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Premiere: August 29 2022 by Amaro Dubois  
Improvised cadenza by Amaro Dubois  
<https://youtu.be/ScT9slpEQfw>

## INSTRUMENTATION

Viola

Duration: 7-8:30'

### TECHNICAL NOTES

1. All accidentals apply only to the octave assigned and are cancelled by a barline.
2. In bar 1, \*slide bow an inch or two in the direction of your left hand and back on the first open D. Start in front of the bridge (sul ponticello to sul tasto to sul ponticello). The sound effect should move from a far away sound to close and back.
3. The improvisation section at bar 64 is entirely optional.
  - a. If you choose not to improvise, skip directly from the end of bar 63 to bar 65 (Letter H) with a very slight break.
  - b. If you choose to improvise, play on motifs from the piece and express yourself freely. It can be longer than eight bars, but not more than a minute long. Have fun!
  - c. Optionally, you can use Dubois' improvised cadenza, available under separate cover.
4. Accidentals in the notated improvisation remain until cancelled.
5. \*\*\*The stomp at bar 69: use shoes with non-rubber soles. Make a big, dramatic deal out of the stomp and the following slap, as if emphatically saying, "I'm. Done." If you are on a carpeted surface, use a square of wood.

### PROGRAM NOTES

When Amaro Dubois, a Portuguese-Frenchman from Brazil living in Memphis, TN, commissioned this viola solo, I listened to his moving story and let ideas flow. A deep slow-moving melody rose, but I couldn't find the word to express its feel. I researched the meaning of the name Dubois, which means "from the woods." The next day, I began to hear a forest full of birds, fiddlehead ferns, and bold animals for lack of a better way to say it, so I penned that. Still, when I closed my eyes, the slow melody didn't fit a walk in the chirping woods. Suddenly I thought, "It sounds more like a call." Ch-ching! I had received "a call" "from the woods." Since my favorite place is smack dab in the middle of a damp forest, I hope to share some of that depth of beauty with you along with a touch of Memphis's country fiddling and free improvisation.

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Full score

Commissioned by and Dedicated to Amaro Dubois  
**A CALL FROM THE WOODS**  
for Viola Solo

Judith Markovich

Expressivo ♩ = 56  
\*slide bow  
(sul pont to sul tasto to sul pont)

7

14

20

26

31

35

38

41

44

\*See Technical Notes

**E** Vivace ♩ = 152

48 *mf* arco ricochet arco pizz. arco pizz. arco ricochet pizz.

51 arco ricochet pizz. arco pizz. arco ricochet pizz. *p sub.*

54 *mf* arco ricochet *f* pizz. **F** arco pizz. *mf* pizz.

57 arco pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz.

60 arco pizz. arco *mp* *f*

63 *p sub.* **G** OPTIONAL CADENZA

**H** ♩ = 84 poco accel. poco a poco.....

65