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Title

Drift

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douglas **knehans**

drift

score

ae 57

armadillo **edition**

douglas **knehans**

drift

for solo oboe and strings

armadillo **edition**

Program Note

drift was written as a type of experiment with shape and form. I wanted to see if I could better ‘suspend’ time and, in doing so, create a strange unfettered motion that once moves and seems to stay still.

I remembered very vividly my summers, those hot summers, where, as a boy I would lie on the cool grass under the shade of a lumbering Sycamore tree and watch the huge white, brilliantly white clouds move very so slowly across the sea blue sky. As they moved they not only changed position, but also ever so slowly their shape.

This became a very beautiful activity for me as I lay alone with my thoughts staring at this wondrous expanse of summer loveliness.

As I began work on this piece the whole notion of meter and rhythm became quite challenging as did the idea of harmonic rhythm. All of these things so bear on the shape and form of music that, when they are suspended, one can seem to almost lose control of the flow.

The trick for me was to slow into this new time world where drama is not a player and things slowly morph and unfold. I would hope too that the audience can similarly fall into this world where time almost stands still and all that remains is the beautiful sounds of stillness hanging in the air.

My deep thanks to Awadagin Pratt, conductor of WIRED string ensemble for premiering the piece and hearty thanks also to the artistry of Dwight Parry and his numerous and subtle suggestions that helped so much to refine the solo line.

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for Dwight Parry

drift

Score

for solo oboe and string orchestra

Douglas Knehans

Lento, Obscured, Inexact, Misty $\text{♩} = 46$

Musical score for solo oboe and string orchestra. The score consists of six staves: solo oboe, Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The solo oboe part is mostly silent with a few short notes at the end. The other instruments provide harmonic support with sustained notes and simple rhythmic patterns.

Close-up of the musical score showing measures 7 through 12. The oboe part features a melodic line with dynamic markings *p* and *espress.*. The strings provide harmonic support with sustained notes and rhythmic patterns. Measure 7 includes a dynamic *pp* and a performance instruction *rit.* Measure 8 includes a dynamic *p* and a performance instruction *a tempo*. Measure 9 includes a dynamic *p* and a performance instruction *espress.* Measure 10 includes a dynamic *pp*.

drift

13

rit.

a tempo

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

19

B

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

drift

3

25

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

This section of the score shows six staves for woodwind instruments. The oboe has sustained notes with dynamic markings *ppp*, *p*, *ppp*, *pp*, and *pp*. The strings (Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vlc.) play eighth-note patterns with dynamics *mp*, *pp*, *pp*, and *pp*. The Cb. staff has sustained notes with dynamics *mp* and *pp*.

31

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

This section shows six staves. The oboe has sustained notes with dynamics *pp* and *pp*. The strings play eighth-note patterns with dynamics *pp*, *pp*, *pp*, and *pp*. The Cb. staff has sustained notes with dynamics *pp* and *pp*.

4

C

drift

rit.

a tempo

pp

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

This section of the score consists of six staves. The first staff (oboe) has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The second staff (Vln. 1) has a treble clef. The third staff (Vln. 2) has a treble clef. The fourth staff (Vla.) has a bass clef. The fifth staff (Vlc.) has a bass clef. The sixth staff (Cb.) has a bass clef. Measure 37 starts with a ritardando (rit.), followed by a tempo marking (a tempo). Dynamics include pp (pianissimo) and p express. Measure 38 continues with pp dynamics. Measures 39-42 show more complex rhythmic patterns and dynamics, including # (sharp) and (b) (flat) accidentals.

rit.

a tempo

p express.

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

This section of the score consists of six staves. The first staff (oboe) has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The second staff (Vln. 1) has a treble clef. The third staff (Vln. 2) has a treble clef. The fourth staff (Vla.) has a bass clef. The fifth staff (Vlc.) has a bass clef. The sixth staff (Cb.) has a bass clef. Measure 43 starts with a ritardando (rit.), followed by a tempo marking (a tempo). Dynamics include p express. Measure 44 continues with pp dynamics. Measures 45-48 show more complex rhythmic patterns and dynamics, including # (sharp) and (b) (flat) accidentals.

drift

5

48

rit.

drift

48

a tempo

p

This section of the musical score consists of six staves for woodwind instruments. The first staff is for the oboe, which starts with a dotted quarter note followed by eighth-note pairs. The second staff is for Vln. 1, with a dynamic of *p*. The third staff is for Vln. 2. The fourth staff is for Vla. The fifth staff is for Vlc. The sixth staff is for Cb. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. Measure 48 ends with a ritardando (rit.) instruction. Measure 49 begins with a dynamic of *a tempo*, followed by a dynamic of *p*. Measure 50 begins with a dynamic of *pp*.

54

pp

This section of the musical score consists of six staves for woodwind instruments. The first staff is for the oboe, featuring a series of eighth-note pairs. The second staff is for Vln. 1. The third staff is for Vln. 2. The fourth staff is for Vla. The fifth staff is for Vlc. The sixth staff is for Cb. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. Measure 54 ends with a dynamic of *pp*.

6

drift

D

oboe 58

Vln. 1 58

Vln. 2 58

Vla. 58

Vlc. 58

Cb. 58

This section consists of six staves. The first, third, and fifth staves (oboe, Vla., and Vlc.) play eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. The second and fourth staves (Vln. 1 and Vln. 2) play sixteenth-note patterns. The sixth staff (Cb.) plays sustained notes. Measure 58 starts with a dynamic of *mf* for the woodwind staves. Measures 59 and 60 start with *mp* dynamics.

oboe 60

Vln. 1 60

Vln. 2 60

Vla. 60

Vlc. 60

Cb. 60

This section consists of six staves. The first, third, and fifth staves (oboe, Vla., and Vlc.) play eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. The second and fourth staves (Vln. 1 and Vln. 2) play sixteenth-note patterns. The sixth staff (Cb.) plays sustained notes. Measure 60 starts with a dynamic of *mf* for the woodwind staves. Measures 61 and 62 start with *mp* dynamics. Measure 62 includes performance instructions: "II III II III sim.", "II III sim.", and "III II sim." with corresponding sixteenth-note patterns.

drift

7

62

rit.

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

III II III
II III IV III sim.
IV III IV

III II III IV III IV III IV III
IV III sim.
IV III IV III IV

III IV III IV

p pp pp

p pp pp

p pp pp

p pp pp

E a tempo

66

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

3 3 3

f

mp mp mp

5 5 5
5 5 5
5 5 5

mp mp mp

mp

3 3 3
3 3 3

f mf

mp

drift

68

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

This section consists of six staves. The first three staves (oboe, Vln. 1, Vln. 2) play eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. The fourth staff (Vla.) has a single note with a dynamic of 68 and a performance instruction '(b)'. The fifth staff (Vlc.) and sixth staff (Cb.) also play eighth-note patterns with slurs. Articulation marks (3 or 5) are placed under groups of notes in the upper staves.

70

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

F

III IV sim.

IV VIII sim.

This section consists of six staves. The first three staves (oboe, Vln. 1, Vln. 2) play eighth-note patterns with slurs. The fourth staff (Vla.) has a single note with a dynamic of 70. The fifth staff (Vlc.) and sixth staff (Cb.) also play eighth-note patterns with slurs. Articulation marks (3 or 5) are placed under groups of notes in the upper staves. A dynamic of 70 is also present in the lower staves. Performance instructions 'F' and 'III IV sim.' are included above the staves.

drift

9

73

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

73

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

77

rit.

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

G

a tempo

ff

f

ff

f

77

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

G

a tempo

ff

f

ff

f

drift

80

oboe

Vln. 1

mp

Vln. 2

mp

Vla.

mf

Vlc.

Cb.

82

tr.....

tr.....

tr.....

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

drift

11

84

H

oboe

Vln. 1 I II sim. III II sim. III II sim. III II sim. III II sim.

Vln. 2 I II sim. III II sim. III II sim. III II sim. III II sim.

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

87

oboe

Vln. 1 III II sim. III IV sim.

Vln. 2 III II sim. IV III sim.

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

drift

always as if lagging behind the beat, very slow, languorous, hold each note

rit.

91 oboe *ppp* *p* *espress.* *a tempo* 5

91 Vln. 1 *ppp*

91 Vln. 2 *ppp* *pp*

91 Vla. *ppp* *pp*

91 Vlc. *ppp* *pp*

91 Cb. *ppp* *pp*

I

97 oboe

97 Vln. 1 *p*

97 Vln. 2

97 Vla.

97 Vlc.

97 Cb.

drift

13

104

oboe *p* *mp* *p*

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

J *#e*

110

oboe *mp* *p* *pp*

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

114

114

114

114

114

114

oboe

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

118

118

118

118

118

118