
A Song Without Words (2008)

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SP – 00029

Instrumentation

C Trumpet (Straight Mute needed)

Trombone (Straight Mute needed)

2 Percussion

1: 4 Tom-toms, 2 Suspended Cymbals, 2 Triangles, Tubular Bells, Mark Tree.

2: 3 Button Gongs (H, M, L)*, Kick-Drum (Bass)**, Tam-tam, 2 Bongos, Metal of Szl. Cym. Hi-Hat Stand

The image shows two staves of musical notation for percussion. Perc. 1 is on a treble clef staff and Perc. 2 is on a bass clef staff. Perc. 1 has notes for 4 Tom-toms, 2 Sus. Cym., 2 Triangles, and Mark Tree. Perc. 2 has notes for 3 Button Gongs, Kick-Drum (Bass), Tam-tam, 2 Bongos, Metal of Szl. Cym., and Hi-Hat Stand. 'Z' markings on stems indicate flutter-tongue for the brass and rolls for the percussion.

Piano (4-Hands)

* Though the Button Gongs are notated with specific tunings, only relative H, M, L distinctions are intended.

** The Kick-Drum will always be notated on the space below the staff, regardless of clef.

Performance Notes

Duration: ca. 5'30"

The Trumpet and Trombone begin on opposite sides of the stage and should be directed toward each other; when moved to the center, they should face the audience.

“Z” markings on stems indicate flutter-tongue for the brass, rolls for the percussion.

C4 and F4 on the Piano should be prepared by wedging a penny (or other small coin) between the strings as near to the damper as possible.

Program Note

Drawing influences from popular styles, the rhythmic-induced **A Song Without Words** attempts to distort perceptions of time and space by superimposing repetitive figures on contrasting rhythmic grids.

The song in question is presented in whole near the onset of the piece, emerging from a chaotic outburst of percussion and brass. Fragments of the melody and its accompaniment are subsequently introduced in alteration, until they at last converge as one unified element.

A Song Without Words

Dur.: ca. 5'30"

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Maniacally ♩ = 144

C Trumpet

Trombone

Percussion 1

4 Tom-toms

Percussion 2

3 Button Gongs

Kick Drum (Bass)

Primo

Piano 4-Hands (lid removed)

Secundo

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

2 Sus. Cym. (l.v.)

Perc. 2

2 Bongos

1°

Keys w/ forearm C4 - C6

2°

Inside w/ palms A0 - ?

* m. 6: The pedal marking will always be written beneath the Primo player, but it applies to both players.

A Song Without Words - Score

9

C Tpt. Stage LEFT *ff sf ff*

Tbn. Stage RIGHT *ff sf ff*

Perc. 1 *mp ff mp ff mp ff mp ff mp ff*

Perc. 2 *fp ff* (3 Gongs l.v.) *ff*

1° CS - G5 *ff* w/ palms C4 - G4 *ff*

2° Inside w/ palms *ff* Get Mallets "Drum" inside piano. Choose strings at random. *p*

13

C Tpt. *sf ff sf ff sf ff*

Tbn. *sf ff sf ff sf ff*

Perc. 1 *mp ff mp ff mp ff mp ff mp ff*

Perc. 2 [Szl. Cym.] Ride near edge *ff p*

1°

2° *ff p ff p ff*

A Song Without Words - Score

17

C Tpt. *ff sf ff sf ff sf ff*

Tbn. *ff sf ff sf ff sf ff*

Perc. 1 *fff*

Perc. 2 *ff p ff fff*

1° *ff*

2° Smooth gliss. across strings with sticks. *ffp cresc. to m. 23*

8^{va}

21

C Tpt. *sf ff sf*

Tbn. *sf ff sf*

Perc. 1 To Triangles *!!!*

Perc. 2 To Bongos *!!!*

1° *delicately, childlike*
** pp sempre una corda*

2° *(fff)* Remove Mallets

* m. 25: It is intended that this phrase begin inaudibly, so that it emerges from the previous texture.

A Song Without Words - Score

30

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

ff

ff

ff 8^{va}

ff 8^{va}

40

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

Triangles

Bongos

ff

f

f

mp

molto legato

pp

pp

ff 8^{va}

pp 8^{va}

A Song Without Words - Score

46

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

To 4 Toms & 2 Sus. Cym.

f

pp

ff

mp

52

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

pp

ff

f

pp

ppp

f

pp

n

mf

pp

Gliss across strings, inside.

poco rit.

A Song Without Words - Score

B A Tempo, ♩ = 144

59

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

63

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

* m. 64: The Hi-Hat should be closed throughout the entire piece.
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A Song Without Words - Score

67

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

To Chimes

fff

mf

Inside w/ palms

ff

71

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

Chimes

f

fff

ff

A Song Without Words - Score

75 Stage CENTER

C Tpt. *fff*

Tbn. *fff*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

79

C Tpt. *fp* — *ff*

Tbn. *fp* — *ff*

Perc. 1 (Chimes) *f* — *fff*

Perc. 2

1°

2°

\square ♩ = ♪ = 72

*m. 82: Hit metal of Hi-Hat stand.
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A Song Without Words - Score

83

C Tpt. *fp* *ff* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *n* *To Straight Mute*

Tbn. *fp* *ff* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *n* *To Straight Mute*

Perc. 1 *To Mark Tree*

Perc. 2 *To Szl. Cym. Yarn Mallets*
mp *pp*

1° *f* *n* *mp*

2° *F1 - A2* *A0 - E1* *ppp* *8^{va}*

87

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1 *Mark Tree* *p* *pp* *To Triangles*

Perc. 2 *Szl. Cym.* *mp* *To Tam-tam w/ Triangle Beater*

1° *mp* *n*

2° *mp* *pp* *pp* *8^{va}* *Inside w/ palms*

* m. 83: Silently mute strings with palms.
** m. 90: Gliss. quickly along string w/ fingernail or coin.

D Same Tempo, ♩ = 72

Musical score for measures 102-105. The score includes parts for C Tpt., Tbn., Perc. 1 (4 Tom-toms), Perc. 2 (Tam-tam, To Szl. Cym.), 1° (First Violin), and 2° (Second Violin). Dynamics range from *p* to *fff*. Percussion parts feature complex rhythmic patterns with accents. The strings play a melodic line with *sf* dynamics.

Musical score for measures 106-109. The score includes parts for C Tpt., Tbn., Perc. 1, Perc. 2 (Szl. Cym., scrape w/ stick, To Tam-tam), 1° (First Violin), and 2° (Second Violin). Dynamics range from *pp* to *ff*. Percussion parts include *scrape w/ stick* and *To Tam-tam*. The strings play a melodic line with *ppp legato* dynamics and include fingerings like 7.6 and 5.

E

Musical score for measures 110-113. The score includes parts for C Tpt., Tbn., Perc. 1, Perc. 2, 1^o, and 2^o. The key signature changes from one sharp to one flat at measure 112. Percussion parts include 4 Tom-toms and Tam-tam (To 2 Bongos and Kick-Drum). Dynamics range from *fff* to *mp*. The 1^o part features triplets and sextuplets.

Musical score for measures 114-117. The score includes parts for C Tpt., Tbn., Perc. 1, Perc. 2, 1^o, and 2^o. Percussion parts include 2 Bongos & Kick-Drum. Dynamics range from *ff* to *fff*. The 2^o part features sextuplets and triplets.

(3 + 2)

118

C Tpt. *f* *fp* *ff*

Tbn. *f* *fp* *ff*

Perc. 1 *p sub.* *f* *p* *f*

Perc. 2 *f*

1° *f* *pp*

2° *mp legato* *f* *mp* *ff*

8va

122

C Tpt. *ff* *f* *ff* *fp* *ff* *Open*

Tbn. *ff* *ff*

Perc. 1 *p* *f* *p* *f*

Perc. 2 *fff* *fff* *fff*

1° *fff* *fff* *fff*

2° *p* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

8va *fff* *fff* *fff*

A Song Without Words - Score

126 *shake*

C Tpt. *fp* *ff*

Tbn. *f* *ff*

Perc. 1 *p* *f* *p* *f*

Perc. 2 *f* *p* *f* *p*

1° *f* *p* *f*

2° *f* *p* *f* *p*

130

C Tpt. *ff* *f* *ff* *ff*

Tbn. *f* *ff* *f* *ff* *ff*

Perc. 1 *p* *f* *p* *ff* *ffz*

Perc. 2 *f* *p* *f* *p* *ff*

1° *p* *f* *pp* *ff*

2° *f* *p* *f* *p* *ff legato*

F $\text{♩} = 108$ $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

134

C Tpt. *f* *fp* *ff*

Tbn. *f* *fp* *ff*

Perc. 1 *f* *ff*

Perc. 2

1°

2°

139

C Tpt. *mf* *ff*

Tbn. *mf* *ff*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

||

mf *ff*

G

♪ = ♪

144

C Tpt. *fp* *ff* *fp* *fff*

Tbn. *fp* *ff* *fp* *fff*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

(8)

1°

2°

149

C Tpt. *ff* *fp* *ff*

Tbn. *ff* *fp* *ff*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 (Szl. Cym. Ride)

(8)

1°

2°

154

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

fp *fff*

fff

To Triangles

To 3 Gongs

fff

pp

mf

158

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

Triangles

pp

3 Gongs

pp

pp una corda until end

pp *mf*

*m. 164: Scrape along string with fingernail or coin.

A Song Without Words - Score

165

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

To Chimes
Yarn Mallets

mf

pp

pp

ppp

pp legato

171

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Chimes

mf

p

pp

n