

A Medley of Insolent Noises

(2p222/4231/T 1Perc/Str)

“Several years ago I came across this passage from F. Scott Fitzgerald’s *Tender is the Night*: “As she stood in the fuzzy green light of the vegetable garden, Dick crossed the path ahead of her going to his work house. Nicole waited silently till he had passed; then she went on through lines of prospective salads to a little menagerie where pigeons and rabbits and a parrot made a medley of insolent noises at her.” Finding it immediately evocative I added the phrase “a medley of insolent noises” to my little collection of titles for future compositions. I thought it especially apt for a piece in which various instruments play major roles either as soloists or in combination. My habit is more often to name a piece after it’s completion. But in this case the title was before me from the start and played a key role in the development of this musical journey. I hope the result isn’t just noise and really I don’t mean to be insolent. But the combination of words in the title was inspiring! *A Medley of Insolent Noises* was premiered by the Regina Symphony Orchestra in 2002.”

Performances:

Jan26/02 Premiere. Regina Symphony Orchestra (Thomas Wellin, conductor) at the Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts, Regina.

Mar 9/13 Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra (Daniel Smith, conductor)