

Joanna Marsh

**Gemmayze**

solo flute

**JOANNA  
M/ARSH**





# Joanna Marsh

## **Gemmayze (December 2022)**

solo flute

Total duration c.4'

The piece's title refers to vibrant area of Beirut, Lebanon, which before the pandemic was the beating heart of the city's entertainment district. The piece opens with strains of Yalla Tnam Rima from the film Bint Al Hariss starring the celebrated Lebanese singer Fairuz. I first heard this song sung by a young Lebanese soprano on my first visit to Lebanon in 2010. Her voice was strikingly similar to Fairuz and the performance was quite mesmerizing. The melodic line of the piece falls in and out of quotations from this song and these excerpts are blended with passages that represent a characterful assortment of humanity that can be found in this particular spot in Beirut: preening, prancing and posturing. But this shallow facade hides a sense of loss.

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# Gemmayze

Opening and closing musical quotations  
are from Yalla Tnam Rima from the film  
Bint Al Hariss, sung by Fairuz

Joanna Marsh

A lullaby, somewhat whimsical ♩ = 68

SOLO FLUTE

*mp*

*dolce*

(still legato)

no breath here

*p*

gradual accel. to bar 16

*mf*

Feisty ♩ = 104

*f*

(spat) *p*

*mf*

(spat) *p*

*mf*

26

*mp*

29 **Richer but still whimsical** ♩ = 68

*mf* *p*

32 ♩ = 96

*mf* *p* *mf*

35

*p*

39 **Dance-like** ♩ = 104

*p*

42

*mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

45

*mf*

48 **Cantabile** ♩ = 96

*mp*

51

*p*

*flexible and free*

54

*mf*

57

*moving on*

*f*

*p* *f*

61

65

**Chattering** ♩ = 68

**A flourish** ♩ = 104

*f* *p* *mf*

68

**Chattering** ♩ = 68

*no breath here*

*p* *mf*

71

*pp* *mp*

74

**molto rit.**

*mf* *f* *p*

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