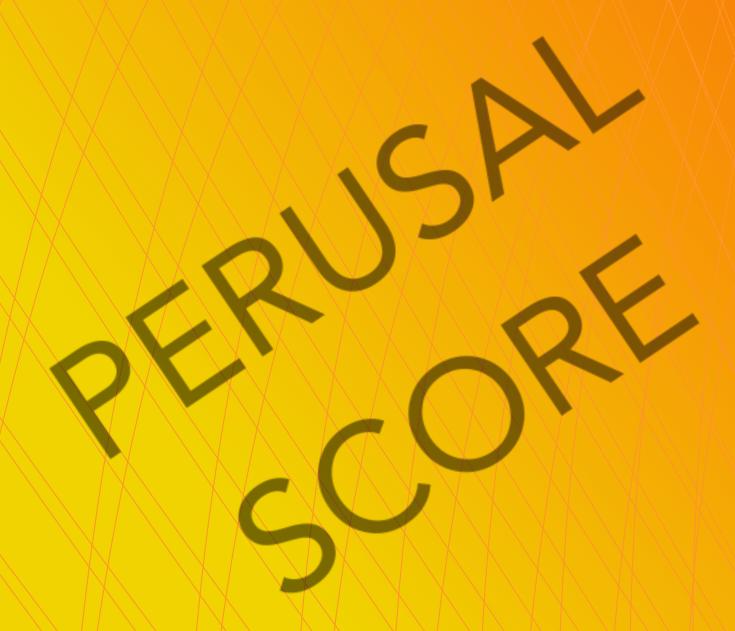
for orchestra



Amy Nam 2022

Instrumentation

- 2 Flutes in C (2nd doubles Piccolo and Alto Flute)
- 2 Oboes
- 2 Clarinets in B-flat
- 2 Bassoons
- 2 Horns in F
- 2 Trumpets in C

Trombone

Tuba

Timpani (32", 29", 26", 23")

Percussion 1

Vibraphone (no motor required)

Tam-tam

Percussion 2

Tubular Bells

Bass Drum

Harp

Strings (Double Basses with C-extension)

Duration

6:45

This is a transposed score.

Accidentals pertain throughout the measure.

Slurs indicate phrasing, not necessarily bowing or articulation. Score and parts with bowing and articulation suggestions available upon request.

Notes

Mimi's Song is dedicated to my grandmother, Minnie Sue Thompson, whom I call Mimi.

When I was an infant, Mimi made up a song to sing to me while she rocked me in a baby swing. When I grew older, we often sang it together sitting on her patio swing during long, humid summer afternoons.



Born in Middleburg, Kentucky in 1941, Mimi moved to Springfield, Tennessee as an adult where she taught elementary school for over twenty years. I was fortunate enough to be one of her first-grade pupils. She taught me many things, among them perseverance ("Bite the bullet!") and contentment ("You get whatcha get and don't pitch a fit!"). She especially taught me to love "The Great Outdoors."

Whenever I now sing Mimi's simple song, my mind returns to childhood summers spent in Mimi's garden, and my imagination floods with the scent of Sweet Alyssum, the scratch of white clover under my bare feet, and the swing's lulling creak. For a moment, I regain that sense of timelessness and wonder that has become elusive to experience as an adult—never worrying whether I should be doing something more productive than singing to a butterfly or braiding a dandelion crown.

Mimi's melody provides the foundation of all the music that unfolds. Sometimes the theme appears vaguely and dreamlike, as though from across the impassible barrier of adolescence. Other times the melody sings out ecstatically, briefly touching the unselfconscious exuberance of childhood. These different guises that the melody takes express both my sense of loss (I can never truly return to that precious time) and my enduring joy that arises whenever I sing Mimi's song.

- Amy Nam (b. 1994)

for Minnie Sue Thompson































