

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 surrealism 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

Transposed Score

Our Last Cascading Hour

71231

molto rubato

Violin *Puzzled*

Bass Clarinet in B_b

Vibraphone

Piano

2 *Lingering*

Vln.

B. Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

rit.

pp

s'va

pp

p

A ♩ = 145; Mesmerizing, gentle

Vln. 4

B. Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

A ♩ = 145; Mesmerizing, gentle

improvise fluttering texture using these pitches
very fast, freely - order of pitches may vary

mp sempre

Vln. 6

B. Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

mechanically
pizz.

mechanically
secco

f mechanically

gentle
arco

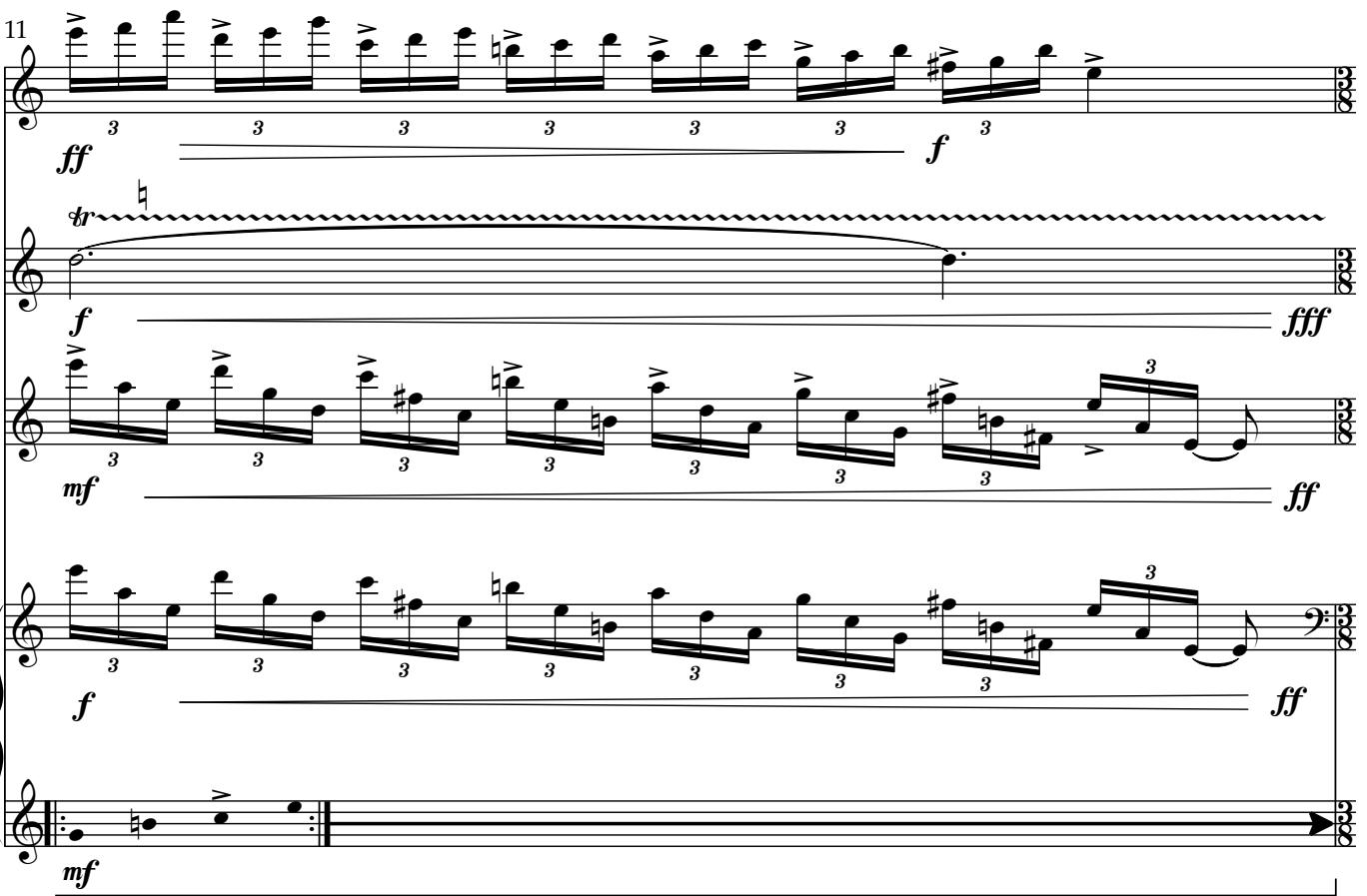
3

Vln. 9 

B. Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln. 11 

B. Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

B

12

Vln. *disjointed pizz.* *f* arco

B. Cl.

Vib. *disjointed secco* *p* *f*

Pno. **B** *p disjointed* *ff harshly* *rit.*

16

Vln. *ff* *p* *freely*

B. Cl. *freely*

Vib. *ff* *mp* *freely*

Pno. *ff freely* *mf*

C ♩ = 64; Soulful and yearning

5

18 8va

Vln. ***pp*** rubato

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

Vib. ***p*** ***p*** ***mp*** ***o***

C ♩ = 64; Soulful and yearning

Pno. ***mp*** rubato

1. ||2.

23

Vln. ***f*** enchanting ***mp***

B. Cl. ***f*** enchanting ***mp***

Vib. ***p*** struck w/ mallet ***mf*** ***3*** ***3*** ***3*** ***3*** ***mp***

Pno. ***f*** enchanting ***p***

1. ||2.

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

Musical score for measures 28-32. The score includes parts for Vln. (Violin), B. Cl. (Bassoon), Vib. (Vibraphone), and Pno. (Piano). Measure 28 starts with Vln. playing eighth-note patterns with dynamic *f*. B. Cl. enters with eighth-note patterns at *mf*. Vib. plays eighth-note chords at *mp*. Pno. enters with eighth-note patterns at *f*. Measures 29-30 show continuous eighth-note patterns from all instruments, with dynamics *ff*, *f*, *mf*, and *f*. Measure 31 starts with *pedal freely* for Vib. and *mf* for Pno. Measures 32-33 show eighth-note patterns with dynamics *f*, *ff*, *mf*, and *f*. The section concludes with a repeat sign.

$\text{♩} = 74$

1. 2.
resoundingly

Musical score for measures 33-37. The score includes parts for Vln., B. Cl., Vib., and Pno. Measure 33 continues with eighth-note patterns. Vln. has *f* and *ff* dynamics. B. Cl. uses a *slap* technique. Vib. has *f* and *mp* dynamics. Pno. has *ff* dynamics. Measures 34-35 show eighth-note patterns with dynamics *ff*, *mf*, *ff*, and *f*. Measures 36-37 show eighth-note patterns with dynamics *ff*, *mp*, and *ff*. The section concludes with a repeat sign.

1. 2.
resoundingly

$\text{♩} = 74$

Musical score for measures 37-41. The score includes parts for Vln., B. Cl., Vib., and Pno. Measures 37-38 show eighth-note patterns with dynamics *f* and *ff*. B. Cl. uses a *slap* technique. Vib. has *f* and *mp* dynamics. Pno. has *ff* dynamics. Measures 39-40 show eighth-note patterns with dynamics *ff* and *mp*. Measures 41-42 show eighth-note patterns with dynamics *ff* and *ff*.

37

Vln.

B. Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

rit.

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.

46

Vln. **p** gathering warmth **f**

B. Cl. **mp**³ gathering warmth
struck w/ mallet

Vib. **p** gathering warmth

Pno. **p** gathering warmth **mf**

G ♩=69, Powerful & Wondrous

49

Vln. **ff** Cascade with fire

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

Vib.

Pno.

(Play the 8va only if possible for player)

rit.

53

Vln. *p*

B. Cl.

Vib. *mf*

Pno. *p* *pp*

rit.

8va

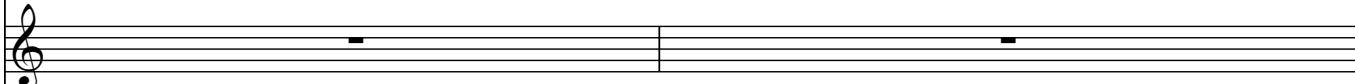
p *pp*

[H] ♩=55, Tenderly

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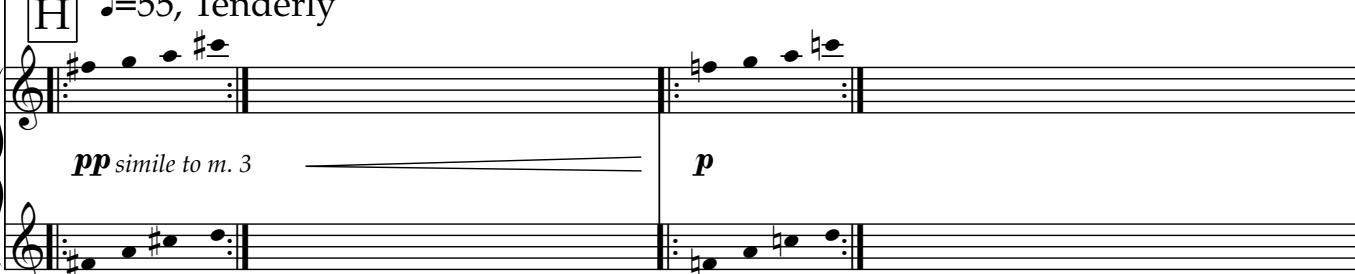
56

Vln. 

B. Cl. 

Vib. 

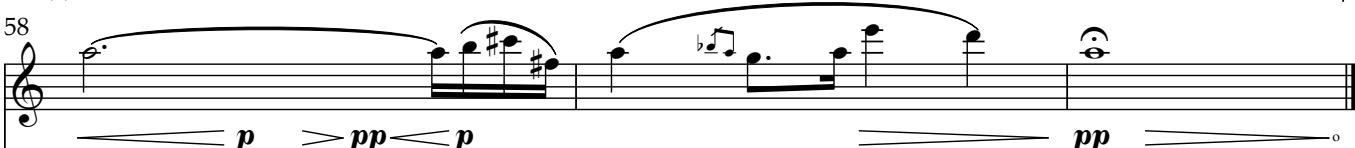
[H] ♩=55, Tenderly

Pno. 

rall.

(8)

58

Vln. 

B. Cl. 

Vib. 

Pno. 