

BELLOWER ON THE BRANCH

FOR SOLO CELLO

(2020)

Words and Music
by Nick Main



Commissioned by Musica of the Bay
Audrey Vardanega, director

Virtual premiere August 31, 2020
by John Lee

Duration: ~5'

*as you eyed the sublime
while we watched the sunrise
i thought about the view from the window*

*a tree outside is really unremarkable except that
i can almost reach it if i stick my hand out
through the frigid air*

*there's not much to admire,
catching spiders is easier than birds
and the buntings haven't come yet*

*last year's nest
fell into the bellows
back in May*

*but i'll still sponge this pane
dwelling
biding the birds
until we sleep like snails*

~

*A minute life subsides
The window's broken and
I've built my first bird box*

*And they've come
Curled together and
We've took notice listening
And i'm walking out on you and
The wind doesn't bother me anymore
but*

*in the heat
they begin to wither
teetering on a weak branch*

BELLOWER ON THE BRANCH

for solo cello

Nick Main

con rubato ♩ ≈ 32–40 (♩ ≈ 96–120)

p *mp cresc.* *f* *mf*

6 *cresc.* *f*

11 *f* *p* *mf* *mp* *f* 5:6

16 *p* (III) *f* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

23 *mp* *p*

30 *mf* *fp* (*n*)

36 *più f* *più f* *cresc.* *ff*

42 *ff* *fp* *f* *mf*

47 *cresc.* *ff* *pp* *p*

53

59 *mp*

65 *mf*

70 *f*

75 *meno f* *mp* *ff*