

HOPE IS THE
THING WITH
FEATHERS

solo flute

MUSIC BY JON BELLONA

HOPE IS THE THING WITH FEATHERS

Notes

Hope is the thing with feathers is based loosely on a poem by Emily Dickinson. The poem floated by at a timely moment, and the flute contains many of the sonic qualities expressed.

“Hope” is the thing with feathers (314)

Performance Notes

- (PUH) Create hard “PUH” sound while forcefully playing the accented pitch.
- Vib. (Oh) Embouchure to express a long “O” vowel, with vibrato.
- m.2 Exhale all breath forcefully out, quickly, fingering the desired note, but without any tone.
- tr. (fast to slow) Trill becomes increasingly sluggish, alongside the decrescendo. Continuing trilling after you’ve stopped playing to push the gesture forward, embodying “never stop”.
- (Shh) Force air through the blowhole with a “shh” sound.
- x with + Key clicks. mm.13-14 and m.51 have tongue accents with key clicks.
- m.53 Ad lib consonant sounds (sh, p, k, t, ff). Imagine that you are whispering into another’s ear. The consonant sounds are what escape from this message.

Jon Bellona

November 1, 2014

Flute

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Meditative ♩ = 72

Optimistic
vib. (Oh)

(PUH)

exhale all breath
breathe forcefully out

Flute

very light

Fl.

Fl.

Fl.

"Never stop..."

tr. (fast to slow)

continue clicking trill long after your breath has gone

Fl.

Fl.

Hope is the thing with feathers

25 Fl.

28 Fl.

32 Fl.

35 Fl.

40 Fl.

43 Fl.

Continue until you run out of breath, but continuing clicking keys

46
Fl.

48
Fl.

fade the clicking, your breath should be gone by this point

rit.

51
Fl.

tongue accents w/key clicks

mf *f* *p* *f* *p*

53
Fl.

Whispering into another's ear

> ad lib consonants

54
Fl.

subito pp *n* *f*

vib. (Oh) *(PUH)* *exhale all breath breathe forceably out*