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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles

Film Score for *The Laramie Project*

A thesis submitted in partial satisfaction
of the requirements for the degree Master of Arts in Music

by

Shengkun Ma

2020

ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

Film Score for *The Laramie Project*

by

Shengkun Ma

Master of Arts in Music

University of California, Los Angeles, 2020

Professor David Samuel Lefkowitz, Chair

This is a film scoring project for the film *The Laramie Project*. *The Laramie Project* is a 2002 drama film directed by Moisés Kaufman. I rewrote the film soundtrack for selected 20 minutes cues, using Logic Pro X as my main digital audio workstation. The music combined traditional chamber orchestra and electronic music elements, aiming to help transmit the emotional impact of this film.

The thesis of Shengkun Ma is approved.

Kay Kyurim Rhie

Ian Krouse

David Samuel Lefkowitz, Committee Chair

University of California, Los Angeles

2020

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Introduction

This thesis is a film scoring project for the film 'The Laramie Project'. This drama film represents a story of the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard in Laramie, Wyoming. I selected 20 minutes of film cues and rewrite the music for it. Since most of the music I wrote is by MIDI and some electronic music elements which cannot be written down in the format of traditional music score, the scores I attached here is only for the acoustic instrument cue for the opening title. The purpose of the project is to write film music that can help transmit the emotional impact of the film.

Opening

Sebastian Shengkun Ma
2020

$\text{♩} = 78$

The musical score is for an orchestral piece titled "Opening". It is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of quarter note = 78. The score includes parts for Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, Bassoon, Wood Block, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The woodwinds and strings are mostly silent, with some wood block activity. The strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in triplets. The Viola and Violoncello parts are marked *pp* (pianissimo) and the Violin I part is marked *p* (piano).

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Wood Block

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

5

Vln. I *pp* *p*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Db. *p*



10 $\text{♩} = 72$

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *p*

Bsn. *mf*

Vln. I *pp* *p* *mp*

Vln. II *pp* *p*

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *pp*

Db. *pizz.* *mf*

15 3

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. *mf* *f*

Bsn. *f* *mp* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Vln. I *p* 3 *mp* 3 *p* 3

Vln. II *p* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Vla. *mp* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Vc. *mp* 3 *f* 3

Db. *pizz.*

4

19 *poco rit.* ♩=82

Fl. *mp*

Ob.

Cl. *pp*

Bsn. *pp*

W.B.

Vln. I *pp*

Vln. II *pp*

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *p* *mp*

Db.



22

Fl. *p*

Cl. *ppp*

W.B.

Vc. *p*

poco rit. ♩=76 5

27

Fl.

Cl.

W.B.

Vln. I

Vla.

Vc.

ppp

ppp

p

p

ppp

p

pp



32

Cl.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

pp

p

p

p

p

mp

p arco

6

37

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.



40

Fl.

Cl.

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

p arco