
Stacy
GARROP

Silver Dagger

for Piccolo/Flute, Cello, and Piano

Performance Notes

- Accidentals remain in effect throughout the bar, only in the octave shown.
- All grace notes are to be played before the beat.
- Glissandi last the entire duration of the indicated pitch.

Program Notes

In 1994, I heard for the first time an Appalachian folk song called “Silver Dagger” at a folk festival. The simplicity of the melody joined with a cautionary love tale enthralled me, and I spent the next several years researching the song. What emerged from my research were dozens of variants of the song, both in terms of text as well as melody and title.

The variants that I discovered could be grouped more or less under three different titles: “Silver Dagger,” “Drowsy Sleeper,” and “Katie Dear.” All of these versions revolve around the same Romeo and Juliet premise: a boy asks a girl for her parents’ consent to marry. The story has various endings: the parents won’t give approval, so the girl and boy each end their lives with a silver dagger; the girl turns the boy down and sends him away to find another love; the girl forsakes her parents and runs away with the boy; and so on.

In my trio, I incorporate two complete versions of the folk song, one of “Katie Dear” and one of “Silver Dagger,” as well as motives from a variant of “Drowsy Sleeper.”

– Stacy Garrop
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SILVER DAGGER is available for:
Violin, Cello, and Piano (114-41406)
B \flat Clarinet, Cello, and Piano (114-41798)
Piccolo/Flute, Cello, and Piano (114-41943)

for the Lincoln Trio

Silver Dagger

for Piccolo/Flute, Cello, and Piano

Duration: c. 5'

STACY GARROP

Timeless; freely (♩ = 88)

Piccolo/Flute *folk-like, very freely*

Cello *let ring* *p*

Piano *Timeless; freely (♩ = 88)*

strike open palm on lowest strings *8ba* *pp*

sim. *8ba*

Red. (hold until m. 20)

8ba

8ba

8ba

Austere (♩ = 72)

poco rit.

To FLUTE *FLUTE* *little or no vib. (through m. 30)* *mp*

little or no vib. (through m. 31)

p *pp*

Austere (♩ = 72) RH

p LH

* *Red.*

22

p *pp* *p*

* *Loco.*

26

pp *p*

* *Loco.* *

Coming to life
vib. ord.

30

mp *vib. ord.*

Coming to life

(loco)

Pedal freely *8ba-----* *8ba-1* *8ba-1*

33 **accel. poco a poco** -----

mp **accel. poco a poco** -----

mp **5**

8ba-1

(**accel. poco a poco**) -----

36 *mf*

mf **(accel. poco a poco)** -----

mf **3**

8ba-1 *mf* 8ba-1 8ba-1

(**accel. poco a poco**) -----

38 *f*

f **(accel. poco a poco)** -----

f **3** **3** **3**

6/4 6/4 6/4

(accel. poco a poco) -----

Shimmering; energized (♩ = 132)

40

pressure accent

lightly; meld with piano

flutter

f *ff* *mp*

f *ff* *f singing*

(accel. poco a poco) -----

Shimmering; energized (♩ = 132)

8va-----

f *ff* *mp*

play roll, then quickly into tremolo

f *ff* *mp*

44

mp

Sim. *tr.* *tr.* *tr.*

49

mf

tr. *tr.* *tr.*