

Score (Transposed)

Membrane Variations

for B \flat clarinet, horn in F, bassoon,
violin, viola, cello, and percussion

ca. 10'

Jake Berran
(2021)

Notes

General

The title has a double meaning. During the creative process, one of my important framing devices became the difference between what goes on in our minds and what happens in the outside world. I don't know much about anatomy, but with cells the membrane is the boundary between interior from the exterior, and the music crosses such a boundary several times. On a more human level, this means there is significant alteration between introverted and extroverted music.

Timbral variety is also explored in these variations, especially compared to my previous music, so it activates the tympanic membrane (eardrum!) in different ways.

Performance

The descriptions at tempo markers are somewhat specific but ultimately based on my own feelings; if the music is felt differently by the ensemble, any such instruction may be ignored or altered.

Be as theatrical as you want in the more "fun" passages, especially letter F!

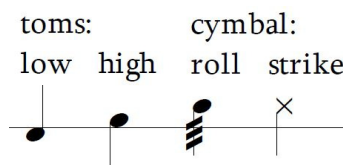
Percussion

Instruments: marimba (5 octave), two suspended cymbals, two concert toms. Drumsticks, a few grades of yarn mallets, and a bow needed.

It is recommended to place one cymbal for easy access with the marimba, and one with the toms.

Cymbal bowing may be replaced with a normal roll, marimba notes may be transposed an octave up if it is not a 5-octave, and any other reasonable substitutions may be made if needed.

Notation (other than marimba):



Membrane Variations

Jake Berran

Confident, $\text{♩} = 120$

Musical score for the 'Confident' section, measures 1-10. The score is in 3/4 time with a tempo of 120 beats per minute. It features six staves: Clarinet in B \flat , Horn in F, Bassoon, Violin, Viola, and Cello. The music is characterized by a steady, confident rhythm. Dynamics range from *f* (forte) to *mp* (mezzo-piano). The Clarinet and Horn parts have a melodic line with a crescendo from *f* to *ff* (fortissimo) in the first two measures, followed by a decrescendo to *mp* and *p* (piano) in the final two measures. The Bassoon, Violin, and Viola parts provide harmonic support with similar dynamics. The Cello part has a *f* dynamic in the first two measures and a *f* dynamic in the final two measures.

10 Waning, $\text{♩} = 100$

molto rit.

$\text{♩} = 72$ *molto rit.*

Musical score for the 'Waning' section, measures 10-13. The score is in 3/4 time with a tempo of 100 beats per minute, which then changes to 72 beats per minute. It features seven staves: B \flat Cl., Hn., Bsn., Vln., Vla., Vc., and Perc. The music is characterized by a waning, decrescendo dynamic. Dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *mf* (mezzo-forte). The B \flat Cl. part has a melodic line with a decrescendo from *n* (normal) to *p* and *pp*. The Hn. part has a *f* dynamic in measure 10, followed by a decrescendo to *mf*. The Bsn. part has a *pp* dynamic in measure 10, followed by a decrescendo to *p* and *mf*. The Vln. part has a *p* dynamic in measure 10, followed by a decrescendo to *n* and *mf*. The Vla. part has a *n* dynamic in measure 10, followed by a decrescendo to *pp* and *mf*. The Vc. part has a *n* dynamic in measure 10, followed by a decrescendo to *p* and *mp*. The Perc. part has a *n* dynamic in measure 10, followed by a decrescendo to *mp*. The score includes various performance instructions such as *dissipating*, *gliss.*, *med yarn*, *sul G*, *port.*, and *sputtering*.

A Frail, ♩ = 38

♩ = 60

B♭ Cl. *pp*

Vln. *pp* *sul pont.* *ord.* *col legno* *arco* *f* *pp* *p* *on string*

Vla. *pp* *sul pont.* *ord.* *col legno* *arco* *f* *pp* *p* *on string*

Vc. *pp* *sul pont.* *ord.* *col legno* *arco* *f* *pp* *p* *on string* *3* *off string*

Perc. *p* *mp* *pp* *p* *f* *p*



B Forceful, ♩ = 72

21 *rit.*

B♭ Cl. *n* *ppp* *p* *mf* *p* *p*

Hn. *pp* *p*

Bsn. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Vln. *off string* *sputtering ricochet* *sul pont.* *n* *p* *n* *mf* *ord.* *non vib.* *p*

Vla. *off string* *sputtering ricochet* *sul pont.* *n* *p* *n* *mf* *ord.* *non vib.* *p*

Vc. *sputtering ricochet* *sul pont.* *n* *p* *n* *p* *ord.* *f marcato*

Perc. *pp* *p* *pp* *p* *p* *f* *p*

27

B♭ Cl. *mf* *n* *p* *mf* *dissipating*

Hn. *mf* *n* *mf* *p* *dissipating*

Bsn. *f* *f* *p* *n* *p* *n*

Vln. *f* *pizz.* *col legno* *mf*

Vla. *f* *pizz.* *col legno* *mf*

Vc. *col legno* *mf*

Perc. *n* *cym* *pp*



32

C barely audible; come in and out

B♭ Cl. *p* *n-pppp*

Hn. *stop horn (brassy)* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vln. *arco sul E* *harm. 8^{va}* *gliss.* *extreme sul pont.* *whole step; increase trill speed from ♩ to as fast as poss.* *exact notes unimportant* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Vla. *arco sul A* *harm. 8^{va}* *gliss.* *extreme sul pont.* *whole step; increase trill speed from ♩ to as fast as poss.* *exact notes unimportant* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Vc. *arco sul A* *harm. 8^{va}* *gliss.* *extreme sul pont.* *whole step; increase trill speed from ♩ to as fast as poss.* *exact notes unimportant* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Perc. *mp* *mba* *mp* *soft*

LH: soft (1) + hard (2) yarn
RH: hard

39

B♭ Cl. *p* *n-pppp* *p < f*

Hn. *p* *f* (open) *mf* *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Vln. ord. exact notes unimportant sul G *gliss.* *gliss.* *mp* *p* *n*

Vla. ord. exact notes unimportant sul pont. sul C *mf* *p*

Vc. ord. exact notes unimportant sul pont. sul C *p* *mf*

Perc. *soft* *soft*

44 *rit.* Murky, ♩ = 66

B♭ Cl. *p* *pp*

Hn. *mf* *p* (open) *gliss.*

Bsn. *mf* *p* *pp* *3*

Vln. sul pont. *gliss.* sul A *gliss.* ord. *p* *n*

Vla. *gliss.* sul pont. *mf* *n* *p*

Vc. *3* *p* *mf* *gliss.* *p*

Perc. soft yarn (if switch possible) 2 hard yarn mallets *pp* *cym*

D Tense, ♩ = 76

delay effect

B♭ Cl. *p* *mf* *n* *ppp* *fff*

Hn. *ff* *gliss.* *ff*

Vln. *pizz. (delay effect)* *mf* *n* *arco gliss.* *fp* *ff*

Vla. *pizz. (delay effect)* *mf* *n* *arco gliss.* *fp* *ff*

Vc. *pizz. (delay effect)* *mf* *n* *arco gliss.* *fp* *ff*

Perc. *choke* *ffz* *gliss.* *mba.* *p < f* *cym* *pp* *ffz* *mba.* *pp* *ff*

E Energetic! ♩ = 152

53

B♭ Cl. *ppp* *fff* *f* *ossia*

Hn. *gliss.* *ff* *flz. (if poss.; alt. brassy)* *p* *ff*

Bsn. *mp* *mf* *ff*

Vln. *pizz. l.v.* *ff* *arco* *mf* *ff*

Vla. *pizz. l.v.* *ff* *arco* *mp* *mf* *ff*

Vc. *pizz. l.v.* *ff* *arco* *mp* *mf* *ff*

Perc. *pp* *fff* *(same mlts)* *tom* *dampen* *f*

58

B♭ Cl. *mf*

Vln. *f*

64

B♭ Cl. *f*

Hn. bell tone *f*

Vln. *f*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *f*

gliss.

70

G.P. Humorously light, ♩ = 144

B♭ Cl. *ff*

Hn. *ff*

Vln. *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Perc. *p*

pizz. *pp*

arco sul G

mba. 2 hard yarn

Chaotic! ♩ = 160

78

B♭ Cl. *ff* *f*

Hn. *ff* *mf*

Bsn. *ff* *mf*

Vln. *ff*

Vla. *ff* *mf* arco

Vc. *ff* *mf*

Perc. *mf*

gliss.

83

B♭ Cl. *ff*

Hn. *ff* *mf*

Bsn. *f*

Vln. *ff* *mf*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Perc. *ff* *f*

drumstick (if switch possible) *ff*

cym

gliss.

mba. 2 hard yarn *f*

87 (♩ = c. 108)

B♭ Cl. *mf* *ff* *fff*

Hn. *fff* overconfidently

Bsn. *f* *ff* *f* *fff*

Vln. *fff*

Vla. *fff*

Vc. *fff*

Perc. drumsticks (tom) *mf* *fff*

F

B♭ Cl. *ff* look angrily at horn player growl

Hn. *p* look around confused *f* mischievously stop horn

Bsn. *f* look angrily at bassoon player growl

Vln. *ff* look angrily at horn player

Vla. *ff* look angrily at bassoon player

Vc. *ff* look angrily at horn player

Perc. rim *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

103

B♭ Cl. *p* *ff* look angrily at horn player growl

Hn. *ff* look angrily at clarinet player (open) flz.

Bsn. *mf* mischievously *p* look angrily at bassoon player

Vln. *ff* look angrily at bassoon player sul pont.

Vla. *ff* look angrily at bassoon player sul pont.

Vc. *ff* look angrily at bassoon player sul pont.

Perc. *ff* *p*

G.P.



113

B♭ Cl. *p*

Bsn. *p*

Vln. *ord.* *p < mf*

Vla. *ord.* *p < mf*

Vc. *ord.* *p < mf*

Perc. *pp*

122

B♭ Cl. *f*

Hn. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*
pizz.

Vc. *f*
pizz.

Perc. *f*
(cym.) ping shots!



129

♩ = 60

B♭ Cl. *p* *n* *mp* *mf*

Hn. *p* *mf*

Bsn. *p* *mf*

Vln. *p* *mf*
sul pont.

Vla. *p* *mf*
arco sul pont.

Vc. *p* *mp* *mf*
arco extreme sul pont. gliss.

Perc. *p* rim *pp* *mp*
yarn mallets (cym.)

135 $\text{♩} = 108$ $\text{♩} = 50$ **G** $\text{♩} = 160$

B \flat Cl. *pp* *p marcato*

Hn. *pp* *p*

Bsn. *p* *pp* *p* *p marcato*

Vln. *ord. pizz.* *mf* *mp* *pp* *pizz.* *mp*

Vla. *ord. pizz.* *sul GD* *gliss.* *gliss.* *mp* *n* *pizz.* *mp*

Vc. *ord. pizz.* *pp* *gliss.* *mp* *arco molto sul tasto* *pp* *gliss.* *mp* *pizz. ord.* *mp*

Perc. *choke* *pp* *mp* *choke* *pp* *mp*



143

B \flat Cl. *mp* *p* *mf*

Hn. *p*

Bsn. *mp* *p* *mf*

Vln. *n* *arco*

Vla. *n*

Vc. *n*

Perc. *mba.* *hard yarn* *mp* *mf*

151 $\bullet = 60$ $\bullet = 160$

B♭ Cl. *mp* *p* *f* *ff*

Hn. *mp* *p* *f* *ff*

Bsn. *f* *f marcato*

Vln. *mf* *p* *gliss.* *ff* *f*

Vla. *mf* *p* *arco* *gliss.* *ff* *f*

Vc. *mf* *p* *arco* *gliss.* *ff* *f*

Perc. *p* *f*

157

B♭ Cl. *ffp* *f* *mp* *mf*

Hn. *ffp* *f* *mp* *mf*

Bsn. *f* *mf*

Vln. *mf* *mp* *mf*

Vla. *mf* *mp* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf*

Perc. *mf*

165

B♭ Cl. *f* *ff* *mf*

Hn. *f* *ff* *mf*

Bsn. *ff* *f* *f*

Vln. *f* *mp*

Vla. *f* *f*

Vc. *ff* *f* *mp*

Perc. *f* *mf*



172

B♭ Cl. *p* *p*

Hn. *mp*

Bsn. *p*

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Perc. *mp* *p*

H Mysterious, ♩ = 60

B♭ Cl. *n* *p* 3 nervous/shaky sound

Vln. extreme sul pont. *gliss.* *p* *mp* sul GD

Vla. extreme sul pont. *gliss.* *p* *mp*

Vc. extreme sul pont. sul GD *gliss.* *p* *mp*

Perc. still lively as before 3 6 3 *n*



182

B♭ Cl. *p* ord. 3

Bsn. 3 *p* *mp*

Vln. ord.

Vla. ord.

Vc. sul DA

Perc. 2 soft yarn *p* 5 *mf* 5 *p* 5 *mf* 5 *p*

184

B♭ Cl. *f*

Bsn. *mf*

Vln. *f* *mf* *mp* *p* *n*
gliss. *pizz.* 5 5 5 5

Vla. *f* *mf* *mp* *p* *n*
pizz.

Vc. *f* *mf* *mp* *p* *n* *mf* *p*
ord. *pizz.* 3 3 3 5 arco 6

Perc. (get bow for cym.) *mf* *n* *cym* bowed *n* *mf* *mba.* 4 soft yarn *p*



I

B♭ Cl. *mf* *mp*

Hn. *p* *mp* *mf* *mp* 123 *p* 13 123 *mf* *p*

Bsn. *p* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Vln. *arco* *gliss.* *n* *p* *n*
sul tasto

Vla. *arco* *n* *mf* *mp* *n* *n* *mp* *n*
sul GD

Vc. *gliss.* *mf* *n* *p* *port.* 5

Perc. *mf* *n*

196

B♭ Cl. *p* *mf*

Bsn. *p* *mf* *pp* *p* *pp*

Vln. *p* *mp* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Vla. *n* *mp* *n* *n* *mf* *p* *mf*

Vc. *sul pont.* *gliss.* *mf* *ord. sul A* *p* *harm. gliss.* *mf* *p*

Perc. *p* *mp* *mp* *f* *pp*

sul A *sul D* *sul GD* *sul D* *sul C* *harm. gliss.*

203

B♭ Cl. *p* *f* *ord. gliss.*

Hn. *p* *f* *flz. (for as long as poss.)* *ord. gliss.*

Bsn. *mf* *p*

Vln. *ord. gliss.* *bow pressure* *crunchy noise* *ord.* *f* *fff* *mf* *p*

Vla. *ord. gliss.* *bow pressure* *crunchy noise* *ord.* *p* *f* *fff* *mf* *p*

Vc. *sul G* *ord. gliss.* *bow pressure* *crunchy noise* *ord.* *f* *fff* *mf* *p*

Tense, ♩ = 76

207 delay effect

B♭ Cl. *mf* *n* *ord.* *ff* *p*

Hn. *ff* *gliss.* *ff* *gliss.*

Bsn. *p* *f*

Vln. *p* *f* *gliss.*

Vla. *p* *f* *gliss.*

Vc. *p* *f* *gliss.*

Perc. *mf* *pp* *n* *f* *tom*

med yarn delay effect



accel.

J Intense, ♩ = c. 60

211

B♭ Cl. *p* *fff* *ff*

Hn. *ff* *gliss.* *ff* *ff*

Bsn. *f* *fff* *ff* *ff*

Vln. *f* *fff* *ff* *ff*

Vla. *f* *fff* *ff* *ff*

Vc. *f* *fff* *ff* *ff*

Perc. *p* *f* *cym* *tom*

216

B♭ Cl. *p* *mp* *mf*

Hn. *p* *mp*

Bsn. *p* *mp*

Vln. *mp sub.* *mf* *f*

Vla. *p sub.* *mp*

Vc. *mp sub.* *mf*

Perc. *p* *mp*

(mba.)



220

B♭ Cl. *f* *ff*

Hn. *mf* *f* *ff* *mf* *mp*

Bsn. *mf* *f* *ff* *mf*

Vln. *ff* *fff* *f*

Vla. *mf* *f* *ff* *mf*

Vc. *f* *ff* *fff* *f*

Perc. *mf* *f* *ff* *mf*

G.P. **K** Peaceful, ♩ = 56

225 *rit.*

B♭ Cl. *p*

Bsn. *mp* *p*

Vln. *mf* *mp* *p*

Vla. *mp* *p*

Vc. *mf* *mp* *p* *smooth as possible sul tasto* *p* *3*

Perc. *mp* *p* *n* *p* *soft yarn* *p*



234

B♭ Cl. *mp* *p* *pp* *G.P.*

Bsn. *p* *mp* *p*

Vln. *n* *p* *n*

Vla. *n*

Vc. *pp*

Perc. *mp* *p* *pp* *soft yarn*

241 $\text{♩} = 76$ G.P. $\text{♩} = 60$

B♭ Cl. $\text{mp} \rightarrow p$ p mf p p

Hn. p mp p p

Bsn. mp mf p p mp p

Vln. p mf p p mp p

Vla. p mf p p mp p sul tasto

Vc. sul CG p mf p p mp p sul tasto



247 $\text{♩} = 50$ *rit.* $\text{♩} = 40$ **Dramatic!** $\text{♩} = 120$

B♭ Cl. mp n pp n ff fff

Hn. pp n ppp 3 ff fff

Bsn. ppp ff fff

Vln. ff fff

Vla. molto sul tasto pp p n ff fff

Vc. molto sul tasto pp p pp pizz. ff fff

Perc. hard yarn p pp ppp sticks (tom) (cym) ff fff