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Aftershock

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Aftershock

{06~12~16}

for reed quintet

(Oboe, B \flat Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Alto Sax., Bassoon)

Aaron S. Ricucci-Hill

(12/08/2016)

Written for the victims of the Pulse Nightclub Shooting, Orlando, FL.

Duration: ~5.5 minutes

Program Notes

This piece was really tough on me to set to paper. The subject matter is really personal to me. On June, 12th, 2016, a mass shooting occurred at the Pulse Night Club, a gay club, in Orlando Florida. 49 victims, excluding the gunman who shot himself, were killed and many more were injured. It lasted three hours.

I heard about this while at my parents house and I was shocked. I felt a strange stirring of emotions. I wasn't personally involved in the tragedy, but yet I felt personally affected. It reminded me that despite feeling safe for a long time, that I was comfortable, that the world is really a dangerous place for people who are out publicly in the LGBT community. I, being an out and proud gay man, especially after the 2016 election, was reminded that the world is not particularly safe for me and that we need to continue to work harder to fight discrimination and against violence.

So when I was in La Bolline, France for the Zodiac Music Festival in July 2016, I started to officially put down my own raw emotions and how I was processing it. I chose reed quintet because a friend of mine, Rob Kincade, offered the chance for me to write a reed quintet and I thought it would be interesting to explore unknown musical territory with a piece that very much was about me processing new and complex emotions of my own. This piece was written to show the typical process by how we process news of tragedy.

The beginning is supposed to be the listener processing the news of tragedy, trying to be sure that it is really true. The next is going about day to day life, screaming inside, but trying to appear collected and calm, with many emotions swimming underneath the surface. Finally, in a moment of privacy, you let all of your pent up emotions burst forth, finally allowing yourself to proceed with life as normal, but not quite because you will forever be changed. The last few measures emblematic of walking, tentatively, toward an unknown future.

I end these program notes with a quote by Leonard Bernstein at a concert honoring JFK after the shooting, *"We musicians, like everyone else, are numb with sorrow at this murder, and with rage at the senselessness of the crime. But this sorrow and rage will not inflame us to seek retribution; rather they will inflame our art. Our music will never again be quite the same. This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before."*

To all 49 Victims of the Pulse Night Club massacre,
their families, friends, and the survivors.

Aftershock

{06~12~16}

Aaron S. Ricucci-Hill

Larghetto ♩ = 49

Shell shocked, trying to process the news.

Musical score for five woodwind instruments: Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, Bass Clarinet, Alto Sax, and Bassoon. The score is in 3/4 time and consists of five staves. The music begins with a rest for the first two measures, followed by a melodic line starting in the third measure. Dynamics include *p* (piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in the third measure of each staff.

Musical score for five woodwind instruments: Oboe (Ob.), Bb Clarinet (Bb Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Sax (A. Sx.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The score is in 3/4 time and consists of five staves. It begins at measure 6. The Oboe part features a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes. The Bass Clarinet and Bassoon parts have long, sustained notes. Dynamics include *pp* (pianissimo) and *fp* (fortissimo). A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in the third measure of the Oboe staff.

10

Ob. *p* *tr* *pp*

B♭ Cl. *pp*

B. Cl. *pp*

A. Sx. *mp* *p*

Bsn. *pp*

14

Ob. *f* *p*

B♭ Cl. *f* *p* *f* *p*

B. Cl. *f* *p* *f* *p*

A. Sx. *f* *p* *f* *p*

Bsn. *f* *f* *p*

Aftershock

Trying to stay strong and collected, but letting it slip every now and then.
più mosso

A

18

Ob. *sfz*

B♭ Cl. *sfz*

B. Cl. *ppp*

A. Sx. *ppp*

Bsn. *p*

23

Ob. *sfz* *mf* *fp*

B♭ Cl. *sfz* *mf* *fp*

B. Cl. *mf* *fp*

A. Sx. *mf* *fp*

Bsn. *mf* *fp*

Aftershock

27

Ob. *mp* *fp*

B♭ Cl. *mp*

B. Cl. *mp* *fp*

A. Sx. *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

30

Ob. *fp* *mf* *mp*

B♭ Cl. *fp* *fp* *mf* *mp*

B. Cl. *fp* *mf* *mp*

A. Sx. *fp* *fp* *mf* *mp*

Bsn. *fp* *fp* *mf* *mp*

Musical score for measures 1-34. The score is in 5/4 time and features five staves: Ob., B♭ Cl., B. Cl., A. Sx., and Bsn. The music is marked *ff* (fortissimo) throughout. The Ob., B♭ Cl., and A. Sx. parts consist of continuous sixteenth-note runs with sixteenth rests, each marked with a '6' and a slur. The B. Cl. part features triplet eighth notes, also marked with a '3' and a slur. The Bsn. part has a single note on the first staff and a single note on the second staff, both marked with a '6' and a slur.

Musical score for measures 35-48. The score continues with five staves: Ob., B♭ Cl., B. Cl., A. Sx., and Bsn. The music is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) at the beginning and *sf* (sforzando) later. The Ob., B♭ Cl., and A. Sx. parts feature sixteenth-note runs with sixteenth rests, marked with '6' and slurs. The B. Cl. part features eighth-note runs with eighth rests, marked with '3' and slurs. The Bsn. part features eighth-note runs with eighth rests, marked with '3' and slurs. The dynamics vary, with *mp* and *sf* markings.

10 Frustrated, anguished outbursts

Aftershock

Ob. *sfz fp* *sfz* ⁶*sfz*

B \flat Cl. *sfz* *ff* *slow trill at first get faster*

B. Cl. *sfz* *ff* *fp* *slow trill at first get faster* *sfz*³

A. Sx. *sfz* *ff* *fp* *slow trill at first get faster*

Bsn. *fp*

C

Ob. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *f* *p*

B \flat Cl. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *pp* *f* *p*

B. Cl. *sfz* *sfz* *f* *p*

A. Sx. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *f* *p*

Bsn. *f* *fp* *f* *subito p*

42

Ob. *mp*

B♭ Cl. *pp* *p* *mp*

B. Cl. *mp* *mf*

A. Sax. *pp* *mp*

Bsn. *pp* *p*

46

molto allarg.

Ob. *f* *mp* *f* *mf*

B♭ Cl. *mf* *mf*

B. Cl. *f* *f* *mf*

A. Sax. *mf* *mf*

Bsn. *mf* *mf*

12 (♩=♩) Frustration!
D Modertato Agitato (♩.=76)

Aftershock

Musical score for measures 12-52. The score is for five woodwind parts: Oboe (Ob.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The key signature is D major and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo is Modertato Agitato (♩.=76). The section is titled 'Aftershock'. The Oboe part begins with a rest in measure 12 and enters in measure 13 with a melodic line marked *p*. The B♭ Clarinet part enters in measure 12 with a melodic line marked *p*, then has accents and fortissimo markings (*fz*) in measures 13 and 14. The Bass Clarinet part has rests in measures 12 and 13, then enters in measure 14. The Alto Saxophone part has rests in measures 12 and 13, then enters in measure 14 with a melodic line marked *p*. The Bassoon part has rests in measures 12 and 13, then enters in measure 14.

Musical score for measures 53-92. The score is for five woodwind parts: Oboe (Ob.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The key signature is D major and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo is Modertato Agitato (♩.=76). The section is titled 'Aftershock'. The Oboe part enters in measure 53 with a melodic line marked *fz*. The B♭ Clarinet part enters in measure 53 with a melodic line marked *fz*, then has accents and fortissimo markings (*fz*) in measures 54 and 55. The Bass Clarinet part enters in measure 53 with a melodic line marked *p*. The Alto Saxophone part enters in measure 53 with a melodic line marked *p*, then has accents and fortissimo markings (*fz*) in measures 54 and 55. The Bassoon part has rests in measures 53 and 54, then enters in measure 55.

55

Ob. *fz fz*

B♭ Cl. *fz fz*

B. Cl. *mp p*

A. Sx.

Bsn. *mf p*

57

Ob. *sfz f*

B♭ Cl.

B. Cl. *fz fz*

A. Sx. *8va sfz f*

Bsn. *fz fz*

Aftershock

E

14

60

Musical score for measures 14-60. The score is for five instruments: Ob. (Oboe), B♭ Cl. (B-flat Clarinet), B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet), A. Sx. (Alto Saxophone), and Bsn. (Bassoon). The music is in 7/8 time. The first system (measures 14-20) features dynamic markings of *fz* (forzando) and accents. The second system (measures 21-30) includes a *Strident* marking and a *mp* (mezzo-piano) dynamic. The third system (measures 31-40) features a *f* (forte) dynamic. The fourth system (measures 41-50) features a *mp* dynamic. The fifth system (measures 51-60) features a *mp* dynamic. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.

62

Musical score for measures 62-70. The score is for five instruments: Ob. (Oboe), B♭ Cl. (B-flat Clarinet), B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet), A. Sx. (Alto Saxophone), and Bsn. (Bassoon). The music is in 7/8 time. The first system (measures 62-70) features dynamic markings of *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The second system (measures 71-80) features a *f* (forte) dynamic. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.

Aftershock

64

Ob. *mp*

B♭ Cl. *mp*

B. Cl. *f* *Strident*

A. Sx.

Bsn. *mp*

65

64-65: Musical score for measures 64 and 65. The score is for five woodwind parts: Oboe (Ob.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 64 starts with a *mp* dynamic. The B. Cl. part is marked *f* and *Strident*. A long slur covers the first half of the page, ending in measure 65.

66

Ob. *ff*

B♭ Cl. *ff*

B. Cl. *ff* *p*

A. Sx. *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

67

68

66-68: Musical score for measures 66, 67, and 68. The woodwind parts continue with *ff* dynamics. Measure 67 features a *p* dynamic in the B. Cl. part. Measure 68 concludes with a *f* dynamic in the A. Sx. and Bsn. parts. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Aftershock

F

a tempo

molto allarg.

69

Musical score for measures 69-70. The score is for five instruments: Oboe (Ob.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), B Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The music is in 3/8 time. Measure 69 is marked *sffz*. Measure 70 is marked *p*. A dynamic wedge under the Bassoon part indicates a transition from *mp* to *p*. A box containing the letter 'F' is positioned above the staff between measures 69 and 70. The tempo marking *a tempo* is also present.

71

Musical score for measures 71-72. The score is for five instruments: Oboe (Ob.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), B Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The music is in 3/8 time. Measure 71 is marked *f*. Measure 72 is marked *f*. The score shows various melodic lines and dynamics for each instrument.

Aftershock

73

Musical score for measures 73-75, featuring five staves: Ob., B♭ Cl., B. Cl., A. Sx., and Bsn. The music is in 3/4 time. Dynamics range from *mp* to *f*. The score shows a crescendo from *mp* to *f* across the first two measures, followed by a continuation of the *f* dynamic in the third measure. The Ob. and A. Sx. parts feature long, sweeping lines, while the woodwinds play rhythmic patterns.

(♩=♩)

(♩=♩)

76

Musical score for measures 76-78, featuring five staves: Ob., B♭ Cl., B. Cl., A. Sx., and Bsn. The music is in 3/4 time. Dynamics are consistently *ff*. The score shows a change in tempo and meter from 3/4 to 6/8 in measure 76, and back to 3/4 in measure 78. The woodwinds play rhythmic patterns, while the strings play a sustained, low-frequency accompaniment.

18
79 (♩=♩)

G

Aftershock

Ob.
B♭ Cl.
B. Cl.
A. Sx.
Bsn.

mp
pp
pp
pp

Detailed description: This musical score covers measures 18 to 79. It is written for five woodwind instruments: Oboe (Ob.), B-flat Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The music is in 6/8 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is indicated for the Oboe and B-flat Clarinet. The Bass Clarinet and Alto Saxophone parts include *pp* (pianissimo) markings. The Bassoon part also features a *pp* marking. The score includes various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

Ob.
B♭ Cl.
B. Cl.
A. Sx.
Bsn.

mf
mp
mf
mf
mf
f
f

tr
tr
tr
tr

Detailed description: This musical score covers measures 82 to 90. It continues with the same five woodwind instruments: Oboe (Ob.), B-flat Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The music is in 6/8 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte) for the Oboe, B-flat Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, and Bassoon, and *f* (forte) for the Alto Saxophone. Trills (*tr*) are indicated for the Bass Clarinet and Alto Saxophone parts. The score includes various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

Aftershock
accel. (*accel. to about 100-120*)

84

Ob.
B♭ Cl.
B. Cl.
A. Sx.
Bsn.

ff

*It's time to move on, but
you'll never be quite the
same again.*

87

Ob.
B♭ Cl.
B. Cl.
A. Sx.
Bsn.

H **Larghetto** ♩ = 49

p

20
91

Aftershock

Musical score for measures 20-91, featuring five staves: Ob., B♭ Cl., B. Cl., A. Sx., and Bsn. The score includes dynamic markings such as *p*, *mf*, *mp*, and *pp*, along with articulation like slurs and accents. Measure numbers 20 and 91 are indicated at the top left. The music is written in treble clef for the first four staves and bass clef for the fifth. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Musical score for measures 95-100, featuring five staves: Ob., B♭ Cl., B. Cl., A. Sx., and Bsn. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf*, *mp*, and *mp*, along with articulation like slurs and accents. Measure number 95 is indicated at the top left. The music is written in treble clef for the first four staves and bass clef for the fifth. The key signature has one sharp (F#). A performance instruction "Screechy, noisy, not pretty." is written above the A. Sx. staff in measure 98. The Bsn. staff has a final note in measure 100.

Aftershock

99

Ob.

B \flat Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

Bsn.

p

pp

3

3

3

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'Aftershock', page 21. The score is for woodwind instruments and consists of five staves. The instruments are Oboe (Ob.), B-flat Clarinet (B \flat Cl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The music is written in treble clef for the first four staves and bass clef for the fifth. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score begins at measure 99. The Oboe and B-flat Clarinet parts have a melodic line with a slur over measures 99-100. The Bass Clarinet part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 99. The Alto Saxophone part has a melodic line with a slur over measures 99-100. The Bassoon part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 99. Dynamics include *p* (piano) and *pp* (pianissimo). There are also accents and slurs. The page number '99' is written at the top left of the first staff.