

Night Soliloquy

In 1936, Night Soliloquy was written during Kent Kennan's stay in Rome as he received the prestigious Prix de Rome award. The piece is known as Kennan's most celebrated and performed work. Night Soliloquy was written for solo flute and piano, and provides an eerie background of pulsing chords with the flute solo providing a narrative that grows in intensity and ends in a whisper.

After learning to play the organ and the piano at a young age, Kent Kennan earned degrees in composition and music theory from the University of Michigan and the Eastman School of Music. Kennan was also a professor at the University of Texas at Austin for most of his career, with his work being interrupted during World War II, when he served as a bandmaster for the United States Army. Among his other works are his *Sonata for Trumpet and Piano* and *Threnody for Violin and Piano*.

Sonata in F Major, Op. 79 no. 1

Friedrich Kuhlau, born in 1786 in Flensburg Germany, was best known for his piano music which was defined by its technical virtuosity and beautiful melodies. Having written over 200 compositions, Kuhlau was one of the most important composers of the Romantic Era and his piano works have been performed by some of the greatest piano players of all time. Sonata In F Major, Op. 79, No. 1, was originally written as part of three violin sonatas and features three movements. This piece features a prominent melodic line with the piano providing support throughout.

During Kuhlau's early life, he had slipped on ice and fallen, resulting in the loss of his right eye. Despite this, he went on to be a concert pianist and composer of Danish opera, introducing many of Beethoven's works to Copenhagen audiences and leaving a legacy of more than 200 published works.

Some people are flowers

Some people are flowers, written by non-binary flutist and composer Yoshi Weinberg, is a solo flute piece inspired by a poem by Will Farris. The composition includes many extended techniques including multiphonics, key and lip percussion, timbral trills, and aeolian sounds. The piece was commissioned by the Flute New Music Consortium in 2021. As a non-binary artist, Yoshi Weinberg shapes their compositions through personal experience, identities, and mental health. They currently study under Robert Dick at the CUNY Graduate Center, earning their D.M.A. in flute performance.

Violets soft
beneath my hands

I want to be
some velvet thing

when I was young
I might have been
a flower

might have thought
bodies were bells

we shape to hold
more bodies, not

meat melting over
screwy bones

some people are flowers
we rend and want

Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano

Claude Bolling was born in Cannes, France in 1930. During the German occupation of France during WWII, Bolling had to pursue his interest in jazz in secret as the Nazis had banned jazz music. Bolling had written music for over one hundred films during his lifetime, and was also the composer for the *Lucky Luke* animated features *Daisy Town* (1971) and *La Ballade des Dalton* (1978).

Written in 1973, Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano is a suite of seven movements. The composition is written for classical flute, and a jazz piano trio, comprised of piano, string bass, and drums. This piece was nominated for a Grammy award in 1975 for Best Chamber Music Performance.

Sources:

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