

ABSTRACT

DISSERTATION: *Three Days with Autumn*: An Original Composition for Wind Ensemble

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Three Days with Autumn is an autobiographical composition for wind ensemble inspired by the loss of my daughter. The piece is in three episodic movements; features the solo flute, saxophone section, and percussion section; and is approximately eleven minutes in duration. The accompanying document analyzes four pieces that influenced its composition and discusses the inclusion of the Fibonacci series as well as a numerical system I created based on the names of my wife, myself, and our daughter. I used this system as a form of set theory to create a tonal piece by deriving sets from diatonic scales. An analysis of the three movements focuses on how I created melodic content and harmonic structure from my derived musical materials. Finally, there is discussion of the piece's relevance vis-à-vis wind ensemble repertoire concerning child loss as well as potential difficulties while rehearsing the piece.