Percussive Notes

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Warhol Rite

Luigi Morleo

\$32.00

Morleo Editore

It is difficult to put a marimba soloist in front of three percussionists and not be compared to Minoru Miki's "Marimba Spiritual," and there are certainly moments for comparison in "Warhol Rite." However, Luigi Morleo's composition has unique features that propel the marimba soloist into new areas for expression. While most of the opening is a vigorous rhythmic discourse between the drums and marimba (similar in style to Miki's masterpiece), the center of the work has a mysterious interlude that is ethereal and engaging. This leads to the final section that introduces a straightforward groove with driving marimba figures and that brings the work to its conclusion.

The percussionists play on instruments such as tom-toms, congas, bongos, bass drums, various cymbals and gongs, and the soloist plays on a 4.5-octave (low F) marimba. This 11-minute work requires an advanced marimbist and three percussionists with good technique and listening skills. This brisk and stylistic piece would be a highlight on most concerts, and it can be heard on Morleo's compact disc Warhol Percussion Quartet.

-Mark Ford