

## Transitional Songs

Composed for:

Flute, cello, piano, glockenspiel, vibraphone

*Glockenspiel player also plays large tam-tam and sandpaper blocks (one of which may be laid flat on a table for ease of changes.) A variety of mallets may be used for color and volume; brass is encouraged as well as small acrylic for soft passages.*

*Vibraphone uses no motor; player also plays a resonant drum which may be a small bass drum or floor tom.*

**Transitional Songs** was premiered June 2, 2000, at the Spoleto Festival USA. I composed the work in contemplation of a new millennium while mindful of the ultimately arbitrary nature of this assignation. The piece has an underlying structural design in units of tens, which are presented metrically, rhythmically, melodically and harmonically. The development of the material – the “songs” – is continuously interrupted, creating an overall climate of regular transition. Elaborating on cultural aspects of transition, and where I believed music has been and is going, the work blends certain stylistic traits of 20<sup>th</sup> Century music. Among other devices, a serialist row is deconstructed and reduced to the tonal center progression of a series of diatonic phrases – for me, closing a book of sorts and preparing for new directions in my own work.

– John Kennedy  
January-May, 2000  
Santa Fe/Charleston

# Transitional Songs

John Kennedy

$\text{♩} = 66+$

Flute *ffp* *ffp*

Cello *ff* *ff*

Glockenspiel *ff* L.V. TAM TAM

Vibraphone *ff*

Piano *ff*

4

Fl. *ffp* *mf*

Vlc. *mf*

Glock. *mf*

Vib. *mf*

Pno. *mf* *mf*

7

Fl. *f* *più f* *mp* *f*

Vic. *mp* *f*

Glock. *mp* *f*

Vib. *mp* *f*

Pno. *mp* *f*

10

Fl. *mp* *ff* *mp*

Vic. *mp* *ff* *mp*

Glock. *mp* *ff* *mp*

Vib. *mp* *ff* *mp*

Pno. *mp* *ff* *mp*

4:5 8:10

13

Fl.

Vic.

Glock.

Vib.

Pno.

*mf*

*mf*

4:5

4:5

8:10

3

16

Fl.

Vic.

Glock.

Vib.

Pno.

*mf*

*f*

*mf*

*mf*

19

Fl. *senza vib.*  
*sub. p* *mf* *pp*

Vic. *sub. p* *mf* *pp*  
*sul pont.* *3* *3*

Glock. *sub. p* *mf* *pp*  
*dead, near node 12:10*

Vib. *sub. p* *mf* *pp*  
*dead, near node* *3* *3*

Pno. *sub. p* *mf* *pp*  
*sub. p* *mf* *una corda*

23

Fl. *ordinary* *senza vib.* *ordinary*  
*f* *pp* *ff*

Vic. *ordinary* *sul pont.* *ordinary*  
*f* *pp* *ff*  
*3* *3*

Glock. *ordinary* *dead, near node 12:10* *ordinary*  
*f* *pp* *ff*  
*dead, near node* *3* *3*

Vib. *ordinary* *dead, near node* *ordinary*  
*f* *pp* *ff*  
*3* *3*

Pno. *f* *pp* *ff*  
*tre corde* *una corda* *tre corde*