

Dan VanHassel

Passing in the Night

for chamber orchestra

Duration: 5 minutes

Composed: 2015

Passing in the Night

for chamber orchestra

Instrumentation

Flute (doubling Piccolo)

Oboe

2 Clarinets in B-flat (both doubling Bass Clarinet)

Alto Saxophone

Bassoon

Horn in F

3 Percussionists

Perc 1: shaker, snare drum, low woodblock, 2 bongos, large suspended cymbal, bass drum

Perc 2: ride cymbal, high woodblock, hi-hat, medium suspended cymbal, tam-tam

Perc 3: sleigh bells, cowbell, 3 toms

Piano

2 Violins

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

Performance Notes:

All string and wind instruments are playing a single gradually rising melody. Performers should take care to listen carefully and balance the dynamics so that everything blends together smoothly with no single instrument standing out.

While the strings and winds are gradually rising, the percussion is gradually falling in pitch. These two groups should be balanced with each other as evenly as possible.

Commissioned by Symphony Number One

World Premiere Performance: April 2, 2016 at Light City Festival. Baltimore, Maryland

Percussion Key

Percussion 1

A musical staff with a treble clef and a double bar line at the beginning. The staff contains seven notes, each with a vertical line extending upwards to a specific instrument label. The notes descend in pitch from left to right. The labels are: shaker (top line), rim of snare drum (first space), woodblock (low) (second space), bongo (high) (second space), bongo (low) (third space), large suspended cymbal (third space), and bass drum (bottom line).

Percussion 2

A musical staff with a treble clef and a double bar line at the beginning. The staff contains five notes, each with a vertical line extending upwards to a specific instrument label. The notes descend in pitch from left to right. The labels are: ride cymbal (top line), woodblock (high) (first space), hi-hat (first space), medium suspended cymbal (second space), and tam-tam (second space).

Percussion 3

A musical staff with a treble clef and a double bar line at the beginning. The staff contains five notes, each with a vertical line extending upwards to a specific instrument label. The notes descend in pitch from left to right. The labels are: sleigh bells (top line), cowbell (first space), tom (high) (first space), tom (mid) (second space), and tom (low) (second space).

Note on Percussion:

The percussion parts in *Passing in the Night* are meant to sound roughly as if they are gradually descending in pitch over the course of the piece. Recognizing the limitations of instruments that might be available and the ambiguity in the perceived pitch of certain percussion instruments, every effort should nevertheless be made to choose instruments that will create the perception of the pitch lowering as the piece progresses.

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Steady ♩=76

Musical score for measures 1-4. The score includes parts for Flute/Piccolo, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb/Bass Clarinet in Bb 1, Clarinet in Bb/Bass Clarinet in Bb 2, Alto Saxophone, Bassoon, Horn in F, Percussion 1 (Shaker), Percussion 2, Percussion 3, Piano, Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The tempo is steady at 76 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat. The score features a shaker part in measure 1 with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a simile marking. The piano part has a specific instruction: "Place gaffer's tape, heavy books, or other heavy objects on the top strings of the piano (C8-G6) in order to completely dampen the sound. The result should be similar to a series of tuned woodblocks with no recognizable pitch." The piano part has a piano (*pp*) dynamic. The bassoon part has a forte (*f*) dynamic. The contrabass part has a mezzo-forte (*mp*) dynamic. The score is marked with various dynamics including *n* (piano) and *f* (forte).

Musical score for measures 5-8. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl), Oboe (Ob), Bass Clarinet in Bb (Bcl 1, Bcl 2), Alto Saxophone (A Sax), Bassoon (Bsn), Horn in F (Hn), Percussion 1 (Perc 1), Percussion 2 (Perc 2), Percussion 3 (Perc 3), Piano (Pno), Violin 1 (Vin 1), Violin 2 (Vin 2), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabass (Cb). The score continues with the shaker part in measure 5 with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The piano part has a piano (*pp*) dynamic. The bassoon part has a forte (*f*) dynamic. The horn part has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The contrabass part has a forte (*f*) dynamic. The score is marked with various dynamics including *n* (piano), *f* (forte), and *mp* (mezzo-forte).

9

Fl

Ob

Bcl 1

Bcl 2

A Sax

Bsn

Hn

Perc 1

Perc 2

Perc 3

Pno

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

Cb

A

f *p* *f* *n*

n *n* *f*

f *n* *n*

n *n* *mf* *n*

Ride Cymbal (drum sticks)

Sleigh Bells

p *f* *p*

f *pp*

A



13

Fl

Ob

Bcl 1

Bcl 2

A Sax

Bsn

Hn

Perc 1

Perc 2

Perc 3

Pno

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

Cb

n *f* *p* *f*

n *n* *f* *n*

f *n* *n* *f*

n *mf* *n* *n*

n *f* *p*

pp *f* *pp*

f *n* *n* *f* *p*

n *n* *mp*

17

Fl

Ob

Bcl 1

Bcl 2

A Sax

Bsn

Hn

Perc 1

Perc 2

Perc 3

Pno

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

Cb

n, *f*, *p*, *mf*, *pp*

21

Fl

Ob

Bcl 1

Bcl 2

A Sax

Bsn

Hn

Perc 1

Perc 2

Perc 3

Pno

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

Cb

n, *f*, *p*, *mf*, *pp*, *simile*

B

Rim of Snare Drum (drum sticks)
(single strokes, no rolls) *simile*

37

Musical score for measures 37-42. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl), Oboe (Ob), Clarinet 1 (Cl 1), Clarinet 2 (Cl 2), Alto Saxophone (A Sax), Bassoon (Bsn), Horn (Hn), Percussion 1 (Perc 1), Percussion 2 (Perc 2), Percussion 3 (Perc 3), Piano (Pno), Violin 1 (Vln 1), Violin 2 (Vln 2), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabass (Cb). The score features various dynamics such as *n*, *f*, *p*, *mf*, and *pp*. Percussion parts include Cowbell (drum stick) and Low Woodblock (mallets) *simile*. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 42.

43

Musical score for measures 43-48. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl), Oboe (Ob), Clarinet 1 (Cl 1), Clarinet 2 (Cl 2), Alto Saxophone (A Sax), Bassoon (Bsn), Horn (Hn), Percussion 1 (Perc 1), Percussion 2 (Perc 2), Percussion 3 (Perc 3), Piano (Pno), Violin 1 (Vln 1), Violin 2 (Vln 2), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabass (Cb). The score features various dynamics such as *n*, *f*, *p*, *mf*, and *pp*. Percussion parts include Hi-Hat (tightly closed) (drum sticks) and a section marked with a circled 'D'. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 48.

Fl
Ob
Cl 1
Cl 2
A Sax
Bsn
Hn
Perc 1
Perc 2
Perc 3
Pno
Vln 1
Vln 2
Vla
Vc
Cb



Fl
Ob
Cl 1
Cl 2
A Sax
Bsn
Hn
Perc 1
Perc 2
Perc 3
Pno
Vln 1
Vln 2
Vla
Vc
Cb

70

To Picc.

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

A Sax

Bsn

Hn

Perc 1

Perc 2

Perc 3

Pno

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

Cb

77

Picc.

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

A Sax

Bsn

Hn

Perc 1

Perc 2

Perc 3

Pno

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

Cb

roll cluster with palm of hand (all pitches A0-F1)
keep sustain pedal down to the end

84

Picc

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

A Sax

Bsn

Hn

Perc 1

Perc 2

Perc 3

Pno

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

Cb

F

Low Tom (mallets)

Tam-Tam (mallets)

n, *n poss.*, *f*, *mf*

90

Picc

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

A Sax

Bsn

Hn

Perc 1

Perc 2

Perc 3

Pno

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

Cb

F

Bass Drum (mallets)

n, *n poss.*, *f*, *mf*