st307.1.72

sumtone

:

michael edwards

you are coming into us
who cannot withstand you

for flute, clarinet, bassoon, percussion,
piano, violin, viola, cello

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programme note

The title of this piece is taken from the poem "Final Notions" by Adrienne Rich (1929-):

It will not be simple, it will not take long
It will take little time, it will take all your thought
It will take all your heart, it will take all your breath
It will be short, it will not be simple

It will touch through your ribs, it will take all your heart
It will not take long, it will occupy all your thought
As a city is occupied, as a bed is occupied
It will take your flesh, it will not be simple

You are coming into us who cannot withstand you
You are coming into us who never wanted to withstand you
You are taking parts of us into places never planned
You are going far away with pieces of our lives

It will be short, it will take all your breath
It will not be simple, it will become your will

The mood of the piece picks up on the simplicity and directness of language, the repetitions, and the almost breathless speed (in my reading at least) of the poetic meter.

Deceptively simple on the page, "you are coming into us who cannot withstand you" gains its impetus from the combination of small, simple rhythmic units into larger, sometimes repeating sequences by means of an algorithmic technique I call rhythm chains. These sequences are usually placed in polymetric opposition to similarly constructed contrapuntally combined sequences. The tempi are quick, the energy level is high, and the perception of multiple pattern streams moving at different rates is the main feature of the music.

Notes

Percussion: 4-octave marimba, snare drum, 2 crotales (A5 and B5), glockenspiel (always l.v.)

Accidentals carry throughout the bar but are repeated in parentheses as deemed necessary

Accidentals do not repeat at octaves in either chords or melodic lines

Duration: 10:15 (with indicated tempi)

If necessary, tempi may be reduced by up to 10%

wind: slap tongue (flute: pizz); a short pitched note should accompany this sound
piano: unpitched percussive effect (follow individual directions)
percussion: on G4 (second line treble) snare, ord.; other pitches: crotale notes

wind: slap plus key click, with pitched note to follow where appropriate (e.g. if long note)
strings: battuto; when fast battuto notes are required, more of a spiccato is also acceptable

snare: draw the wooden stick handle (or something suitable) with considerable pressure over the head of the drum membrane to cause an uneven rubbing tone and occasional squeeks
strings: scratch tone

flute: whistle tone

The following symbols placed above notes apply only to the note(s) they're over, unless there's an arrow and closing bracket, e.g. S→ ←

aeolian tone

half aeolian tone i.e. more pitched tone than with full aeolian

wind: sing/growl into the instrument whilst playing; exact sung pitch unimportant; a rough, multiphonic-like tone is the result. The flute may use ad lib multiphonics where 'sing' is called for.

Wind: ad lib. multiphonic with the indicated pitch as fundamental; created ad lib. by fingering, embouchure, or both

Flute: cluster multiphonic: overblow very forcefully

Bassoon multiphonics: choose a harmonic fingering for a higher note then lip down to create the multiphonic, choosing a more or less consonant/dissonant result, as indicated

strings: move the bow vertically up and down the string instead of drawing across in the normal fashion; vary the speed ad lib according to dynamic and context

for ensemble aventure

you are coming into us who cannot withstand you

michael edwards 2011

♩ = 140

flute: always stacc when not slurred

bass clarinet: always stacc when not slurred

bassoon

percussion: snare (always 2nd line); hard stick

cymbals, soft (marimba) stick, sempre l.v.
top line = small cymbal
middle line = medium cymbal
bottom line = large sizzle cymbal

piano: strike metal frame with a small metal object l.v.; pedal down to B

violin: pizz. con sord.

viola: pizz. con sord.; nail; pizz ord.

cello: con sord.

fl

bass cl

bsn

perc

pno: pizz. l.v.

vln

vla

vc

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16 17 18 19 20 21 **A** 22 23 24

fl

bass cl

bsn

always staccato
when not slurred

pp

perc

soft sticks
marimba

pp

pno

strike metal frame with a small metal object
l.v.

pp

vln

with viola

vla

with violin

vc

col legno

pp

24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33

fl

p *pp*

bass cl

pp

bsn

p

perc

p *pp*

pno

pizz.
l.v.

p

damped
l.v.

p

vln

p *pp*

vla

p *pp*

vc

p *pp*

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc
B
cymbals
stacc.
8vb
senza ped.
una corda
arco
pizz.
fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc
(arco norm.)
pp
II
(arco norm.)
pp
(arco norm.)
pp
bowed cymbals (sempre l.v.)
with viola
pp
spe
with percussion
(arco norm.)
(arco norm.)

64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

S M

cresc.

p

ord.

73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82

M

mp

sempre senza vib.

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

cresc.

C

Piu Mosso (♩ = 152)

dim. al niente

8vb

(pizz.)

pizz.

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

D

Meno Mosso (♩ = 140)

marimba

(stacc.)

(senza ped.)

tre corde

(pizz.)

123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132

fl

bass cl

bsn

perc

pno

8va

8va

vln

vla

vc

132 133 134 135 136 **E** 137 138 139 140

fl

bass cl

bsn

perc

glockenspiel

marimba

pno

(catch resonance)

Ped.

vln

arco

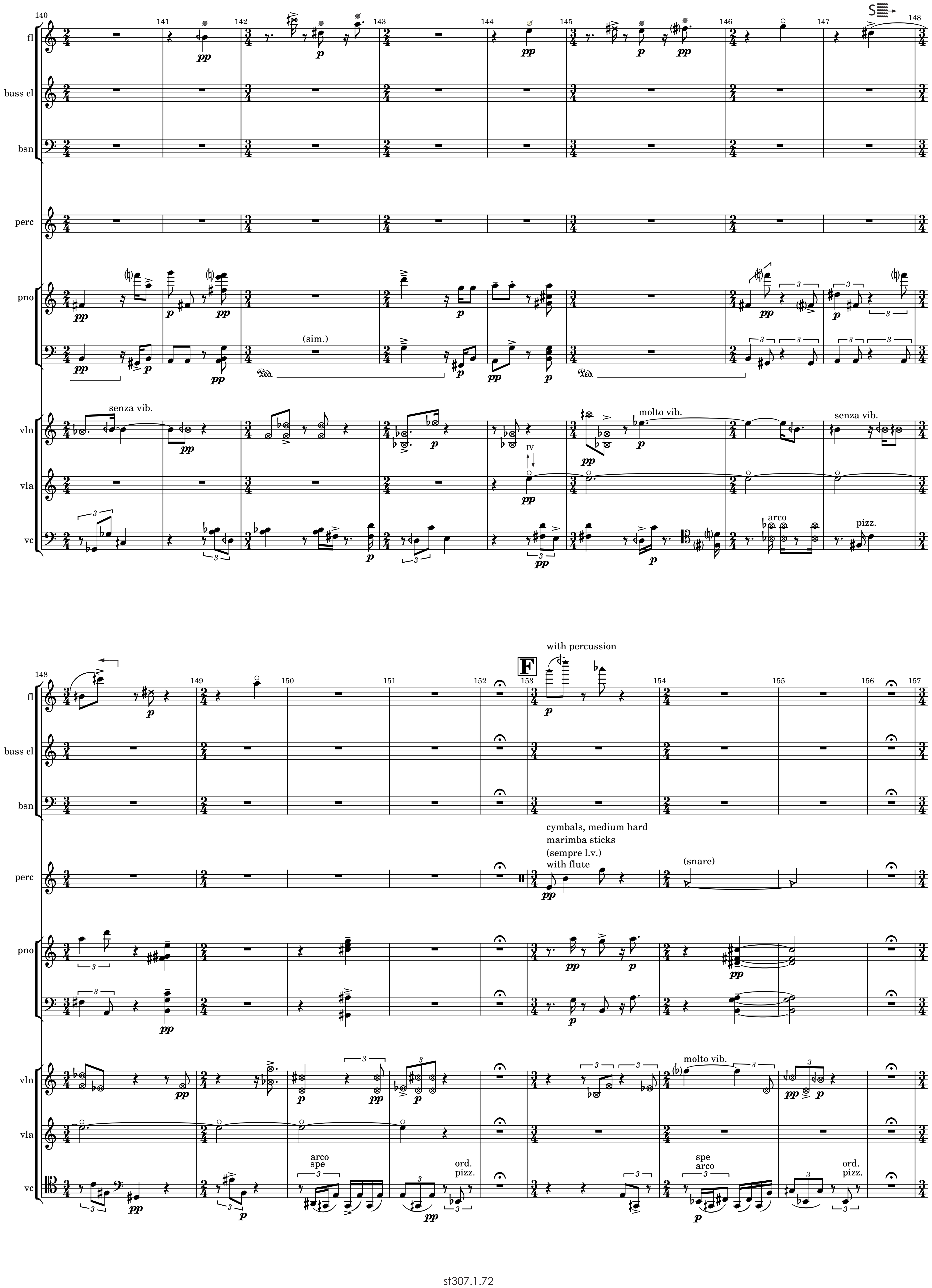
molto vib.

pizz.

vla

arco

vc


fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc
senza vib.
(sim.)
molto vib.
senza vib.
arco
pizz.
F
with percussion
cymbals, medium hard
marimba sticks
(sempre l.v.)
with flute
(snare)
arco
spe
ord.
pizz.
molto vib.
spe
arco
ord.
pizz.

G

Piu Mosso (♩ = 152)

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

vary strike positions ad lib.

molto vib.

arco spe

ord. pizz.

arco spe

sim.

8va

176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

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

with violin

sul pont.
senza vib.
ord.
with piano
sul pont.
senza vib.
ord.
sul pont.
sim.

Ped.

184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

mp *p* *mp*

with violin

ord.
sul pont.
ord.
sul pont.
pizz.
ord.
arco
sul pont.
with clarinet

8vb

(spe)

193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

S

mp p mp p mp mf mp p mp p mp p mp

8vb

H

Piu Mosso (♩ = 163)

202 203 204 205 206 207 208

f

conson

ord.

marimba
crotale, l.v.

mp f

8vb

Ped.

(flag. gliss.)

ord.
senza vib.

senza sord.
ord.
senza vib.

IV

208 209 210 211 212 213 214

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

ord.

(release pedal gradually)

8vb

ff f

214 215 216 217 218 219 220

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

ord.

ff f

220 221 222 223 224 225 226

fl

bass cl

bsn

cresc.

cresc.

perc

pno

vln

vla

vc

disson

conson

senza sord

pizz.

arco

Ped.

I

Meno Mosso (♩ = 152)

ord.

(snare)

pedal ad lib.

senza sord.
(pizz)

col legno

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

arco
pizz.
col legno

J

fl
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

B♭ clarinet
ord.
arco ord.
pizz.
col legno
pizz.
col legno
col legno
pizz.
pedal down and all notes damped with hand to K
8vb
gradually become more 'twisted' (to K), including singing, multiphonics, and microtonal inflections ad lib (but remaining quiet)
gradually become more 'twisted' (to K), including singing, multiphonics, and microtonal inflections ad lib (but remaining quiet)
8vb
col legno
pizz.
col legno
pizz.

K

Piu Mosso (♩ = 163)
with bassoon
S
to bar 310: slap tongue and key click ad lib

274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282

fl
B♭ cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

f ord.
mf with flute ord.
mf cymbals, staccato (damped) with pizz. strings
mf pedal ad lib. with cello, viola arco, stacc, sul pont., senza vib.
mf with cello, violin arco, stacc, sul pont., senza vib.
mf with violin, viola arco, stacc, sul pont., senza vib.
p col legno
pp pizz.
p col legno
8vb

282 283 284 285 286 287 288

mf
8va
8vb
f arco molto vib. stacc. senza vib.

fl
B♭ cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

288 289 290 291 292 293 294

S

f

8va
8vb

pizz. arco

f

294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301

ord.

mf

301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310

fl
B♭ cl
bsn
perc
pno
8vb
vln
vla
vc

pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz. arco molto vib. pizz. senza vib.

to 320: start reducing aggressiveness of singing etc.

310 311 312 313 314 315

fl
B♭ cl
bsn
perc
pno
8vb
vln
vla
vc

col legno molto vib. arco norm. senza vib. pizz. with cello with violin l.v.

fl
B♭ cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328

ord.
molto vib.
col legno
arco norm.
stacc.
senza vib.
pizz.
arco
8va
mp
p
mf

328 329 330 331 332 333 334

L

fl

B♭ cl

bsn

perc

marimba

pno

8va

8va

vln

vla

vc

stacc.
senza vib.

334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342

S

fl

B♭ cl

bsn

cresc.

perc

glockenspiel

marimba

pno

8va

vln

vla

vc

pizz. arco

cresc.

342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349

M

fl

B♭ cl

bsn

perc

f stacc.

pno

f stacc.

f senza ped.

vln

pizz.

f

vla

pizz.

f

vc

pizz.

f

349 350 351 352 353 354 355

fl

B♭ cl

bsn

perc

pno

start blurring with pedal

8vb

vln

vla

vc

355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362

fl

B♭ cl

bsn

perc

pno

vln

vla

vc

with clarinet
ord.

f

with flute

S

S

glockenspiel

marimba

8va

8vb

(catch resonance)

8vb

senza ped.

Ped.

arco

362 363 364 365 366 367

fl

B♭ cl

bsn

perc

pno

vln

vla

vc

8va

8vb

8vb

fl
B♭ cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

367 368 369 370 371 372

8va 8vb

372 373 374 375 376 377

cresc.

start blurring with pedal

377 378 379 380 381 382

fl
B♭ cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

8va 8va 8vb 8vb 8vb

ff

N

382 383 384 385 386 387

Meno Mosso (♩ = 152)

p mp mf

crotale, l.v.

Ped.

with viola with violin pizz.

ff sempre

387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396

fl

B♭ cl

bsn

perc

pno

vln

vla

vc

arco pizz.

mf mp ff sempre ord. pedal ad lib. 8va 8vb molto vib.

396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403

403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410

fl
B♭ cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

(harmonic if flute has low B)
ord.
ff sempre
8va
8vb
pizz.
arco
molto vib.
III
ff
dim.

O

Meno Mosso (♩ = 140)
leggero
piccolo
stacc., ord.
bass clarinet
una corda
sul pont.
arco

410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419

419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426

picc
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

8va 8vb

Ped.

III

426 427 428 429 430 431 432

arco
(sul pont.)
pizz.

picc
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

8va
8vb
pizz.
arco

446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453

picc
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

8va
8vb

P

Piu Mosso (♩ = 152)

453 454 455 456 457 458 459

with bassoon
with clarinet

pizz.
arco (spe)
col legno
tre corde
pedal ad lib.

459 460 461 462 463 464

picc
bass cl
bsn
perc
8va
pno
8vb
vln
vla
vc

464 465 466 467 468 469

(ord.)

Q

marimba
cymbal (l.v.)

pizz.

469 470 471 472 473 474 475

picc
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

S

ord.

8va
8vb

475 476 477 478 479 480 481

481 482 483 484 485 486 487

picc
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

S

mp mf

487 488 489 490 491 492 493

cresc.

493 494 495 496 497 498 499

R

Piu Mosso (♩ = 163)

picc
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

with percussion
wild raucous tone:
add growl and/or multiphonic ad lib

snare
with clarinet (and bassoon)

l.v.

pedal down to T

pizz.

(pizz)

arco (hair)

499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506

(sing etc.)

ord

arco

pizz.

506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515

picc
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

(sing etc.)
ord
hard sticks
marimba

515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523

cluster
ord.
with percussion
(ord.)
snare
with clarinet

523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530

picc
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

S

T

Meno Mosso (♩ = 140)

glockenspiel
crotale, l.v.
marimba
stacc.
pizz.
gliss
col legno tratto
(pizz)
Ped.

picc
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

glockenspiel
8vb
pedal ad lib. (filling rests with resonances)
pizz.
(pizz)
marimba
8va
I

556 557 558 559 560 561 562 U 563 564

picc
bass cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

marimba

8va

con sord.

col legno tratto
leggero

sim.: pedal ad lib. (filling rests with resonances)

564 565 566 567 568 569 570

570 571 572 573 574 575 576

picc

bass cl

bsn

perc

pno

vln

vla

vc

576 577 578 579 580 581 582

V

Piu Mosso (♩ = 152)

with bassoon

B♭ clarinet

with flute

picc

bass cl

bsn

perc

pno

vln

vla

vc

pedal ad lib. (but more staccato)

582 583 584 585 586 587 588

picc

B♭ cl

bsn

perc

pno

8va

vln

vla

vc

588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595

picc

(airy)

B♭ cl

ord.

ord

bsn

perc

pno

8va

8vb

Ped.

vln

vla

pizz.

vc

595 596 597 598 599 600 601

picc

B♭ cl

bsn

perc

glockenspiel

marimba

pno

8vb

vln

senza sord.

cresc.

vla

senza sord.

cresc.

vc

cresc.

601 602 603 604 605 606 607

picc

B♭ cl

bsn

perc

glockenspiel

marimba

pno

8va

8vb

vln

(up/down)

scratch tone

cresc.

vla

(up/down)

scratch tone

cresc.

vc

(up/down)

scratch tone

cresc.

W

Piu Mosso (♩ = 163)

607 608 609 610 611 612

picc
B♭ cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

glockenspiel
marimba
(always cymbals when percussion clef)
sempre l.v.
8va
8vb
(up / down)
scratch tone
senza sord.
col legno
(ord.)
sing

612 613 614 615 616 617

X

Piu Mosso (♩ = 175)

picc
B♭ cl
bsn
perc
pno
vln
vla
vc

cluster M
disson M
S
sing
(ord.)
ord.
8va
8vb
Ped.
pedal ad lib.
strike metal frame with small metal object (l.v.)

Piu Mosso (♩ = 187)

damp at end but leave a little sound over (l.v.)

forearm clusters, both arms, pedal down then up to catch resonance (l.v.)