

# VASILISA

Alex Tedrow

*for E♭ alto saxophone and harp*

2018

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY

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## Duration

c. 7 minutes

## Program Notes

*Vasilisa* was inspired by the Russian fairy tale, “Vasilisa the Beautiful.” The story is much too long to summarize here, but I encourage anyone who has not heard it to look it up. It is a fascinating story filled with tragedy, wonder, and hope.

My piece is organized into distinct sections that outline specific events in the tale. The music is both imaginative and serious – conveying dynamics, emotions, and relationships in a drawn-out thoughtful way, but also keeping the overall sequence and flow of the story intact.

I feel that the saxophone and harp present a nice medium for expressing “Vasilisa the Beautiful” in sound. The dynamic between these instruments not only paints the picture of a fantasy landscape, but also creates an interesting dialogue that is loosely intended to represent the relationship between Vasilisa and her precious doll.

Many elements from the story found their way into this work one way or another, but perhaps a very notable point in the piece occurs when Baba Yaga is introduced. Mussorgsky made this character famous in the world of music with the ninth movement of *Pictures at an Exhibition*. The main theme of this movement is quoted near the middle of my piece where the mood takes a dark turn.

Enjoy!

Music typeset by the composer

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Tedrow, Alex

- Vasilisa, *Eb alto saxophone and harp*

# VASILISA

for Wesley Taylor and Kari Novilla

Alex Tedrow (b. 1999)

## "The Magical Doll"

Expressively, with some freedom ♩ = 80

*ritard.* -----, *a tempo* (♩ = 80)

E♭ Alto Saxophone

Harp

*mp* *f*

*mp* with some rhythmic freedom

gliss.

5

A. Sx.

Harp

*tr*

*p* *mp*

*pp* *mp* bisbigliando

8

A. Sx.

Harp

*p* *pp*

*p* *mf* *p*

gliss. 1.v.

11

A. Sx.

Harp

*mp* *pp*

*mp*

14

A. Sx.

Hp.

*f* *p*

16

17

A. Sx.

Hp.

*p* *mf* *mp* *p*

19

A. Sx.

Hp.

*pp* *gliss.* *mf* *p*

22

A. Sx.

Hp.

*mf* *gliss.*

24 *ritard.* ----- brief G.P. (ca. 3 seconds)

A. Sx. *f* *pp* brief G.P. (ca. 3 seconds)

Hp. *f* *pp*

29 "The jealous step-mother" *Faster* ♩ = 132

A. Sx. *mf*

Hp. *mf* *f*

33 35

A. Sx. *pp* *mp*

Hp. *p* *mp*

37

A. Sx. *pp* *mp*

Hp. *mf* *p*





51

A. Sx. *mf*

Hp. *mf*

53

A. Sx. *f*

Hp. *f*

(ped. gliss)

**55**

*mp*

56

A. Sx. *f*

Hp. *f*

*pp*

59

A. Sx. *p*

Hp. *p*

*mf*

*fp*  $\leftarrow$  *f*

(without re-articulating, and not too heavily accented)

G.P.

63 *molto ritard.*

A. Sx.

Hp.

*pp*

*mp*

66 **67** "Vasilisa and her doll go out into the forest"  
Much slower ♩ = 72

A. Sx.

Hp.

*pp* *mp*

*p*

*bisbigliando*

*mp*

71

A. Sx.

Hp.

*pp* *p* *mf* *pp*

*gliss.* *r.h. près de la table*

*pp*

74 *poco accel.* **75** "A small hut in the distance"  
Slightly faster, dark ♩ = 92

A. Sx.

Hp.

*cresc. poco a poco*  
(l.h. norm.)

78 *ritard.* ----- *a tempo* (♩ = 92) **80** "Baba-Yaga, the evil witch"  
Uneasy, apprehensive

A. Sx. *mp*

Hp. *f* *mp* *norm.* *gliss.*

82

A. Sx. *mf*

Hp.

86 **88**

A. Sx. *f* *mp* *mf*

Hp. *f* *mp* *mf*

90

A. Sx. *p* *mf*

Hp. *mp* *mf*

93

A. Sx. *p* *mf* *p* *mp*

Hp. *mp*

96 *poco ritard.* *a tempo* (♩ = 92)

A. Sx. *pp* *mf*

Hp. *cresc. poco a poco* *f*

**100** "Cumbersome chores"

A. Sx.

Hp. *mf*

102

A. Sx. *f* *ff*

Hp. *f*