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Decomposition

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Decomposition

a composition for orchestra

Yu-Chun Chien

(2015)

Instrumentation

1 piccolo
1 flute
1 oboe
1 English horn
1 clarinet in B-flat
1 bass clarinet
1 bassoon
1 contrabassoon

3 French horns
2 trumpets in C
2 trombones
1 bass trombone
1 tuba

1 set of 5 timpani: 32”(I), 28”(II), 25”(III), 23”(IV), 20”(V)

percussion 1:	bass drum, tam-tam, rototom, suspended cymbal, snare drum, wood blocks, sand blocks, crotales, vibraphone
percussion 2:	suspended cymbal, snare drum, tom-tom, wood blocks, slapsticks, shaker, triangle, vibraphone, crotales, glockenspiel
percussion 3:	suspended cymbal, tam-tam, bongo, wood blocks, snare drum, triangle, crotales

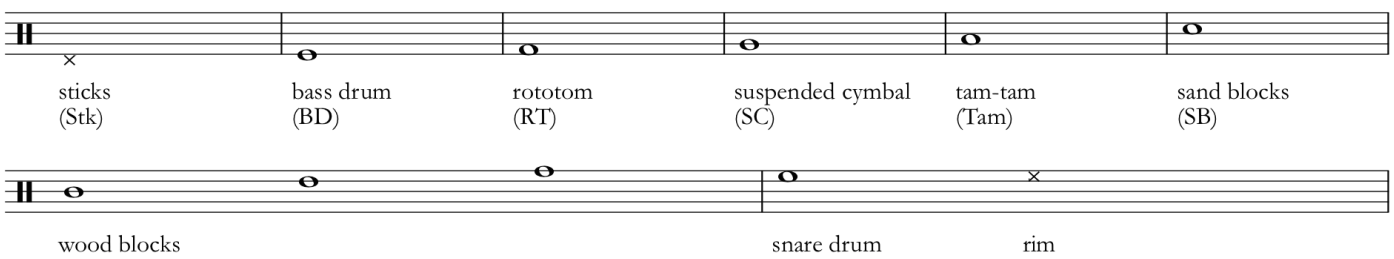
1 harp

1 piano

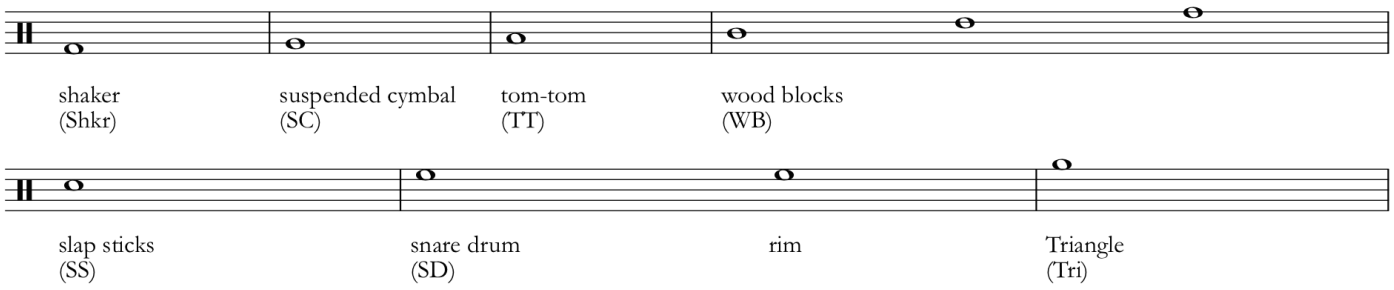
violin I
violin II
viola
violoncello
double bass

* The piece is notated in concert/actual pitch.

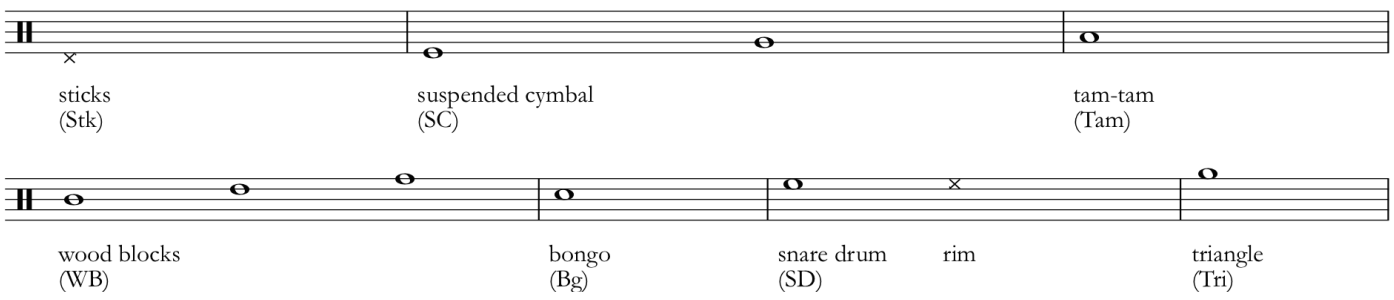
Percussion I



Percussion II



Percussion III



Regarding the Composition

According to the Cambridge Dictionary, the word, "decompose," means to destroy something by breaking it into smaller parts; "decomposition" is the process by which materials are broken down into smaller form of matter.

The idea of decomposition plays an important role in this piece:

- the decomposition of musical ideas (lines would be replaced by dots)
- the decomposition of instruments (removed parts)
- the decomposition of conventional orchestral sounds (absolute-pitches would be replaced by percussive sounds)
- the decomposition of the regular playing (extended techniques)
- the decomposition of the regular orchestral playing (playing on instruments would be replaced by playing on/with bodies and mouths)

Furthermore, the word decomposition is widely used in various aspects in this piece:

- the pitches implied in the decomposition, significantly these three pitches: C, D, E
- the syllables of decomposition: de – com – po – si – tion
- the respelling of the word decompose: do – poem – sec (do the poem based on seconds)
- the Morse code of decomposition:

C:	L S L S
D:	L S S
E:	S
I:	S S
M:	L L
N:	L S
O:	L L L
P:	S L L S
S:	S S S
T:	L

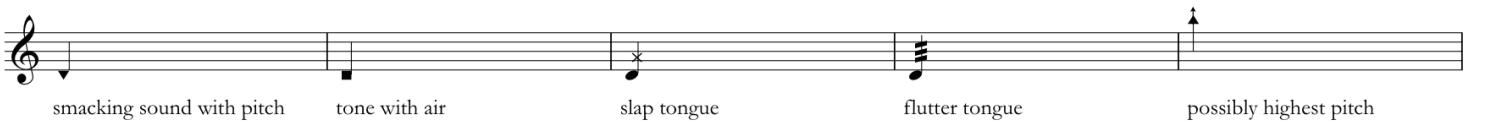
* L: long; S: short

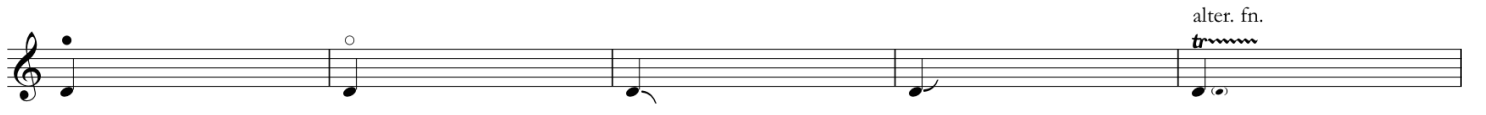
- the number of each letter of decomposition:

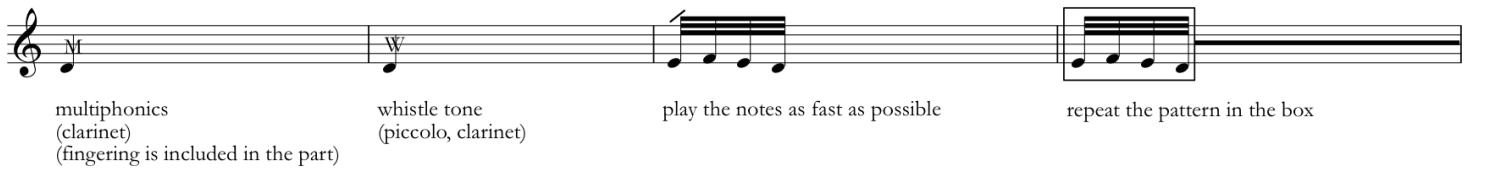
C:	3
D:	4
E:	5
I:	9
M:	13
N:	14
O:	15
P:	16
S:	19
T:	20

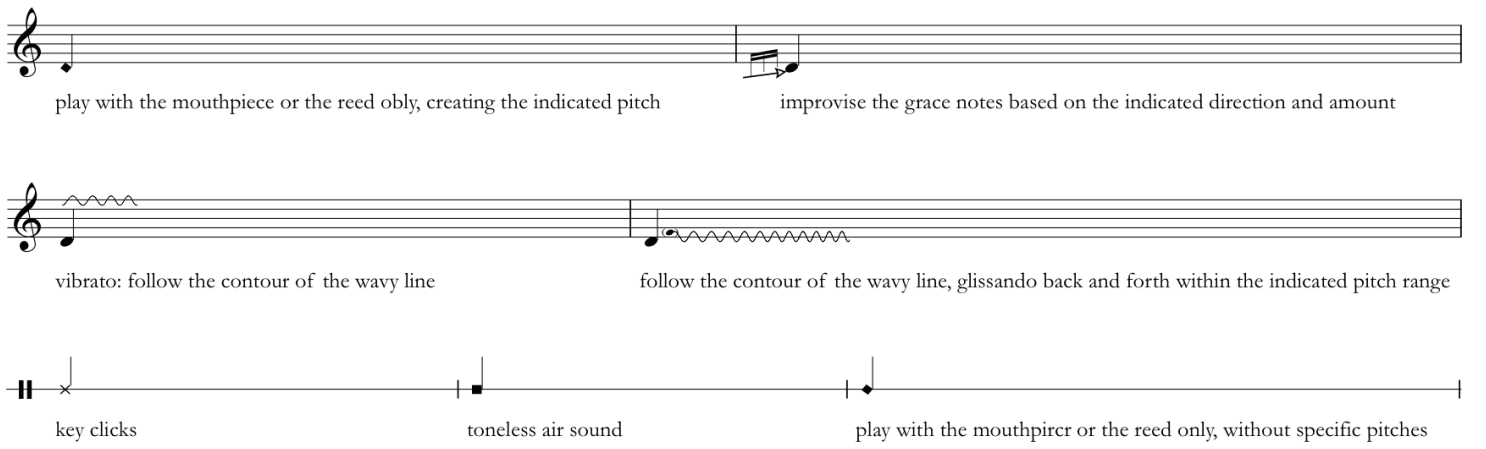
Regarding the Performance

Woodwind:

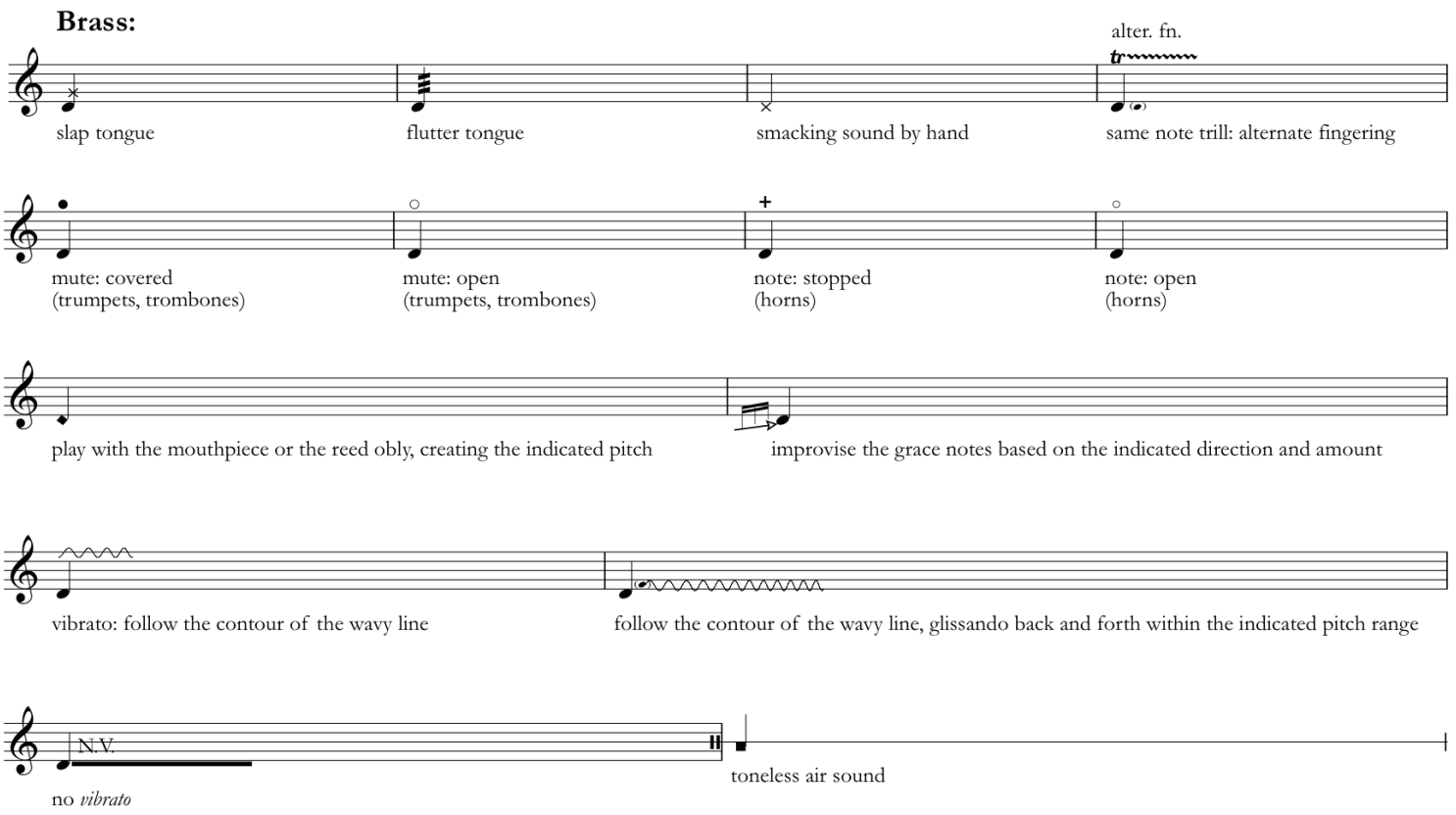




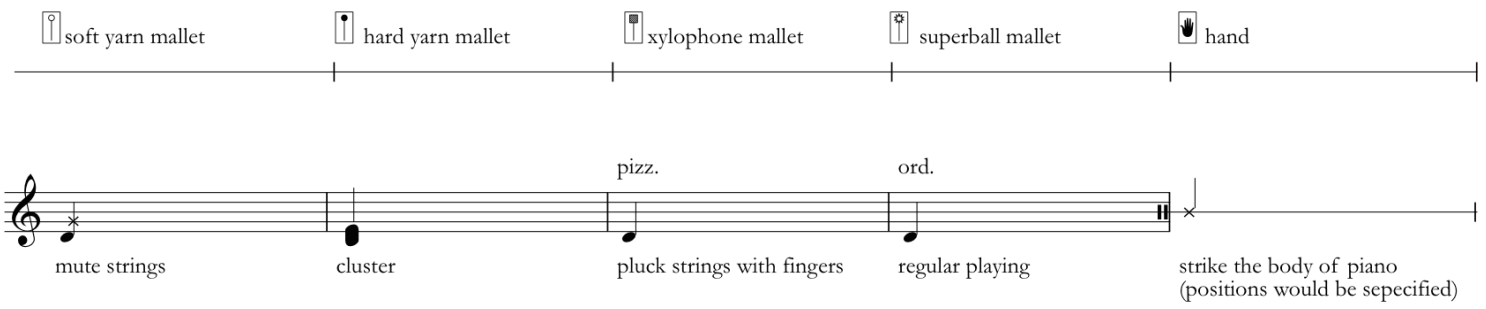




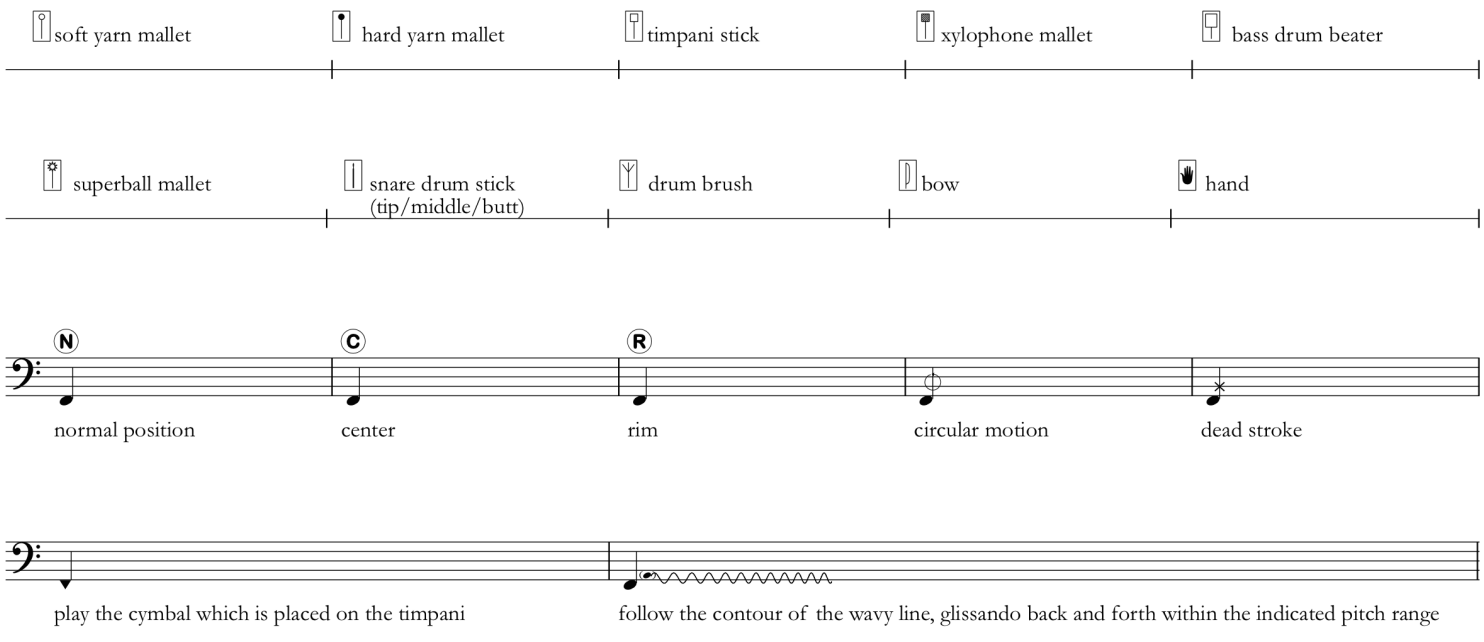
Brass:



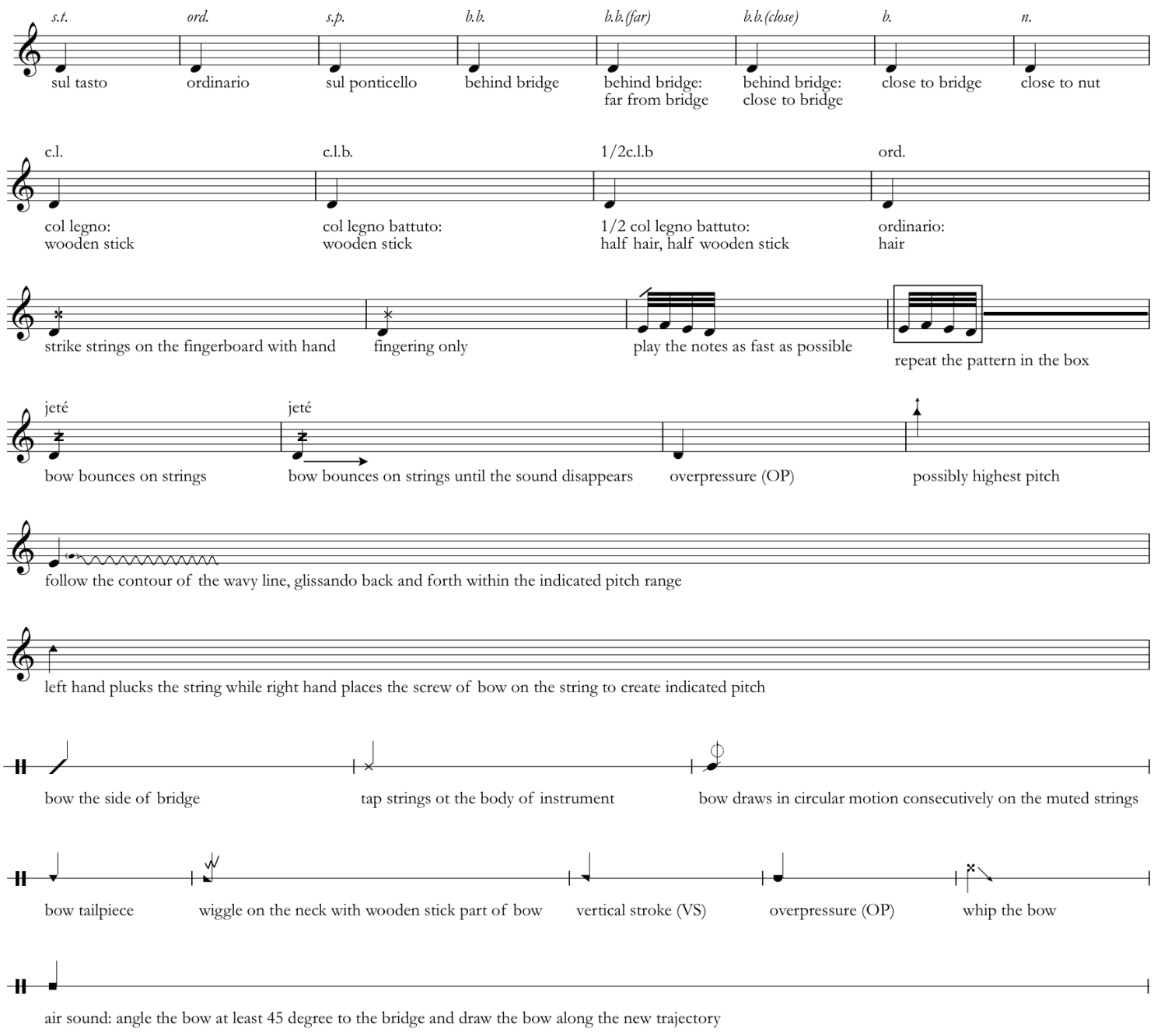
Piano:



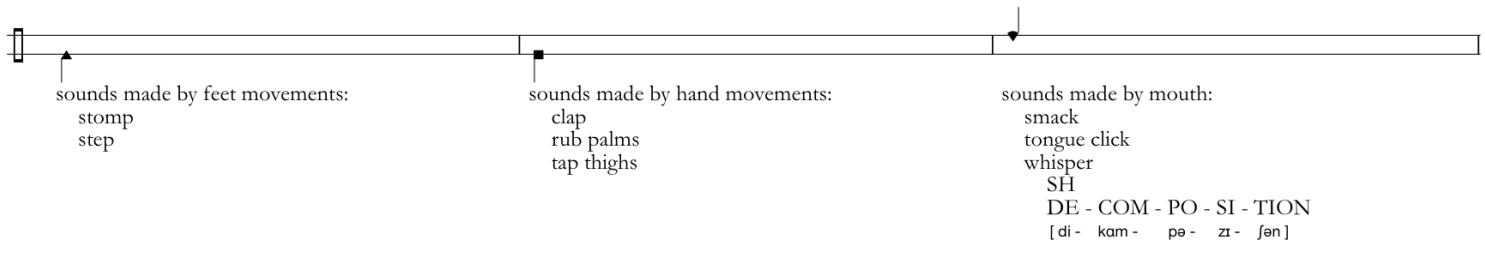
Timpani/Percussion:



Strings:



Body Percussion:



Decomposition

a composition for orchestra

Yu-Chun Chien

A ♩ = 60

Piccolo
Flute
Oboe
English Horn
Clarinet in B♭
Bass Clarinet in B♭
Bassoon
Contrabassoon
Horn in F I
Horn in F II
Horn in F III
Trumpet in C I
Trumpet in C II
Tenor Trombone I
Tenor Trombone II
Bass Trombone
Tuba
Timpani
Percussion I
Percussion II
Percussion III
Harp
Piano
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Violoncello
Double Bass

RT
SS
Bg
Vib.
Crot.
OP
bb(close)
II/III(non-div.)
I/II(non-div.)
III/IV(non-div.)
s.p.
arco
pizz.
strike the side of the piano
tap the front of the viola
tap the center back of the cello
tap the center back of the bass

B

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pn.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

con sord.
con sord.(cup)
Glock.
Vib.
BD
strings
I/II(non-div.)
III/IV(non-div.)
div.
arco
s.p.
jeté
1/2e.l.b.
pizz.
uni.
ord.

9

C

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

senza sord.
con sord.(cup)
con sord.(cup)
Tam
Vib.
SC
Glock.
arco
pizz.
arco
arco II
arco
div.
pizz.

15

D

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

senza sord.
BD
Tam
ord.
uni.
arco
pizz.
div.
s.p.
III

18

2+3/4 | 4/4 | 3+2/4 | 3/4

E

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.

(alter. fn.)

Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.

con sord.
con sord.
con sord.(cup)
con sord.(cup)

Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.

E

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

uni.
s.p.
div.
ord.
III IV
IV
II
jeté 1/2c.l.b.
jeté c.l.b. III, IV

23

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

con sord.
senza sord.
con sord.(straight)
Crot.
Vib.
uni.
jeté
1/2c.l.b.
div.
ord.
seagull

F

26

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Eng. Hn.

Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Cbsn.

Hn. I

Hn. II

Hn. III

C Tpt. I

C Tpt. II

Tbn. I

Tbn. II

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. I

Perc. II

Perc. III

Hp.

Pno.

F

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

30

G

2+3 4 | 3+2 4 | 4 4

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

senza sord.
uni. ord. jeté 1/2c.l.b.
arco ord. jeté 1/2c.l.b.
pizz.
RT
SD
TT
Bg

32

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

H

senza sord.
smack
BD
RT
TT
Vib.
pizz.
arco
div.
uni.
ord.
jeté
c.l.b.
1/2c.l.b.

35

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

I

con sord.
con sord.(cup)
con sord.(straight)
Crot.
SB
SD
Tri.
div.
uni.
pizz.
arco
strike
seagull
s.t.
ord.

40

J

2+3+1 4 | 2+1+2 4 | 8va | 3 4 | 1 4 | 3 4

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.

(tr) mf mp pp 3 smack

senza sord. slap-tongue

Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.

(no rolls)

Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.

Tam Stk. SS Bg WB SD(rim) tr

2+3+1 4 J | 2+1+2 4 | 3 4 | 1 4 | 3 4

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

pizz. arco s.p. ord. div. uni. jeté 1/2c.l.b.

44

3/4 | 3+4+3/8 | 1+3+2/4 | K 3/4

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

with air
con sord.(straight)
SC
s.t.
div.
only fingering
pizz.
arco
jeté
ord.
1/2 c.l.b.
II/III (non-div.)
III/IV (non-div.)
uni.
mute the strings

49

L

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

alter. fn.
con sord.(straight)
con sord.(straight)
Vib.
ord.
pizz.
pizz.
div.
arco
c.l.b.
div.
arco
jeté
c.l.b.
jeté
c.l.b.
jeté
1/2c.l.b.
pizz.
pizz.
div.
arco
1/2c.l.b.
uni.
ord.
arco
ord.
I
1/2c.l.b.
jeté
1/2c.l.b.

53

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

SD(rim)
smack
con sord.(straight)
senza sord.
Vib.
pizz.
arco
ord.
jeté
c.l.b.
div.
uni.
1/2c.l.b.

57

M

3/4 | 4/4 | 3+2/4

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

senza sord.

strings

1/2c.l.b.

59

3+2/4 | 5/8 | 2/4

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

8va 15ma fp cresc. mp f ff p mf s.t. ord. jeté 1/2c.l.b. BD Glock.

61

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

2/4 | 5/8 | 2+3/4

cresc.
mf
mp
f
p
ff
RT
TT
Bg
strike the lowest strings
s.p.
ord.

63

N

2+3/4

4/4

3/4

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

strike the lowest strings

1/2c.l.b.

div.
jeté
1/2c.l.b.

arco
jeté
1/2c.l.b.

65

O ♩ = 120

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

O ♩ = 120

68

3+2
4

4
4

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

WB
RT
SC
TT
SD
Bg

ord.

arco
jeté
1/2c.l.b.

jeté
1/2c.l.b.

71

4/4 | 3+2/4 | 2/4 | 3/4 P

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

mp=p mfp mfp mf
fmp
WB RT SD SC TT Bg
arco jeté 1/2c.l.b.
arco 1/2c.l.b.
div.
uni.
l.v.

75

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

arco 1/2c.l.b.
div.
uni.
jeté 1/2c.l.b.
pizz.

79

Q ♩ = 90

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

smack
slap tongue
with air
key clicks
RT
SD
TT
SS
rim
Shkr.
Stk.
Bg
SC(high)
SC(low)
uni.
div.
ord.
OP
pizz.
arco
1/2c.l.b.
air-sound

86

R

♩ = 60

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

with air

con sord.

bow the cymbal which is placed on the timpani

SB
SD
Crot.
RT
BD
TT
Tri.
Shkr.
Bg
SC(high)
SC

div.
uni.
arco
ord.
s.p.
I
III
IV

92

S

T

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

alter. fn.
whisper
SH
smack
BD
Crot.
Vib.
TT
strike the lowest strings
l.v.
brush the strings
strike the strings
(G-Gsharp-A-Asharp-B)
strings
tap the center back of the bass
arco
ord.
OP non-div.
s.t.

99

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

key clicks
whisper
SH
air-sound
alter. fn.
senza sord.
con sord.(harmon)
bow the cymbal which is placed on the timpani
RT
Tam
Vib.
Shkr
Bg
VS
OP
seagull
uni.
arco
bow the side of bridge
div.
ord.
s.p.
U

104

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
con sord.(harmon)
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
follow the indicated arrows moving the pedals from the lowest to highest notes, or vice versa
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Crot.
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
strike the keys
the highest keys
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
uni.
div.
b.h.(far)
I/II
III/IV
b.h.(close)
strike strings on the fingerboard

108

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

alter. fn.
senza sord.
smack
strike the lowest strings
l.v.
use the super ball to slide on the strings
b.h. I/II
s.t. III/IV (non-div.)
b.h. III/IV
b.h. I/II III/IV
div. s.p.
uni. ord. IV
b.h.(far) II/III
jeté 1/2c.l.b.
b. II/III
n.(bow on fingerboard) IV/III/II/I
b.h.(close) I/II III/IV
SD
BD
R
C

112

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

3+2/4 | 3/4 | 4/4 | 3/4

p<mf | f | mf | p | mp | pp | alter. fn. | smack | con sord. | senza sord. | SS | Vib. | (no rolls) | mute | ord. | uni. ord. jeté 1/2c.l.b. | jeté 1/2c.l.b. | jeté ord. | jeté c.l.b. | div. ord. jeté 1/2c.l.b. | uni. ord. jeté 1/2c.l.b.

118

W

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

whistle tone
with air
key clicks
reed
air sound
without reed
without mouthpiece
mouthpiece
con sord.(cup)
3 percussionists start walking to the front of the stage between m. 118 and m. 141
SD(rim)
Stk
sticks strike then slide
Shkr
Tri
rim
brush the strings
h.h.
ord.
div.
s.t.
s.p.
jeté 1/2c.l.b.
pizz.
arco
uni.
bow the tailpiece
whip the bow
move the bow consecutively in circular motion on the muted strings
move the bow consecutively in circular motion on the musted strings

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

3+2/4 | 2/4 | X 4/4 | 3/4 | 2+3/4

key clicks
air sound
mouthpiece
middle
tips
strike the side of piano
use the super ball to slide on the strings
uni.
pizz.
arco
ord.
c.l.
screw
s.t.
I
whip the bow
c.l.
wiggle on the neck
bow the side of bridge
tap the top side of the bass
tap the front top of the bass

131

Y

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

mouthpiece
mouthpiece
arco
b.b.
ord.
I
arco
c.l.
wiggle on the neck
c.l.
wiggle on the neck
whip the bow
strike the strings on the fingerboard
SH
butts
rim
stp
tp
DE_PO SI TION
PO SI PO TION

137

Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Eng. Hn.
Cl.
B. Cl.
Bsn.
Cbsn.
Hn. I
Hn. II
Hn. III
C Tpt. I
C Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. I
Perc. II
Perc. III
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

stm
smk
clp
SH
SI DE SI PO DE
rim
tc
stp
tp
rb
COM PO TION DE SI

142

Z

2/4 3/4 3+2/4 3/4 2/4

SI DE COM DE SI PO TION SH

Picc. Fl. Ob. Eng. Hn. Cl. B. Cl. Bsn. Cbsn. Hn. I Hn. II Hn. III C Tpt. I C Tpt. II Tbn. I Tbn. II B. Tbn. Tba. Timp. Perc. I Perc. II Perc. III Hp. Pno. Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc. Db.

p pp mp mf ff

rb tc clp smk stp tp stm

Tri

strike the side of timpani I

strike the side of piano

solo (sing)

div. uni.