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Title

Jökulsárlón (Glacial Lagoon)

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Author

Hall, Nathan

Publication Date

2020

Jökulsárlón

(Glacial Lagoon)

Harp and Percussion with fixed media electronics

Nathan Hall

May 2013

10 minutes

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Harp requires amplification with mic, processed through a general audio program that produces a long (3-5 second) reverb if possible.

Harp has a special notation at beginning of work and end, marked by glissandi. The left hand lightly mutes the strings while the right hand lightly glisses in range indicated (unmetered). The effect is of a distant, whispered, and uneven muffled gliss.

Percussion: Vibraphone, gong or small tam-tam, low and medium toms, suspended cymbal, sizzle cymbal, canister shaker; hard and soft yarn mallets, gong mallet, wire brushes.

Percussion also requires reverbed mics, mounted closely to toms and shaker.

Each system on score represents one minute of time (Whole notes usually equal roughly 5-7 seconds). Dashed lines divide the systems at approximately 30" intervals. Accidentals carry through 30-second 'measures' unless cancelled. When more rhythmic passages occur, suggested tempo is given, but does not last beyond particular passage.

Notes are played in relation to position within time.
General cues in electronics are on lowest staff.

Electronics are a minimal backing track, prominent the most at beginning and end. Volume level need not be great for the backing track to be effective.

PROGRAM NOTES

Jökulsárlón was written on request of Harpverk, Iceland's resident duo of harp and percussion. The piece abstractly recalls the sounds of Iceland's famous glacial lagoon, as icebergs calve off of the glacier and float slowly out to sea. Birds come and go and the occasional ocean wave is heard in the distance. The overall impression of the place is one of a mysterious and timeless stillness, even though every day the scenery is different and changing.

Jökulsárlón

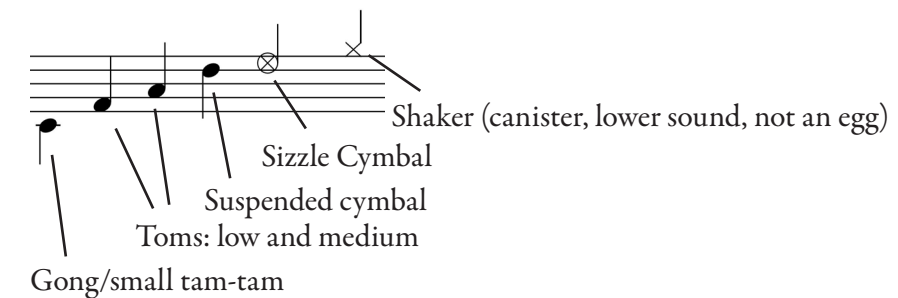
for Harpverk

Harp, Percussion, and fixed media electronics
by Nathan Hall

May 2013

Duration: 10 minutes

PERCUSSION MAP



Jökulsárlón (Glacial Lagoon) for Harpverk

Deep, dark, oceanic

Harp
(lots of reverb) *sffz*

p ^{30"}

LH mutes/dampens strings lightly; RH glissandi up and down muted strings (unmetered)

all notes to let ring unless indicated.

Vibraphone

Pedal down for entire work.

Percussion

SUS. CYM. (let all perc. ring unless indicated) soft yarn mallet

pp

Electronics

cue: "ocean wave"

pulses

Hp. *mf*

(continue timespan: one system = 1')

p ^{1'30"}

Vib.

Perc.

SIZZLE CYM. (yarn mallet)

pp *p* *mp*

Elect.

p ^{1'} ^{2'}

Jökulsárlón (Glacial Lagoon)

2'

2'30"

3'

Hp. *p* trem. *mf* *mp* *b* *b*

Vib.

Perc. MED TOM wire brushes *mp* SHAKER *mp* hard yarn mallets (for both toms) SIZZ. (*♩* = approx 90) *mp* *mf*

Elect. *long drone* *p* *mf*

Detailed description: This section of the score covers measures from 2' to 3'. The piano part features a melodic line starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic, moving through tremolo, mezzo-forte (*mf*), mezzo-piano (*mp*), and ending with a half note *b*. The vibraphone part has a whole note *b*. The percussion part includes wire brushes on the medium tom (*mp*), a shaker (*mp*), and hard yarn mallets on both toms. A sizzle effect (*SIZZ.*) is marked with a tempo of approximately 90 bpm. The electronics part features a long drone that shifts from piano (*p*) to mezzo-forte (*mf*) at the 2'30" mark.

3'

3'30"

4'

Hp. *pp* *mp* *pp*

Vib. *pp* *mp* *pp*

Perc. wire brushes *mp* soft yarn mallets *pp* *mp* *pp*

Elect. *high tone*

alternating (not in line with electronics)

Detailed description: This section covers measures from 3' to 4'. The piano part has a melodic line with dynamics *pp*, *mp*, and *pp*. The vibraphone part has a melodic line with dynamics *pp*, *mp*, and *pp*. The percussion part features wire brushes (*mp*) and soft yarn mallets (*pp*, *mp*, *pp*). The electronics part includes a high tone. A note in the vibraphone part is marked as alternating with the electronics, indicated by dashed lines. A vertical dashed line at 3'30" separates the two parts of the section.

Jökulsárlón (Glacial Lagoon)

4' 5'

4'30"

Hp. *mp*

Vib. 40 bowed (two bows) *p* \rightarrow *f* (bowed) *p* \rightarrow *f* *mp* soft yarn mallet

Perc. 40

Elect. 40 chord changes (pulses) long drone

5' 6'

5'30"

Hp. *mf* *bisbig.* *p* *mp* with slight finger buzz (not in line with electronics)

Vib. 48 take hard yarn mallets $\text{♩} = \text{approx } 60$ *p* \rightarrow *mf* *pp* \langle *mf* \rangle *p*

Perc. 48

Elect. 48 high tones

Jökulsárlón (Glacial Lagoon)

6'

(♩ = approx 69)

distant

pp

3 3 3 3

closer

mf

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

receding again

6'30"

p

7'

Hp.

Vib.

Perc.

Elect.

60

60

60

panned sounds

high and fast bell tones

(SIZZ.)

hard yarn mallets

(SUS CYM.)

mf

pp

< mf

p

7'

(♩ = approx 60)

8^{va}

clock-like

p

mf

7'30"

loco

3 3 3 3

f

8'

Hp.

Vib.

Perc.

Elect.

70

70

70

wire brushes, unevenly

high string of notes

bowed

mf

GONG/LOW CYMB.

mp

f

8'

Hp.

ff *f* *mf* *p*

3 *3* *3* *3* *3*

bisbig.

Vib.

mf *8vb*

Perc.

wave-like

sf *pp* *p* *mf* *p* *mp*

Elect.

80

9'

Hp.

LH mutes/dampens strings lightly; RH glissandi up and down muted strings (unmetered)

9'30"

mf *mp* *pp* *8vb*

bowed

Vib.

mp

Perc.

mp *p* *pp*

Elect.

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