizz. via sord.*

rall. poco a poco
ppp

(8)

Operatio III: Coagulatio (By Earth)

Largo; maestoso ma sempre movendo (♩ = ca. 42 - 44)

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

Largo; maestoso ma sempre movendo (♩ = ca. 42 - 44)

mf sostenuto, solemn *bring out moving inner voices*

mf *mf*

sost. Ped. *like a deep bell tolling* *sost. Ped.*

5

Fl. *mf*

Vla. arco (senza sord.) *mf*

Vc. arco (senza sord.) *mf*

mf

sost. Ped.

9

Fl. *mf* *mp* *p*

Vla. *mf* *mp* *p* *mf*

Vc. *mf* *mp* *p* *mf*

mf

sost. Ped. *dim.*

13

Vla. *mp* *p* *rall. m.*

Vc. *mp* *p* *rall. r.*

sost. Ped. *sost. Ped.*

17 Più largo, solemni ♩ = ca. 68

Vla. *mf legato; cantabile e espressivo*

Vc. *mp quasi guitarra*

Più largo, solemni ♩ = ca. 68

p

22

Vla. *f* *mf*

Vc. *mp*

mp *p*

27

Vla. *f* *mf* *poco rall.* *A tempo* *mf*

Vc. *mf* *mp* *poco rall.* *A tempo* *p*

poco rall. *A tempo*

Editions Bim, CH-1674 Vuarnarens, Switzerland
 +41 (0)21 909 1000 (Phone) - +41 (0)21 909 1009 (Fax)
 www.editions-bim.com

92

Fl. *rall. molto*

Vla. *pizz.*

Vc. *pizz.*

rall. molto

pesante

3

Operatio IV: Calcinatio (By Fire)

Allegro molto quasi presto; con fuoco (♩. = ca. 160-162)

Fl. *fluttertongue*

Vla. *arco, sul pont.*

Vc. *arco, sul pont.*

Allegro molto quasi presto; con fuoco (♩. = ca. 160-162)

f

Ped.

5

Fl. *Ped.*

Vla. *Ped.*

Vc. *Ped.*

Ped.

9

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

Ped.

12

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

ord., pizz.
f sfz
ord., pizz.
f sfz

sfz

16

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

f capricious and sardonic

Editions Bim, CH-1674 Vuarnans, Switzerland
 +41 (0)21 909 1000 (Phone) - +41 (0)21 909 1009 (Fax)
 www.editions-bim.com

21

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

25

Fl.

Vla.

Vc.

29

Fl. *f capricious and sardonic*

Vla.

Vc.

f staccatissimo e leggero, dry

33

Fl. *mf*

Vla. *f* arco

Vc.

37

Fl. *mf*

Vla. *f* arco

Vc.

41

Fl. *mp* singing; a bit too sweet

Vla. *mp* singing; a bit too sweet

Vc. *p* leggero

p dry, like a timpani stroke

una corda

Editions Bim, CH-1674 Viamarens, Switzerland
 +41 (0)21 909 1000 (Phone) - +41 (0)21 909 1009 (Fax)
 www.editions-bim.com

244 senza rall.

Fl. *sfz*

Vla. *sfz*

Vc. *sfz*

senza rall.

Operatio V: Mortificatio (By Suffering)

Adagio lamentoso (♩ = ca. 60 - 63)

Vla. arco, con sord. *fff lacerating*

Vc. arco, con sord. *fff lacerating*

Adagio lamentoso (♩ = ca. 60 - 63)

fff molto pesante; implacable and cruel

laissez vib.

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. sost. ped. Ped.

8

Vla. *fff*

Vc. *fff*

ff

sost.

Editions Bim, CH-1674 Vuarnarens, Switzerland
 +41 (0)21 909 1000 (Phone) - +41 (0)21 909 1009 (Fax)
 www.editions-bim.com

36

Fl. *mf* *f* *mf*

l.v. until silence

41

Fl. *mp* *poch. rall.*

poch. rall.

Finale: Coniunctio (Reconciliation)

Largo maestoso [♩ = ca. 52]

Fl. *ppp*

Largo maestoso [♩ = ca. 52]

p serene; with unhurried dignity

6

Vc. *senza sord.* *warm, legato* *p* *p* *mp*

introspective

11

Fl. *mf* *mp*

Vla. *warm, legato*
mp introspective *mp* *mp*

Vc. *quasi arpa, dolce*

16

Fl. *mp* *gentile, ardente*

Vla. *mp* *mf* *pizz.* *p dolce*

Vc. *p dolce*

p sempre le

20

Fl. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Editions Bim, CH-1674 Vuarnarens, Switzerland
 +41 (0)21 909 1000 (Phone) - +41 (0)21 909 1009 (Fax)
 www.editions-bim.com

24

Fl. *mf* *mp* niente

Vla. arco *mf* ben cantando

Vc. arco *mf* ben cantando

mp

27

Vla. *mf* ben cantando

Vc. *mf* ben cantando

mp

30

Vla. sul tasto; flautando *mf* subito

Vc. sul tasto; flautando *mf* subito

sub. f refulgent, bring out inner voices

sost. like deep, tolling bells

sost.

Editions Bim, CH-1674 Vuarnarens, Switzerland
 +41 (0)21 909 1000 (Phone) - +41 (0)21 909 1009 (Fax)
 www.editions-bim.com

33

Vla. *tr*

Vc. *tr*

sim.

35

Fl. *rall.*

Vla. *tr*

Vc. *tr*

rall.

37

Fl. *Più mosso* ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 118$)

Vla. *ord.* *f*

Vc. *ord.* *f*

Più mosso ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 118$)

ff *ecstatic*

ecstatic

f *ecstatic*

pizz. ecstatic

f

l.v.

Ped.

8^{va}

Ped.