

David Biedenbender

Moira

for two baritone saxophones

bent space music

Commissioned by the Moira Duo
and a consortium of 21 saxophonists

Consortium Directors:

Moira | Jarrett Barr and Taylor Huitema), Nashville, TN/Petoskey, MI

Consortium Members:

Aion Duo (Zach Bell and Bonson Lee, Tempe, Arizona)
Albireo Duo (Joel Ferst and Kathrine Campbell, Austin TX/Hartford, CT)
Dannel Espinoza, Hattiesburg, MS
Emmet Harris, Lansing, MI
SiP Duo (Jacob Nance and Natalia Warthen, East Lansing, MI)
Jeffrey Leung, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Jonas Frossard, Miège, VS, Switzerland
Katie Walls, Pittsburgh, PA
Kestrel Duo (Michael Keeler and Owen Kilpatrick, Kalamazoo, MI)
Kyle Pokropowicz, Sterling Heights, MI
Matthew Dietrich, Akron, OH
MOXIE (Megan Elks and Olivia Phaneuf, Austin, TX/Washington, D.C.)
Qeanu Smith, Shirley, MA
Todd Gaffke, Akron, OH
Wright State University Saxophone Studio, Dayton, OH
Zoe Stinson, Summit, NY

Performance materials available from Bent Space Music (Publisher):
www.davidbiedenbender.com

Contact the Composer:
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INSTRUMENTATION

2 E♭ Baritone Saxophones

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Total duration: *ca.* 5:15

Transposed Performance Score

PROGRAM NOTE

The word *moira* comes from Greek, meaning share, fate or destiny. The piece begins with a meditation on a simple plainchant-like melody over a drone, like a strange sacred music. The melody becomes increasingly ecstatic as the drone and melody merge into one shared parallel voice, eventually returning to the tranquility of the opening.

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Slowly ♩ = 54

E♭ Baritone Saxophone 1
p cantabile *mp*

E♭ Baritone Saxophone 2
pp

[1]

[2]

p *mp cantabile* *mf*

[2] (♩. = ♩) *p*

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3 Pressing forward ♩ = 72

Musical notation for measures 3-5. The top staff begins with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The bottom staff begins with a dynamic marking of *mp*. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it. The music is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#).

Musical notation for measures 6-8. The top staff has a dynamic marking of *f*. The bottom staff has dynamic markings of *mf* and *f-mp*. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 5/4, then to 3/4, and finally back to 4/4. The music continues with melodic lines in both staves.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The top staff has dynamic markings of *f-mp*, *ff*, *mp*, and *ff*. The bottom staff has dynamic markings of *f*, *f-mp*, *ff*, and *mp*. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 6/4, then to 7/4, then to 3/4, and finally back to 4/4. The music features complex rhythmic patterns and dynamic shifts.

13 spectral multiphonic

Musical notation for measures 13-15. The top staff has dynamic markings of *f* and *mf*. The bottom staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' above it. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4, then to 6/4, and finally back to 4/4. The music is characterized by sustained notes and complex textures.

48

mf *mp* rit.....

53

54 Slowly ♩ = 54

p reverent

58

pp