

Essence

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Joseph Eidson

(2011)

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Duration: 1 minute

– Guitar –

Program Notes

This work lies hidden within every guitar, emerging with subtle strums or violent picking. From E to F the body awakens, drawn from its slumber by a familiar siren song. Down to D the strings are vibrant with life, humming. The very essence of the instrument now fills the air...

Performance Notes

- Each note should ring freely, especially the open E and B strings. Slurs indicate shifting to notes that do not involve open strings sounding together (eg. E up to F in measure 2).
- At measure 9, move the strumming hand position from close to the bridge (pont.) to over the fretboard (tasto) and back again in a slow manner. The + indicates a note plucked or tapped with the fretting hand.

About the Composer

Joseph Eidson holds degrees in composition from the University of Kansas (DMA, BM) and University of Texas (MM). He particularly enjoys writing vocal music and works for winds, and is a self-proclaimed expert at Guitar Hero. For more information on Dr. Eidson's music, please visit www.josepheidson.com.

Guitar

written for Kenji Haba and the Vox Novus
"Fifteen Minutes of Fame" project

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Cantabile (♩ = 72)

plainly - *l.v. sempre*

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The piece begins in 4/4 time with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The melody features a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by a trill in the second measure, and another triplet in the third measure. The bass line consists of sustained chords.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Measure 5 starts with a triplet of eighth notes. Measures 6-7 feature a complex rhythmic pattern with multiple triplets of eighth notes. The dynamic is mezzo-piano (*mp*). The piece concludes with a trill in measure 8.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. Measure 9 is marked with a box containing the number 9 and includes performance instructions: *pont. — tasto — pont. — tasto — pont. — tasto — ord.*. The notation includes a *pizz.* (pizzicato) instruction and a *f* (forte) dynamic. The melody is characterized by a series of triplets of eighth notes. The bass line features a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

Musical notation for measures 13-15. Measure 13 is marked with a box containing the number 13. The melody continues with triplets of eighth notes. The dynamic is mezzo-forte (*mf*), which transitions to mezzo-piano (*mp*) in measure 15. The piece ends with a trill in measure 15.

Musical notation for measures 16-18. Measure 16 is marked with a box containing the number 16. The tempo is marked *poco rall.* (slightly slowing down). The melody features triplets of eighth notes. The dynamic is piano (*p*). The piece concludes in measure 18 with a triplet of eighth notes.