

Note to Judges Regarding Audio Submission:

The live audio submitted for this competition differs slightly from the notation inscribed below. Note that this decision was made because several techniques in this piece cannot be successfully realized via MIDI.

71231

Our Last
Cascading
Hour

For Violin, Bass Clarinet,

Vibraphone, and Piano

2023

Instrumentation

Violin
Bass Clarinet in Bb
Vibraphone
Piano

Notations



Freely improvise a light, fluttering texture using the given pitches, rapidly like the tapping or fluttering of restless fingers on a table. The order of pitches may vary, as all notes are in an incredibly fast succession of one another. Do this to the end of the barline; there might be an arrow to signify this.



Fade into complete silence, as gradually as possible.

Program Notes

Our Last Cascading Hour is a dreamlike, existential imagination of the last sunset observable to life on an inhabited planet. This piece glimmers with cascading textures to illustrate the sun's light trickling through and away from the atmosphere. The following motif, with more unity than the introduction, evokes the surreality that encompasses existential reflection. The next section quickly builds into a clustered, pulsing passage that repeats with bewilderment, before finally breaking into cascades of light once again as the violin melts gently into the final slumber of sky.

Writing this piece helped me work through familial grief. To others, I hope it may provide a similar vessel for solace or consolation.

Duration ca. 4:50

Our Last Cascading Hour

71231

Violin

molto rubato

Puzzled

mp *p* *mp* *p* *mf*

Bass Clarinet in B \flat

Vibraphone

Piano

p *mp*

2

Lingering

rit.

Vln.

pp

B. Cl.

Vib.

8va

rit.

Pno.

p *pp*

A ♩ = 145; Mesmerizing, gentle

4

Vln. *mf* *mp* *mf*

B. Cl.

Vib. *mp* *p* *mp* *p*
play ever so slightly after piano, pedal freely *simile*

A ♩ = 145; Mesmerizing, gentle

Pno. *mf* *p* *mf* *p*
improvise fluttering texture using these pitches very fast, freely - order of pitches may vary *simile*

mp sempre

6

Vln. *p* *ff*
mechanically pizz.

B. Cl.

Vib. *mp* *p* *mf*
mechanically secco

Pno. *mf* *p* *f mechanically*

gentle arco 3

9

Vln. *mf*

B. Cl. *mp* *mf* *mf* *f* *mf*

Vib. *mp* gentle; pedal freely

Pno. *mf* gentle *mp* *mf*

11

Vln. *ff* *f*

B. Cl. *f* *fff*

Vib. *mf* *ff*

Pno. *f* *ff* *mf*

C ♩ = 64; Soulful and yearning

18 *8va*

Vln. *pp rubato*

B. Cl. *mf* *f* *p* *mf*

Vib. bowed *p* *p* *mp*

C ♩ = 64; Soulful and yearning

8va

Pno. *mp* *mp* *f* *p*

23

Vln. *f* *mp*

B. Cl. *f* *mp*

Vib. struck w/mallet *p* *mf* *mp*

Pno. *f* *mp*

1. 2.

D Passionately (note: performers are encouraged to improvise ornaments during repeat)

poco accel.

28

Vln. *f* 3 3 3 *ff* 3 3 3

B. Cl. *mf* 3 *f* *mf* 3 *f*

Vib. *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mf*

Pno. **D** *f* *mp* *f* *mf*

pedal freely

♩ = 74

33

Vln. *f* 3 *ff* 3 3 3 *mf* 3 3

B. Cl. *mp* *f* 3 *ff* *mf* *ff* 3 3

Vib. *f* *mp* *ff* resoundingly

Pno. *f* *mp* *ff* resoundingly

1. 2. resoundingly

1. 2. ♩ = 74

rit.

37

Vln.

B. Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

mp

rit.

E ♩=60, Suspenseful

40

Vln.

B. Cl.

Vib.

p *mp* *pp*

mf *mp* *mf*

bowed

mp *mp*

E ♩=60, Suspenseful

Pno.

p

F

poco accel.

Vln. *p* gathering warmth *f*

B. Cl. *mp* gathering warmth *f*

Vib. struck w/ mallet *p* gathering warmth

F

poco accel.

Pno. *p* gathering warmth *mf*

G ♩=69, Powerful & Wondrous

Vln. *ff* Cascade with fire

B. Cl. *ff* *fff* Cascade with fire *ff*

Vib. *f* *ff* Cascade with fire *f*

G ♩=69, Powerful & Wondrous

Pno. *f* *ff*

51

Vln. *molto vibrato*

B. Cl. *ff* *f* *ff*

Vib. *ff* *f* *ff*

Pno.

rit. ----- (Play the 8va only if possible for player)

53

Vln. *p* *pp*

B. Cl. *mp*

Vib. *mf*

Pno. *p* *pp*

(8)

56

Vln. *p* *mp* *pp* *gliss.*

B. Cl.

Vib. *pedal freely* *ppp* *pp*

H ♩=55, Tenderly

Pno. *pp simile to m. 3* *p*

rall.

(8)

58

Vln. *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

B. Cl. *p* *pp*

Vib. *pp* *Bowed* *let ring*

rall.

Pno. *p*