

# Distillō

for percussion quartet

Liam Elliot

*Distillō* is named for a poem by Basma Kavanagh and is the title of her collection. In a series of poems she describes the species of rain that can be found in the cool, temperate rainforests of the west coast of North America. *Distillō silvestris* is “a drizzle or trickly of moisture generated within the rainforest; nearly constant, common year-round.” *Distillō* means to drip, and is the root of the English word distill.

## PERFORMANCE NOTES

intimate  
make the audience strain to hear  
notice the silence  
each bowed note is its own voice, let melodic fragments emerge from their interactions  
let most sounds ring and blur together  
find the dissonances in the resonances  
embrace the noise of the bow  
on the shortest, quietest notes the instrument might not fully speak

bowed note durations indicate how long to bow, but they will ring and fade after that  
change saw octave as needed, trying to keep each phrase in a consistent octave  
staging is a semicircle left to right in the score (vib. 1, crot., saw/glock., vib. 2), or in a circle

# Distillō

for Sō Percussion

Liam Elliot

♩ = 80

Vibraphone 1

Crotales

Saw

Vibraphone 2

arco p pp

arco p pp

arco p pp

arco p pp

Detailed description: This block contains the first six measures of the score. It features four staves: Vibraphone 1, Crotales, Saw, and Vibraphone 2. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. Vibraphone 1 and Crotales both start with an 'arco' instruction. Dynamic markings include *p* and *pp*. The Saw part has a *p* dynamic marking in measure 5. Vibraphone 2 also has an 'arco' instruction and dynamic markings of *p* and *pp*.

7

Crot.

Saw

Vib. 2

p

pp

Detailed description: This block contains measures 7 through 13. It features three staves: Crot., Saw, and Vib. 2. The Crot. part has a *p* dynamic marking in measure 8. The Saw part has a *pp* dynamic marking in measure 8. Vib. 2 has a *pp* dynamic marking in measure 8.

14

Vib. 1

Crot.

Saw

Vib. 2

pp mp pp

mp pp

mp > pp mp

struck

Detailed description: This block contains measures 14 through 20. It features four staves: Vib. 1, Crot., Saw, and Vib. 2. Vib. 1 has dynamic markings of *pp*, *mp*, and *pp*. Crot. has *mp* and *pp* markings. Saw has *mp*, *pp*, and *mp* markings. Vib. 2 has *mp* and *pp* markings. A 'struck' instruction is present at the end of measure 19.

Distillő

20

Vib. 1 arco *pp*

Crot. *mp*

Saw

Vib. 2 struck *pp*

25

Vib. 1 bow as needed *ppp* *p < mp*

Crot.

Saw bow as needed *p*

Vib. 2 bow as needed *mp*

31

Vib. 1 struck *pp* arco *mp* *ppp*

Crot. *ppp*

Saw *mp*

Vib. 2 *ppp* *mp* *mp*

Distillö

36

Vib. 1

struck

arco

*mp* *pp* *ppp*

Crot.

*p* *ppp* *p*

Saw

*ppp* *pp*

Vib. 2

*p* *mp*

40

Vib. 1

*p* *mp*

Crot.

*pp* *ppp* *p*

Saw

*ppp*

Vib. 2

*p* *ppp* *p* *mp*

struck

arco

struck

45

Vib. 1

arco

struck

arco

*pp* *mp* *p*

Crot.

Saw

*p* *mp* *pp* *p*

Vib. 2

Distillő

49

struck arco

Vib. 1

Crot.

*mp* *p* *pp*

Vib. 2

arco struck arco struck

*p*

53

struck arco

Vib. 1

*mp*

Crot.

*p*

Saw

*p* arco struck

Vib. 2

arco struck

57

arco struck

Vib. 1

struck arco struck arco

Crot.

*pp* *mp* *p*

Saw

*mp* *p*

Vib. 2

arco struck

61

Vib. 1

Crot.

Saw

Vib. 2

arco

struck

struck arco

*mp*

arco

struck

*pp*

*p*

65

Vib. 1

Crot.

Saw

Vib. 2

struck arco

*p*

*pp*

arco

struck

69

Vib. 1

Crot.

Saw

Vib. 2

arco

*mp*

*ppp*

*mp*

*ppp*

arco

struck

71

Musical score for measures 71-74. The score is written for four staves: Vib. 1, Crot., Saw, and Vib. 2. Vib. 1 starts with a *p* dynamic and includes a 'struck' instruction. Crot. starts with a *p* dynamic, has a 'struck arco' instruction, and ends with a *mp* dynamic. Saw starts with a *p* dynamic and has a *pp* dynamic. Vib. 2 starts with an 'arco' instruction, has 'struck' instructions, and ends with a *p* dynamic.

75

Musical score for measures 75-78. The score is written for four staves: Vib. 1, Crot., Saw, and Vib. 2. Vib. 1 has a 'mellow sound (struck)' instruction and a *ppp* dynamic. Crot. has *pp* and *p* dynamics and an 'arco' instruction. Saw has a *p* dynamic. Vib. 2 has a *p* dynamic.

79

Musical score for measures 79-82. The score is written for four staves: Vib. 1, Crot., Saw, and Vib. 2. Vib. 1 has a 'struck' instruction. Crot. has *pp* and *p* dynamics. Saw has a *p* dynamic. Vib. 2 has a *pp* dynamic.



83

Vib. 1

Crot.

Saw

Vib. 2

arco

*pp*

*p*

To Glock.

Glock.

*mp*

arco

87

Vib. 1

Crot.

Glock.

Vib. 2

struck

arco

struck

*pp*

90

Vib. 1

Crot.

Glock.

Vib. 2

arco

*mp*

Distillő

93

normal

struck

Vib. 1

Crot.

Glock.

Vib. 2

97

arco

mp

arco

struck

arco

To Saw

ppp

struck

arco

struck

p

Vib. 1

Crot.

Glock.

Vib. 2

101

struck

p

arco

mp

Saw

p

pp

ppp

Vib. 1

Crot.

Saw

Vib. 2

105

struck

arco

Vib. 1

*pp* *ppp*

Crot.

struck

arco

*ppp*

Saw

Vib. 2

arco

*mp* *pp*

110

Vib. 1

*pp* *ppp*

Crot.

Saw

*pp*

Vib. 2

*p* *ppp*