

Peter Knell

LINES/ANGLES

(2001)

SAMPLE

Duration: ca. 8 minutes

Peter Knell

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Biography

Peter Knell (b. 1970) has received awards in numerous national and international competitions, including First Prizes in the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's 10th New Music Festival International Composers Competition, the Indiana State University Contemporary Music Festival/Louisville Orchestra Competition, and the Omaha Symphony Guild International New Music Competition, and Second Prizes in the Fourth International Witold Lutoslawski Composers Competition, the First International Composers' Competition "*In Memoriam Zoltán Kodály*", and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra's Young Composers Competition. He has also received a Fulbright Fellowship, a BMI Student Composer Award, two ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Young Composers Awards, grants from the Paloheimo Foundation and Meet the Composer, and commissions from the Fromm Music Foundation/Ying Quartet, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Barlow Endowment for Music Composition, Utah Arts Festival, Pacific Serenades, Oakland East Bay Symphony, Renee B. Fisher Foundation, and Dale Warland Singers, among others.

His music has been performed at the Aspen, Bowdoin, Chautauqua, June in Buffalo, Norfolk, Oregon Bach, Ernest Bloch, New Music North and MATA festivals, by ensembles such as the Hungarian Radio Orchestra, Louisville Orchestra, Kremlin Chamber Orchestra, Filharmonia de Stat "Transilvania", Winnipeg, Omaha, Richmond, Memphis, and Oakland East Bay Symphony Orchestras, the Onyx String Quartet, Verdi Quartett, Southwest Chamber Music, Volti Chamber Chorus, counter(induction, Continuum Ensemble (UK), Left Coast Chamber Ensemble, ModernWorks, ensembleGreen, and Ensemble Musicattuale (Italy), and by soloists including James Dunham, Martin Chalifour, and the German alto Ingeborg Danz. It has been broadcast nationally in Russia, Canada and Hungary, statewide on Nebraska Public Radio, and on stations in Charlottesville [VA], Richmond, Austin, Omaha, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland, San Diego, and Helsinki. His *Seven Last Words*, based on paintings of Rolf Stein, is available in a book/CD format from Valve-Hearts, Cologne. A compact disc featuring his orchestral work, "...the weakening eye of day" in a live performance by the Budapest Symphony Orchestra, is available on the Artisjus label, and a compact disc featuring German pianist Susanne Kessel performing to of his *Four Snapshots* was released by OehmsClassics in February 2006. His orchestral work *LINES/ANGLES* was selected as the American entry for the ISCM World Music Days 2009 and will be performed by the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by Tommy B Andersson.

Mr. Knell holds degrees from Princeton University (BA), the Juilliard School (MM), and the University of Texas at Austin (DMA), and he was a Fulbright Fellow at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland. His principal composition teachers have included Dan Welcher, Donald Grantham, and David Diamond. He is currently a freelance composer based in Los Angeles.

Program Note

LINES/ANGLES was composed between August and November 2001. The title is reflected both in the surface materials and at the structural level. The materials consist of sustained notes or chords ("lines") and disjunct melodic gestures ("angles"). The linear sections unfold through shifting timbre, texture, and harmonic density; the angular sections are propelled by rhythm and counterpoint. Initially, the lines and angles are kept separate, but over the course of the piece they are juxtaposed and finally integrated: the angles stretched into lines and the lines reassembled into angles. Structurally, this dichotomy is reified through formal stasis ("lines") and disjunction ("angles").

The final third of the piece was composed in the wake of the September 11 attacks on the United States; indeed, the brutal brass passage was sketched on the very day. I dedicate *LINES/ANGLES* to the victims of terrorism and of the "War on Terror".

LINES/ANGLES was commissioned by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. It was first performed on February 9, 2002, under the baton of Gary Kulesha.

Peter Knell

LINES/ANGLES

scored for

2 Flutes (2nd doubles Piccolo)

2 Oboes (2nd doubles English Horn)

Bb Clarinet

Eb Clarinet

2 Bassoons (2nd doubles Contrabassoon)

4 Horns

2 Trumpets in C

2 Tenor Trombones

1 Bass Trombone

Tuba

Timpani

Percussion (3 players):

1. Glockenspiel, Congas, Brake Drum, Police Whistle, Bass Drum, Auto Spring Coil, Tam-tam
2. Vibraphone, Xylophone
3. Tamborine, Suspended Cymbal, Auto Spring Coil, Slapstick, Tam-tam, Brake Drum

Harp

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

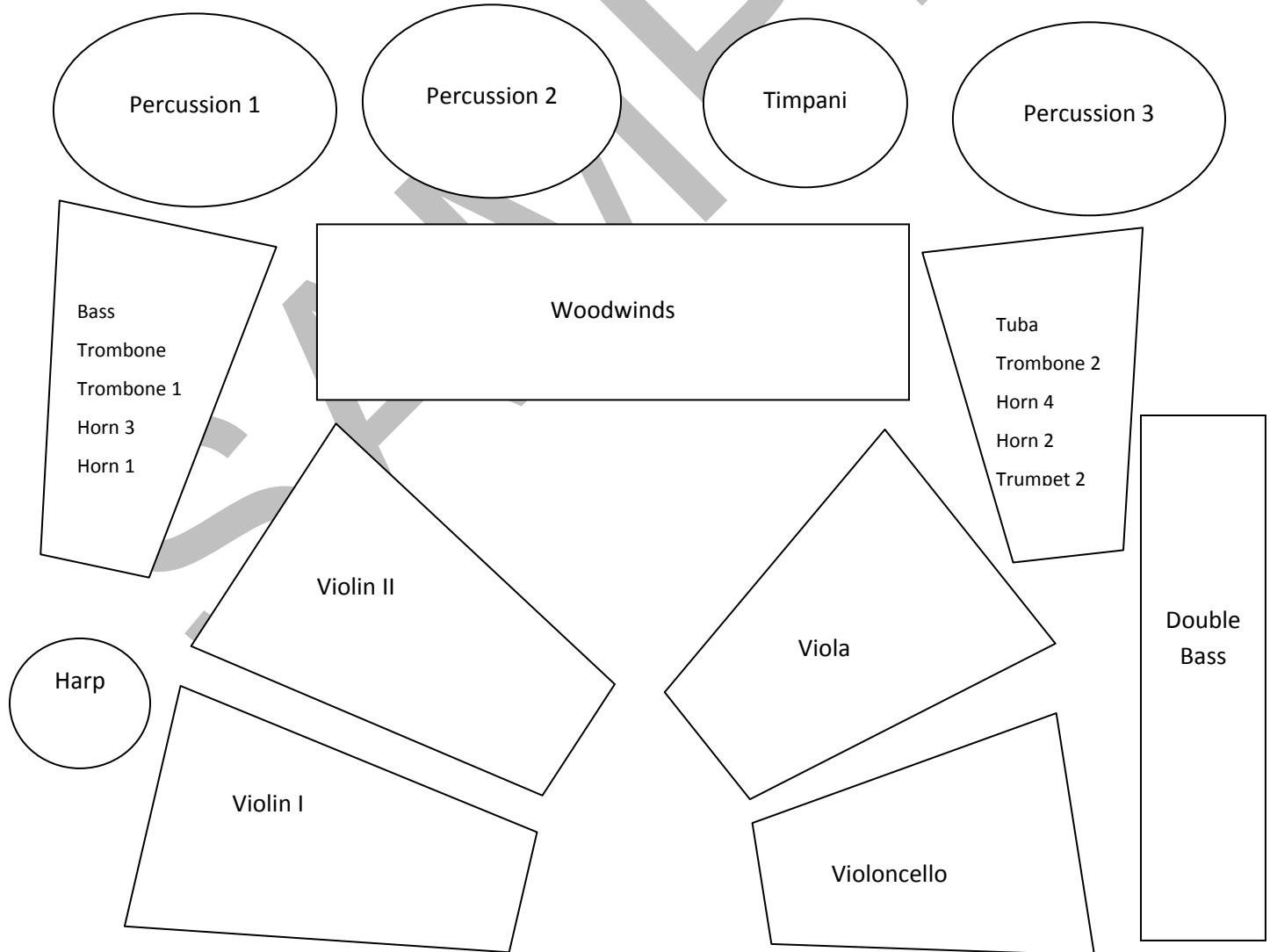
Transposed Score

Duration: ca. 8 minutes

Performance Notes

1. The layout below should be used if possible, as many of the orchestral effects will be heightened by the antiphonal brass and percussion. However, due to the increased ensemble difficulties, this should only be done if there is sufficient rehearsal time.
2. Flutter tongue is called for on most woodwind and brass instruments. If the individual players cannot accomplish this technique, a timbral trill or other substitution may be used.
3. The violins are asked to play the passage from measures 28-54 on very specific strings. If this causes too many difficulties, the violins may be instructed to play the passage on the lowest string possible.
4. During the passage beginning in measure 84, each pair of brass instruments must understand that they are part of a single line. Each new pair of instruments (at G, H, and I) must be clearly audible, as must the sustained line intoned by the trumpet goal notes (measures 122-127).

Suggested Orchestral Layout



TRANSPOSED SCORE

*Commissioned by
the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra*

LINES/ANGLES

Peter Knell (2001)

Percussion 1
Delicate ($\bullet = 60$)
Glockenspiel
 p

Percussion 2
Vibraphone (motor off)
 p

Harp
($b\bullet$)*
(harmonics sound 8va)
 mf

*play only if harmonic is too weak

Violin I div.
Delicate ($\bullet = 60$)
 fp
II \sharp
II \sharp
III \sharp
IV \sharp

Violin II div.
 f
IV \sharp

Viola div.
 f
jeté ord. - - pont. - - ord.
 $p < mp >$
jeté
IV \sharp
 mp
jeté
 p

Violoncello div.
pizz.
 mf
pizz.
 mf
arco jeté
 p
arco jeté
 $p > pp$
ord. - - pont. - - ord.
 $p > pp$
jeté

with wire brushes
 pp
(perceived dynamics)

3

Fl. 1

Tpt. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

motor:
off - - - fast - - - off - - - fast - - - off

take mallets

(f.t.)
pp (f.t.)
p

modify oral cavity:
ord. - - - [i]

3
6
6
3
6
pp
ppp

5

direct air:

Fl. 1

Bb Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

A
(overblow harmonic series)

9

Fl. 1 Fl. 2/ Picc. Bb Cl. Eb Cl. Tpt. 1 Tpt. 2 Timp. Perc. 1 Perc. 2 Perc. 3 Hp. Vln. II Vla.

with the hands Conga (with the hands) (Vibraphone, with mallets) Tamborine thumb tr. Glockenspiel + + + + + div. pp sfp div. pp sfp

12

Fl. 1

Fl. 2/
Picc.

Ob. 2/
E.H.

Bb Cl.

Eb Cl.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

Vln. II

Vla.

pp

p

mp

to the fore

pp

to the fore

p

pp

take 4 mallets

p

p

pp

sfz

pp

sfz

14

Fl. 1

Fl. 2/
Picc.

Ob. 2/
E.H.

Bb Cl.

Hrn. 2

stopped

Hrn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Horn 1

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

14

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

16

Fl. 1

Fl. 2/
Picc.

Ob. 2/
E.H.

Bb Cl.

Hrn. 2

Hrn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

16

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

18

B

Fl. 1
Fl. 2/
Picc.
Ob. 1
Ob. 2/
E.H.
Bb Cl.
Eb Cl.
Bsn. 1

This section shows measures 18A and 18B. In measure 18A, Flutes 1 and 2, Piccolo, and Bassoon 1 play eighth-note patterns. Measure 18B begins with a dynamic of *f*, followed by a sixteenth-note pattern. The bassoon continues its eighth-note pattern. Measures 18C and 18D show Eb Clarinet and Bassoon 1 playing eighth-note patterns.

Hrn. 1
Hrn. 2
Hrn. 3
Hrn. 4
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2

This section shows measures 18A and 18B. Horns 1 and 2 play sustained notes. Horn 3 starts with a dynamic of *f* and plays eighth-note patterns. Horn 4 and Trombones 1 and 2 play sustained notes. Measures 18C and 18D show Trombones 1 and 2 playing eighth-note patterns.

Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Hp.

This section shows measures 18A and 18B. Percussion 1 and 2 play eighth-note patterns. The harp (Hp.) plays sustained notes. Measures 18C and 18D show the harp playing eighth-note patterns.

18

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

This section shows measures 18A and 18B. The violin section (Vln. I and Vln. II) and cello/bass section (Vla. and Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Measures 18C and 18D show the violin section playing eighth-note patterns.

20

Musical score page 20. The score is divided into two systems by a vertical bar line.

System 1 (Measures 1-5):

- Fl. 1:** Rests throughout.
- Fl. 2/ Picc.:** Rests throughout.
- Ob. 1:** Playing eighth-note patterns with grace notes.
- Ob. 2/ E.H.:** Rests throughout.
- Bb Cl.:** Rests throughout.
- Eb Cl.:** Rests throughout.
- Bsn. 1:** Rests throughout.

System 2 (Measures 6-10):

- Hrn. 1:** Playing sixteenth-note patterns, dynamic **f**, followed by a sustained note dynamic **pp**, labeled "open".
- Hrn. 3:** Playing eighth-note patterns, dynamic **f**, followed by a sustained note dynamic **pp**, labeled "open".
- Hrn. 4:** Rests throughout.
- Tpt. 1:** Rests throughout.
- Tpt. 2:** Rests throughout.

22 *poco a poco agitato*

Fl. 1

Fl. 2/
Picc.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2/
E.H.

Bb Cl.

Eb Cl.

Bsn. 1

Hrn. 1
f marcato

Hrn. 2
stopped
p
open
f marcato

Hrn. 3
stopped
p
f marcato

Hrn. 4
f marcato

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1
straight mute
mf marcato

Tbn. 2
straight mute
mp

Hp.
f

mf *p*

22 *poco a poco agitato*

Vln. I

Vln. II
sul G

Vla.
f

Vc.
fp

pizz.

arco

pizz.

arco 5

fp

f

mf

p

25

Fl. 1
Fl. 2/
Picc.
Ob. 1
Ob. 2/
E.H.
Bb Cl.
Eb Cl.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2/
C-bn.
Contrabassoon
f marcato
Hrn. 1
Hrn. 2
Hrn. 3
Hrn. 4
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tuba
mf
Tim.
Perc. 3
Suspended Cymbal
p
Hp.
ff
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
fp

25

arco
mf
pizz.
f
fp
f

ff > *ff* > *p* div.
p *ff* > *p* div.

28 Somewhat faster ($\text{♩} = 72$, $\text{♪} = 96$)*

Fl. 1

Fl. 2/
Picc.

Bb Cl.

Eb Cl.

Hrn. 1

Hrn. 2

Hrn. 3

Hrn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tbn. 1

Timp.

Perc. 2

28 Somewhat faster ($\text{♩} = 72$, $\text{♪} = 96$)*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

* If the violins are not able to play the passage as indicated, they may play it on the lowest string possible. The indicated fingerings are suggestions only.

* This section may be conducted in eighths, which simplifies the transition to dotted eighths.

41 C

C

Ob. 1

Ob. 2/
E.H.

Eb Cl.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2/
C.bn.

Hrn. 1

Hrn. 2

Hrn. 3

Hrn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tim.

Perc. 2

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

47

Ob. 1

Ob. 2/
E.H.

Bb Cl.

Eb Cl.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2/
C.bn.

Hrn. 1

Hrn. 2

Hrn. 3

Hrn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tim.

Perc. 2

Vln. I
(ossia: 2 3 II)
III - 1 4 -

Vln. II
(ossia: 2 3 II)
III - 1 4 -

Vla.

Vc.
II

D.B.

play if trumpet cannot

p

ff

pp < *f* *fp* >

f

mp

14

Searing, violent (l'istesso tempo)

52

Fl. 1

Fl. 2/
Picc.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2/
E.H.

Bb Cl.

Eb Cl.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2/
C-bm.

Hrn. 1

Hrn. 2

Hrn. 3

Hrn. 4

B-Tbn.

Tuba

Tim.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Hp.

Searing, violent (l'istesso tempo)

52

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

ff

(do not coordinate)

ff < ff

(do not coordinate)

ff f < ff

(do not coordinate)

ff f < ff

64

Fl. 1 *pp (sempre)*

Ob. 1 *pp (sempre)*

Ob. 2/
E.H. *solo* *f*

Bb Cl. *solo*

Hrn. 1 *sempre pp*

Hrn. 2 *fp* *pp (sempre)*

Hrn. 3 *sempre pp*

Hrn. 4 *fp* *pp (sempre)* stopped

Tpt. 1 *whispa mute* *pp (sempre)*

Tpt. 2 *pp (sempre)*

64

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

pizz. *pp*

arco *pp*

pizz. *pp*

pizz. *pp*

arco *pp*

arco *pp*

pp (sempre)

last two players

(do not coordinate after first entrance)

jeté *pp (sempre)*

mf

E

Fl. 1

Fl. 2/Pic.

Ob. 1

Bb Cl.

Bsn. 2/C-bn.

Hrn. 1

Hrn. 2

Hrn. 3

Hrn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Piccolo

pp (sempre)

ff

p

solo

mf

p

pp (sempre)

straight mute

pp (sempre)

pp

8va

(do not coordinate after first entrance)

jeté

pizz.

66

Musical score page 69. The score includes parts for Flute 1, Flute 2/Piccolo, Oboe 1, Bassoon 1, Bassoon 2/C-contrabassoon, Horn 1, Horn 2, Horn 3, Horn 4, Trumpet 1, Trumpet 2, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, and Bassoon. The instrumentation is as follows:

- Fl. 1**: Part 1 (Measures 1-4), Part 2 (Measures 5-8), Part 3 (Measures 9-12).
- Fl. 2/Pic.**: Part 1 (Measures 1-4), Part 2 (Measures 5-8), Part 3 (Measures 9-12).
- Ob. 1**: Solo (Measures 5-8), Measures 9-12.
- Bb Cl.**: Solo (Measures 5-8), Measures 9-12.
- Bsn. 1**: Solo (Measures 1-4), Measures 5-8, f dynamic, sfp dynamic.
- Bsn. 2/C- bn.**: Solo (Measures 1-4), Measures 5-8, f dynamic, 3 dynamic, sfp dynamic.
- Hrn. 1**: Measures 1-4.
- Hrn. 2**: Measures 5-8, sfp dynamic.
- Hrn. 3**: Measures 1-4.
- Hrn. 4**: Measures 5-8, sfp dynamic.
- Tpt. 1**: Measures 1-4.
- Tpt. 2**: Measures 1-4.
- Tbn. 1**: Measures 1-4, 3 dynamic, measure 5 dynamic.
- Tbn. 2**: Measures 1-4, 3 dynamic, measure 5 dynamic.
- Hp.**: Measures 1-4.

Dynamics and performance instructions include: solo, mp, mf, f, sfp, sf, 3, and various slurs and grace notes.

69

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

arco
pizz.
mf

mp gradually add players until half the section is playing

(do not coordinate after first entrance)
only half **jeté**
f

gradually add players until half the section is playing

pizz.
arco
arco
pizz.
pp

p gradually add players until half the section is playing

mp **mf**

gradually add players until half the section is playing

arco
pp

p **pp**

mp **mf**

(do not coordinate after first entrance)
only half **jeté**
pp

gradually add players until half the section is playing

arco
pp

p **pp**

mp **mf**

(do not coordinate after first entrance)
jeté
f

gradually add players until half the section is playing

78

Relentlessly building (♩ = 60)

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

flautando

flautando

flautando

unis.
(do not play upper octave)

85

Bsn. 2/
C-bn.

B-Tbn.

Tuba

Tim.

Perc. 1

Perc. 3

D.B.

92

(G)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B-Tbn.

Tuba

Perc. 1

Perc. 3

98

Tbn. 1 *sim.* *poco a poco cresc.*

Tbn. 2 *poco a poco cresc.*

B-Tbn.

Tuba

Perc. 1 *p*

Perc. 3 *p*

104

Bsn. 2/C-bn.

Hrn. 1 *open* *mf*

Hrn. 2 *open* *f*

Hrn. 3 *open* *mf*

Hrn. 4 *open* *f*

Hrn. 4 *open* *f*

Tbn. 1 *mf*

Tbn. 2 *mf*

B-Tbn.

Tuba

Perc. 1 *p*

Perc. 3 *p*

(H)

110

Bsn. 2/
C-bn.

Hrn. 1
poco a poco cresc.

Hrn. 2
poco a poco cresc.

Hrn. 3
poco a poco cresc.

Hrn. 4
poco a poco cresc.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B-Tbn.

Tuba

Perc. 1
p

Perc. 3
poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.

115

Bsn. 2/
C-bn.

Hrn. 1
f

Hrn. 2
ff

Hrn. 3
ff

Hrn. 4
ff

Tbn. 1
f

Tbn. 2

B-Tbn.

Tuba
f

Perc. 1

Perc. 3

120 I

Bsn. 2/
C-bn.

Hrn. 1

Hrn. 2

Hrn. 3

Hrn. 4

Tpt. 1 open solo

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B-Tbn.

Tuba

Perc. 1

Perc. 3

This musical score page is labeled '120 I'. It features ten staves of music for various instruments. The instruments are: Bassoon 2/C-bassoon, Horn 1, Horn 2, Horn 3, Horn 4, Trombone 1 (with 'open solo' instruction), Trombone 2, Bass Trombone, Tuba, and Percussion 1 and 3. The score includes dynamic markings such as 'ff', 'fff', and 'mf', and performance instructions like 'open solo'. The music consists of measures of music with various note heads and stems, some with slurs and grace notes.

123

Fl. 1

Fl. 2/Picc.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2/E.H.

Bb Cl.

Eb Cl.

Hrn. 1

Hrn. 2

Hrn. 3

Hrn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B-Tbn.

Tuba

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Hp.

123

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Searing, violent (l'istesso tempo)

127

Fl. 1
Fl. 2/
Pic.
Ob. 1
Ob. 2/
E.H.
Bb Cl.
Eb Cl.
Hrn. 1
Hrn. 2
Hrn. 3
Hrn. 4
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B-Tbn.
Tuba
Timp.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Perc. 3
Hp.

Searing, violent (l'istesso tempo)

tutta forza (free bowing)

127

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

131

Fl. 1

Fl. 2/
Picc.

take Piccolo

J

Piccolo solo

Ob. 1

Ob. 2/
E.H.

Bb Cl.

Eb Cl.

Bsn. 1

Hrn. 1

Hrn. 2

Hrn. 3

Hrn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B-Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Auto Spring Coil

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Hp.

131

Vln. I

Vln. II

(S)

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

135

Fl. 1

Fl. 2 / Picc.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2 / E.H.

Bb Cl.

Eb Cl.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2 / C-bn.

Hrn. 1

Hrn. 2

Hrn. 3

Hrn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B-Tbn.

Tuba

Tim.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Hp

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

* The antiphonal tam-tams should be loosely coordinated to create the effect of a giant pendulum gradually swinging into motion. As their ring becomes more or less continuous, the suspended cymbal should be brought in. The percussion should then crescendo until it has drowned out the entire orchestra, at which point it should make a gradual diminuendo.