“Last Chance”
Sonata

for clarinet in B♭
and piano

by
Kyle Gann
1999
“Last Chance” Sonata

for clarinet and piano

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Written in 1999 for clarinetist Sara Phillips, the last chance to write a 20th-century-style sonata.

Duration: 19 minutes

Kyle Gann was born in Dallas, Texas, in 1955. He has been the new-music critic for the Village Voice (New York) since 1986, and assistant professor of music at Bard College since 1997. His books include The Music of Conlon Nancarrow (Cambridge University Press), American Music in the Twentieth Century (Schirmer Books), and Music Downtown (U. Of Calif. Press). His music is published by Monroe Street Music and distributed by Frog Peak Music, Box 5036, Hanover, NH 03755.

Other works by Kyle Gann:

Sunken City for piano and winds (2007)
My father moved through dooms of love for chorus, violin, and piano (2005-6)
Transcendental Sonnets for chorus and orchestra (2001-2)
Hovenweep (2000) for flute, clarinet, violin, cello, and piano
Private Dances (2000) for piano
Time Does Not Exist (2000) for piano
Custer and Sitting Bull (1998-99) for voice, synthesizer, and computer tape
The Disappearance of All Holy Things from this Once So Promising World (1998) for orchestra
Arcana XVI (Homage to Joan Tower) (1998) for three synthesizers
Snake Dance No. 2 (1995) for percussion quartet
Desert Sonata (1994-95) for piano
Astrological Studies (1994) for octet
Chicago Spiral (1990-91) for octet
Long Night (1980-81) for three pianos
"Last Chance" Sonata
for Sara Phillips

1. Flowers

Mysterious, Impassioned, Obsessive - but quiet

Clarinet in B, $q = 92$ or thereabouts

Piano

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"Last Chance" Sonata
"Last Chance" Sonata
"Last Chance" Sonata
"Last Chance" Sonata
"Last Chance" Sonata
56

58

60

"Last Chance" Sonata

Completed
July 3, 1999
Lewisburg, PA
"Last Chance" Sonata
With growing intensity
with fierce abandon
"Last Chance" Sonata
"Last Chance" Sonata
"Last Chance" Sonata
with fierce abandon

"Last Chance" Sonata
"Last Chance" Sonata
"Last Chance" Sonata
Summer, December 1999
Lewisburg, PA

"Last Chance" Sonata
III. Apparition

Reverent, mystical, and smooth as silk

\[ \frac{\text{q}}{= 69} \] or slower

Clarinet in B♭

"Last Chance" Sonata
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"Last Chance" Sonata
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"Last Chance" Sonata
III. Dance of Indeterminate Ethnicity

Sexy - with buoyant rhythmic energy and portamento where effective
also not too hurried - more sensuous than torrential

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Clarinet in B♭

Piano

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"Last Chance" Sonata
August 12-19, 1999
Lewisburg, PA

"Last Chance" Sonata