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The Spirits of Cahuachi

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**Publication Date**

2020

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# The Spirits of Cahuachi

for 10 musicians

Lima, March 2020



## Instrumentation

Flute  
Oboe  
Horn in F  
Trombone  
Percussion (1 player)  
    Triangle  
    Mark Tree  
    Suspended Cymbal  
    Claves  
    Guira  
    Whip  
    2 Woodblocks  
    Snare Drum  
    3 Toms (High, Mid and Floor)  
    Small Gong  
Harp  
Violin  
Viola  
Violoncello  
Double Bass

## Programme Notes

"The Spirits of Cahuachi" is inspired by the reading of the book "Behind the Silence: Music in the Nasca Culture", by the Polish scientist Anna Gruszczyńska-Ziółkowska, which describes the discovery, in 1994, of several "antaras" (Andean pan flutes) made of clay in a temple in the city of Cahuachi, the political and cultural center of the Nasca culture.

The artifacts have been laboriously studied by Dr. Gruszczyńska-Ziółkowska and the book includes tables with the exact tones that each tube is capable of producing. The Spirits of Cahuachi uses these tones, i.e. their approximate counterpart in our modern tuning system, treating them in different ways, sometimes as chords, sometimes as scales, sometimes as pitch-class sets, fragmenting the sets, and then overlapping the resulting groups, etc.

A common thing throughout the piece is the application of what I call the "delay effect", in other words, writing the music in such a way that it mimics the delay effect found in audio processing software. This idea comes from the theme of the piece itself because we relate the effect of audio reverberation with a large empty space, and there is a kind of emptiness that separates us from the times of the Nasca culture, not the emptiness of time itself, but the one left by all the things we don't know about them, all the things that have been lost, like their music.

Of course, there is no intention to produce something that resembles the music of the ancient Nasca inhabitants. We don't know anything about their music. None of it has survived with the exception of these tones, these "spirits" contained in the pipes of the antaras discovered in Cahuachi.

## Notation

This score makes extensive use of very soft dynamics as well as "al/dal niente" hairpins. In all cases, these indications simply instruct the musicians to play as softly as possible considering the given register and the possibilities of their instruments. No superhuman abilities are expected. As long as the players do their best to produce the softest sound possible, everything will be fine.

## Duration

c.a. 6 min.

## Printing Instructions

The correct paper size for this score is B4. Do not print on paper smaller than B4 or the music will probably be unreadable.



# The Spirits of Cahuachi

Antonio Gervasoni

Largo  $\text{♩} = 46$

This system includes parts for Flute, Oboe, Horn in F, Trombone, Percussion (Claves), Harp, Violin, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The Flute and Oboe parts feature complex rhythmic patterns with dynamic markings of *ppp*, *p*, and *pppp*. The Horn and Trombone parts are marked *mute* and *pppp*. The Percussion part uses Claves with dynamics *mf*, *pp*, and *pppp*. The Harp part starts with *f* and includes *ppp cresc.* and *f* markings. The Violin part is marked *sul pont.* and *p*. The Viola part is marked *pppp*. The Violoncello and Double Bass parts are marked *p*. A rehearsal mark *A26+A23* is located at the beginning of the Double Bass part.

This system continues the orchestral parts from the first system. The Flute part has dynamics *pppp*, *ppp*, and *p*. The Oboe part has dynamics *ppp*, *mp*, *ppp*, *mp*, *pppp*, and *ppp*. The Horn and Trombone parts have dynamics *pppp*, *ppp*, *p*, and *pppp*. The Percussion part has dynamics *mf*, *pp*, and *pppp*. The Harp part has dynamics *ppp cresc.*, *f*, and *ppp cresc.*. The Violin part has dynamics *p*. The Viola part has dynamics *pppp*. The Violoncello and Double Bass parts have dynamics *p*.

The Spirits of Cahuachi

1

Fl. *ppp* *f*

Ob. *f* open

Hn. *mf* open

Tbn. *mf*

Perc. Snare Drum *f* Toms *mf*

Hp. *ff*

Vln. *ppp* *ff*

Vla. *ppp* *ff*

Vc. *ppp* *ff*

D. B. *ff* quasi trillo A10/11

2

Fl. *p* *ff*

Ob. *p* *ff*

Hn. *p* *f*

Tbn. *p* *f*

Perc. Wood Block 1 *f* Mark Tree *pp*

Hp. *ppp* *p*

Vln. *p* *ppp* *p*

Vla. *p* *ppp* *p*

Vc. *p* *ppp* *p*

D. B. *p* *ppp*

Musical score for measures 11-13. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp), Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The percussion part includes snare drums (off), wood block 2, and a suspended cymbal. The harp part includes a chord diagram: DC#B | EFGAb. The score features various dynamics such as ppp, p, mf, and pp, along with articulation marks like accents and slurs. Measure numbers 11, 12, and 13 are indicated at the top of the staves.

Musical score for measures 14-17. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp), Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The percussion part includes snare drums (on). The harp part includes a chord diagram: DC#B | EFGAb. The score features various dynamics such as ppp, p, mf, pp, and mp, along with articulation marks like accents, slurs, and pizzicato (pizz.). Measure numbers 14, 15, 16, and 17 are indicated at the top of the staves. The page number A14/15 is at the bottom left, and A16/17 is at the bottom right.



18 5

Fl. *pp* *ppp* *p* *pppp*

Ob. *ppp* *p* *pppp*

Hn. *stopped* *ppp* *p* *pppp*

Tbn. *p* *ppp* *p* *pppp* *ppp*

Perc. *p* *w. Bl. 1* *mf pp* *pppp* *mf pp*

Hp. *cresc.* *f* *gliss.*

Vln. *pp* *arco* *ppp* *p* *pppp*

Vla. *pp* *arco* *ppp* *p* *pppp*

Vc. *mp* *pp* *arco* *ppp* *p* *pppp* *ppp*

D. B. *mp* *pp* *arco* *ppp* *p* *pppp* *ppp* *A24*

22 6

Fl. *ppp* *p* *pppp* *ppp* *p*

Ob. *ppp* *p* *pppp* *ppp* *p*

Hn. *ppp* *p* *pppp* *ppp*

Tbn. *p* *pppp* *ppp*

Perc. *pppp* *p* *ppp* *S. Cym.*

Hp.

Vln. *ppp* *p* *pppp* *ppp* *p* *pppp*

Vla. *ppp* *p* *pppp* *ppp* *p* *pppp*

Vc. *p* *ppp* *p* *pppp* *ppp* *ppp*

D. B. *p* *ppp* *p* *pppp* *ppp* *ppp* *A12/13*

Musical score for measures 25-27. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp), Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.).

- Fl.:** Measures 25-27. Dynamics: *pppp*, *ppp*, *p*.
- Ob.:** Measures 25-27. Dynamics: *pppp*, *ppp*, *p*.
- Hn.:** Measures 25-27. Dynamics: *p*, *pppp*, *ppp*.
- Tbn.:** Measures 25-27. Dynamics: *p*, *pppp*, *ppp*, *p*.
- Perc.:** Measures 25-27. Dynamics: *p*, *mp*, *ppp*, *pp*. Includes Sn. Dr.
- Hp.:** Measures 25-27. Consistent rhythmic accompaniment.
- Vln.:** Measures 25-27. Dynamics: *pppp*, *ppp*, *p*. Includes triplets.
- Vla.:** Measures 25-27. Dynamics: *pppp*, *ppp*, *p*. Includes triplets.
- Vc.:** Measures 25-27. Dynamics: *p*, *pppp*, *ppp*, *p*.
- D.B.:** Measures 25-27. Dynamics: *p*, *ppp*, *p*.

Musical score for measures 28-30. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp), Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.).

- Fl.:** Measures 28-30. Dynamics: *pppp*, *mp*, *pppp*.
- Ob.:** Measures 28-30. Dynamics: *pppp*, *mp*, *pppp*.
- Hn.:** Measures 28-30. Dynamics: *p*, *pppp*, *mp*.
- Tbn.:** Measures 28-30. Dynamics: *pppp*, *mp*, *pppp*.
- Perc.:** Measures 28-30. Dynamics: *mp*, *ppp*. Includes Small Gong.
- Hp.:** Measures 28-30. Consistent rhythmic accompaniment.
- Vln.:** Measures 28-30. Dynamics: *pppp*, *mp*, *pppp*. Includes triplets.
- Vla.:** Measures 28-30. Dynamics: *pppp*, *mp*. Includes triplets.
- Vc.:** Measures 28-30. Dynamics: *pppp*, *mp*.
- D.B.:** Measures 28-30. Dynamics: *mp*.

7

31

Fl. *f* *ppp* *p*

Ob. *f* *ppp* *p*

Hn. *pppp* *mf* *ppp* *p* *gliss.*

Tbn. *open* *mf* *ppp* *p*

Perc. *mp* *pppp* *pppp* *p* *pppp*

Hp. *pppp*

Vln. *f* *pp* *pppp*

Vla. *pppp* *f* *pp* *pppp*

Vc. *pppp* *f* *pp* *pppp*

D. B. *f* *pp* *pppp*

A22

Guira (play with a thin and light stick or everyday object, like a plastic straw)

36

Fl. *ppp* *pppp* *ppp*

Ob. *ppp* *ppp*

Hn. *ppp* *ppp*

Tbn. *ppp* *pppp* *ppp*

Perc. *pppp* *p* *pppp*

Hp. *pppp*

Vln. *p* *pppp*

Vla. *p* *pppp*

Vc. *p* *pppp*

D. B. *p* *pppp*

Musical score for measures 39-41. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D. B.).

- Fl.:** Measure 39 has a glissando and a *p* dynamic. Measure 40 has a *ppp* dynamic. Measure 41 has a *f* dynamic.
- Ob.:** Measure 39 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 40 has a *ppp* dynamic with triplets and sixteenth notes. Measure 41 has a *f* dynamic.
- Hn.:** Measure 39 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 40 has a *ppp* dynamic. Measure 41 has a *mf* dynamic.
- Tbn.:** Measure 39 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 40 has a *ppp* dynamic with a glissando. Measure 41 has a *pppp* dynamic.
- Perc.:** Measure 39 has a *pppp* dynamic. Measure 40 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 41 has a *f* dynamic.
- Hp.:** Measure 39 has a *pppp* dynamic. Measure 40 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 41 has a *pppp* dynamic.
- Vln.:** Measure 39 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 40 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 41 has a *pppp* dynamic.
- Vla.:** Measure 39 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 40 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 41 has a *pppp* dynamic.
- Vc.:** Measure 39 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 40 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 41 has a *pppp* dynamic.
- D. B.:** Measure 39 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 40 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 41 has a *pppp* dynamic.

Musical score for measures 42-44. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D. B.).

- Fl.:** Measure 42 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 43 has a *ppp* dynamic with triplets. Measure 44 has a *ppp* dynamic.
- Ob.:** Measure 42 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 43 has a *ppp* dynamic with triplets. Measure 44 has a *ppp* dynamic.
- Hn.:** Measure 42 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 43 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 44 has a *ppp* dynamic.
- Tbn.:** Measure 42 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 43 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 44 has a *ppp* dynamic.
- Perc.:** Measure 42 has a *pp* dynamic. Measure 43 has a *pppp* dynamic. Measure 44 has a *p* dynamic.
- Hp.:** Measure 42 has a *pppp* dynamic. Measure 43 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 44 has a *pppp* dynamic.
- Vln.:** Measure 42 has a *ppp* dynamic. Measure 43 has a *ppp* dynamic. Measure 44 has a *ppp* dynamic.
- Vla.:** Measure 42 has a *ppp* dynamic. Measure 43 has a *ppp* dynamic. Measure 44 has a *ppp* dynamic.
- Vc.:** Measure 42 has a *ppp* dynamic. Measure 43 has a *ppp* dynamic. Measure 44 has a *ppp* dynamic.
- D. B.:** Measure 42 has a *ppp* dynamic. Measure 43 has a *ppp* dynamic. Measure 44 has a *p* dynamic.

Musical score for measures 44-45. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp), Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The percussion part includes Toms. The harp part features a sixteenth-note pattern with a '6' marking. The string parts (Vln, Vla, Vc., D.B.) play sustained notes with dynamic markings of *p* and *ppp*. The woodwind and brass parts feature complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and dynamic markings of *p* and *pppp*.

Musical score for measures 46-47. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp), Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The percussion part includes M.T. and W. Bl. 1. The harp part is silent. The string parts (Vln, Vla, Vc., D.B.) play complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and dynamic markings of *pppp*, *p*, and *ff*. The woodwind and brass parts feature complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and dynamic markings of *ppp*, *p*, and *pppp*.

48 **10**

51 **11**

Fl.

Ob.

Hn.

Tbn.

Perc.

Hp

Vln

Vla

Vc.

D.B.

(\*) S. G. Fl. Tom. S. Cym.

*mf* *f* *pp* *mf*

*ppp*

*p* *ord.* *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

*p* *ord.* *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

*p* *ord.* *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

*p* *ord.* *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

A7 *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

(\*) All instruments will have to be played with the same beaters. The best option is probably Timpani beaters.

This musical score page, numbered 14, is for the piece 'The Spirits of Cahuachi'. It features a complex arrangement of instruments. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), and Trombone (Tbn.), all playing intricate triplet patterns. The string section consists of Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc), and Double Bass (D. B.), also playing rhythmic triplet figures. The percussion part includes Fl. Tom. and S. Cym. (Small Cymbal). The score is divided into two systems, with the first system starting at measure 52. Dynamic markings such as *ff*, *pp*, *f*, *mf*, and *ppp* are used throughout to indicate volume changes. The notation includes various articulations like accents and slurs, and the overall texture is dense and rhythmic.

54

Fl. *pppp*

Ob. *pppp*

Hn. *pppp*

Tbn. *pppp*

Perc. *pppp*

Hp. *pppp* *mf*

Vln. *pp* *p* *pppp*

Vla. *pp* *p* *pppp*

Vc. *pp* *p* *pppp*

D. B. *pp* *p* *pppp*

56

12

13

Fl. *pppp*

Ob. *pppp*

Hn. *pppp* stopped

Tbn. *pppp* mute

Perc. *mf* Whip *pppp* *mf* *pppp* Sn. Dr. snares off *p* S. Cym. *p*

Hp. *pppp* *mf* *pppp*

Vln. *f* *p* *pppp* *mf* *p* *pppp*

Vla. *f* *p* *pppp* *mf* *p* *pppp*

Vc. *f* *p* *pppp* *mf* *p* *pppp*

D. B. *f* *p* *pppp* *mf* *p* *pppp*

A3/4 A3/4 A25



59

Fl. *pppp*

Ob. *pppp*

Hn. *pppp*

Tbn. *pppp*

Perc. S. Cym. *pppp* Sn. Dr. *p* *pppp* *p* *pppp* *p* *pppp*

Hp.

Vln. *pppp*

Vla. *pppp*

Vc. *pppp*

D. B. *pppp*

62 14

Fl. *ppp*

Ob. *ppp*

Hn. *ppp*

Tbn. *ppp*

Perc. W. Bl. 1 *mf* *pp* *pppp*

Hp. *ppp cresc. poco a poco*

Vln. *mf* *pppp*

Vla. *mf* *pppp*

Vc. *mf* *pppp*

D. B. *mf* *pppp*

A8/9 + A27

[63]

Musical score for measures 63-64. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). Measures 63-64 feature a complex texture with woodwinds playing sixteenth-note patterns and strings playing a dense sixteenth-note accompaniment. Dynamic markings include *pppp*, *ppp*, *mf*, and *pp*. A woodblock (W. Bl. 2) is introduced in measure 64 with a *mf* dynamic.

[65]

Musical score for measures 65-66. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). Measures 65-66 continue the sixteenth-note accompaniment. Dynamic markings include *p*, *pppp*, and *f*. The Harp part features a melodic line that becomes more active in measure 66, marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

[66]

Fl.

Ob.

Hn.

Tbn.

Perc. S. Cym. ppp p ppp s. G. pp

Hp mp pp

Vln mp pppp p pppp

Vla mp pppp p pppp

Vc. mp pppp p pppp

D. B. mp pppp p pppp

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, numbered 18, is titled 'The Spirits of Cahuachi'. It features a multi-staff arrangement. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Horn (Hn.), and Trombone (Tbn.), all of which are silent throughout the passage. The Percussion part features a Snare Drum (S. Cym.) with dynamics *ppp*, *p*, and *ppp*, and a Gong (s. G.) with a *pp* dynamic. The Harp (Hp) plays a sustained chord with dynamics *mp* and *pp*. The string section (Violins, Violas, Cellos, and Double Basses) is playing a rhythmic pattern of sixteenth notes, with dynamics ranging from *mp* to *pppp*. The score is marked with measure numbers 66, 67, 68, and 69. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.