

A Song Without Words

Jonathan Sokol

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 (H, L), Sizzle Cymbal, Hi-Hat (closed).

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 on the first four lines, with 'x' marks above the fifth and sixth lines. Perc. 2 has notes on the first three lines, with 'x' marks above the fourth, fifth, and sixth lines. Brackets above the staves group the notes into categories: 4 Tom-toms, 2 Sus. Cym., 2 Triangles, and Mark Tree for Perc. 1; and 3 Button Gongs, Kick-Drum (Bass), Tam-tam, 2 Bongos, Metal of Szl. Cym., and Hi-Hat for Perc. 2.

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: 5 minutes 30 seconds

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"

Jonathan Sokol (2008)

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° *ff* Inside w/ palms 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* *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 *ff*

Perc. 2 *ff p ff ff*

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

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

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.
SP - 00029

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

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°

C ♩ = ♪ = 72

*m. 82: Hit metal of Hi-Hat stand.
SP - 00029

A Song Without Words - Score

83

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

Tbn. *fp* *ff* *pp* *f* *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.

A Song Without Words - Score

91

C Tpt.


Tbn.

Perc. 1


Perc. 2

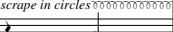
1°

2°

Tam-tam  scrape *mf*

scrape *f*

Triangle  *mp*

scrape in circles  *pp*

8^{va}

ppp legato 5:3 5:3 5:3 5:3 5:3

8^{vb} *ff* 8^{vb} *p ff*

96

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

Straight Mute timbral *tr* *pp* *ff* timbral *tr* *pp* *ff* non-vib. *pp* *ff*

Straight Mute wide vibrato *pp* *ff* w.v. *pp* *ff* non-vib. *pp* *ff*

To 4-Tom-toms

To Tam-tam Beater *f* *p*

5 3 3 3 5

p *f* *sub.*

D Same Tempo, ♩ = 72

Musical score for measures 102-105. The score includes parts for C Tpt., Tbn., Perc. 1, Perc. 2, 1° (First Violin), and 2° (Second Violin). Perc. 1 features a 4 Tom-toms section with dynamics *p*, *ff*, *p*, *ff*, *mp*, and *ff*. Perc. 2 includes a Tam-tam section with dynamics *mf* and *To Szl. Cym.*. The 1° part has dynamics *sf*. The 2° part has dynamics *mp* and *ff*. The time signature is 3/4.

Musical score for measures 106-109. The score includes parts for C Tpt., Tbn., Perc. 1, Perc. 2, 1° (First Violin), and 2° (Second Violin). C Tpt. and Tbn. parts include dynamics *pp* and *ff*, and markings *timbrato*, *w.v.*, and *non-vib.*. Perc. 2 includes a Szl. Cym. section with dynamics *ff* and markings *scrape w/ stick* and *To Tam-tam*. The 1° part has dynamics *ppp legato* and markings *7.6* and *5*. The time signature is 3/4.

E

Musical score for measures 110-113. The score includes parts for C Tpt., Tbn., Perc. 1, Perc. 2, 1^o, and 2^o. Measure 110 starts with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The C Tpt. and Tbn. parts feature a melodic line with dynamics *fff*, *p*, and *ff*. Perc. 1 plays 4 Tom-toms with dynamics *p*, *ff*, *p*, *ff*, and *mp*. Perc. 2 plays a Tam-tam with dynamics *p* and *f*. The 1^o and 2^o parts feature a melodic line with dynamics *ff* and *sf*. Measure 111 changes to a 2/4 time signature. Measure 112 continues the 2/4 time signature. Measure 113 changes to a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The 1^o and 2^o parts feature a melodic line with dynamics *mp* and *f*.

Musical score for measures 114-117. The score includes parts for C Tpt., Tbn., Perc. 1, Perc. 2, 1^o, and 2^o. Measure 114 starts with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The C Tpt. and Tbn. parts feature a melodic line with dynamics *ff* and *fff*. Perc. 1 plays 2 Bongos & Kick-Drum with dynamics *ff*. Perc. 2 plays 2 Bongos & Kick-Drum with dynamics *ff*. The 1^o and 2^o parts feature a melodic line with dynamics *ff* and *f*. Measure 115 continues the 4/4 time signature. Measure 116 continues the 4/4 time signature. Measure 117 changes to a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The C Tpt. and Tbn. parts feature a melodic line with dynamics *fff*. Perc. 1 plays 2 Bongos & Kick-Drum with dynamics *ff*. Perc. 2 plays 2 Bongos & Kick-Drum with dynamics *ff*. The 1^o and 2^o parts feature a melodic line with dynamics *ff* and *f*.

(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 *f*

122

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

Tbn. *ff* *ff*

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

Perc. 2 *ff* *8va*

1° *fff* *fff* *fff*

2° *p* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

8va *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* *fff*

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

Perc. 1 *p* *f* *p* *ff* *fff*

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°

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

sfz

8^{va}

158

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1°

2°

Triangles

pp

3 Gongs

pp

pp una corda until end

pp *mf*

8^{va}

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

A Song Without Words - Score

165

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

To Chimes
Yarn Mallets

Perc. 2

1°

2°

mf

pp

ppp

pp

pp legato

p

171

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. 1

Chimes

Perc. 2

1°

2°

mf

p

pp