

Joseph Klein

**Against the gusts of blank repose,
a threshold that persists**

(2016/19)

for wind ensemble

To the memory of my son, Gabriel Paul Klein (1991-2015)

duration: c. 10'

Instrumentation

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • piccolo • 2 flutes • 2 oboes • English horn • clarinet in E\flat • 2 clarinets in B\flat • bass clarinet in B\flat • contra-alto clarinet in E\flat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 bassoons • contrabassoon • soprano saxophone • alto saxophone • tenor saxophone • baritone saxophone | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • piccolo trumpet in A • 2 trumpets in C • 4 horns in F • 2 tenor trombones • bass trombone • euphonium • tuba | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contrabass • piano • harp • timpani • 5 percussion |
|--|---|--|--|

Timpani: 4 drums (32", 30", 28", 25"), 2 cymbals (inverted and placed on timpani II & III). Striking implements: medium felt sticks, wood stick.

Percussion battery:

- Player 1: snare drum, bongo drum (low), 4 tom-toms, 2 woodblocks (high, med-low), triangle (w/player 4),



water gong (w/player 5), vibraslap (w/players 2 & 5).

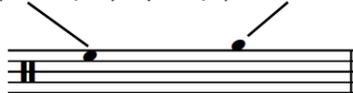
Striking implements: hard rubber mallets, medium yarn mallet, snare drum sticks, metal (triangle) beaters.

- Player 2: 2 woodblocks (med-high, low), kick drum, crash cymbals, tam-tam (w/players 4 & 5), vibraslap (w/players 1 & 5).



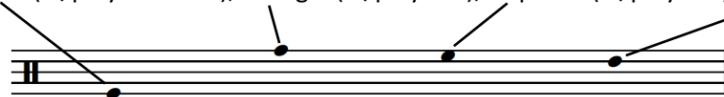
Striking implements: hard rubber mallets, tam-tam beater.

- Player 3: xylophone, glockenspiel, chimes, slapstick (w/player 4), police whistle (worn around neck).



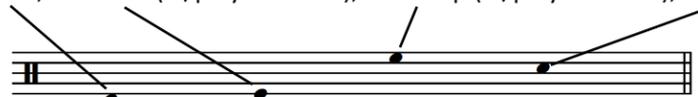
Striking implements: medium rubber mallets, hard rubber mallets, hard plastic mallets, chime hammers.

- Player 4: vibraphone, tam-tam (w/players 2 & 5), triangle (w/player 1), slapstick (w/player 3), ratchet.

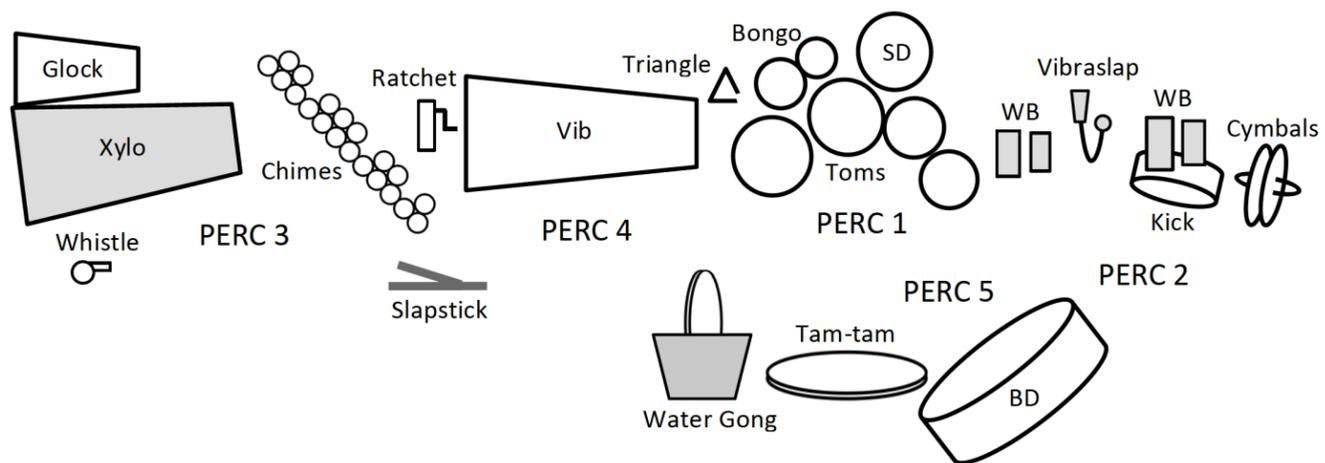


Striking implements: hard rubber mallets, hard yarn mallets, medium yarn mallets, bass bow, metal (triangle) beaters, tam-tam beater.

- Player 5: bass drum, tam-tam (w/players 2 & 4), vibraslap (w/players 1 & 2), water gong (w/player 1).



Striking implements: bass drum beater, tam-tam beater, medium yarn mallet.



Performance Information

- This is a transposed score.
- Accidentals apply only to pitches they immediately precede, with the exception of repeated pitches.
- All horns require mutes. All trumpets require straight mutes; additionally, trumpets 2-3 require cup mutes. All trombones require straight mutes; additionally, tenor trombone 2 requires cup mute.
- The chimes and vibraphone require the pedal to be depressed at all times. It is recommended that a weight be used to depress the pedals on these instruments throughout.
- The muted piano passages (Rehearsal G and Rehearsal J) are to be played by pressing the side of the hand against the strings on the far side of the dampers while playing the pitches on the keyboard.
- Harp harmonics sound an octave higher than written.

Performance Information (cont.)

	durational continuum within <i>senza misura</i> section: values arranged from shortest to longest (precise durations <i>ad libitum</i>).
	fermata continuum: arranged from shortest to longest.
	accelerando/ritardando; duration indicated in metered sections.
(a)  (b) 	repeating mobiles: (a) ordered material; (b) unordered material.
(a)  (b) 	repeat material for the duration of the wavy line: (a) as written; (b) freely, <i>ad libitum</i> .

	<i>senza misura</i> ; top number indicates the number of cues within the measure		rapid downward glissando (harp)
	cue (within <i>senza misura</i> sections)		slow upward glissando (harp, piano)
	brief pause/break in sound		silently depress all keys within range (piano)
	fluttersongue/tremolo/roll/bisbigliando		mute strings with hand (piano)
	erratic, uneven tremolo/bisbigliando		dead stroke (percussion)
	let ring/blend into next section		snap pizzicato (contrabass)
	sneak entrance/blend with previous section		
	pitch bend/glissando		

Program Note

Against the gusts of blank repose, a threshold that persists is dedicated to the memory of my son, Gabriel Paul Klein, who took his life in September 2015 at the age of 23. The work's title is derived from two lines in Alice Fulton's poem "Silencer," from the collection *Powers of Congress* (1990)—a poem that itself deals with the subject of suicide—and is an allusion to the persistent struggle with that boundary between life and death ("blank repose").

The work is characterized by sharp juxtapositions of contrasting—often conflicting—musical elements, including sections of restless energy, obsessive ostinato figures, and intrusive interjections, occasionally relieved by stretches of placid, suspended music. The disjunct, fragmentary structure that results, combined with the inherently static, non-developmental nature of the material itself, is intended to subvert the typical linear narrative. An important unifying element of the work is the pitch cell G-A-Bb-E, which is the basis of a repeating interval sequence used to generate the symmetrical, non-octave-repeating scale that is used pervasively throughout the work. This scale is most clearly presented in the ascending quasi-ostinato bass line that first occurs after the slow introductory section. Prime numbers and rhythmic patterns based on Morse Code are also used as unifying structural elements.

Against the gusts of blank repose, a threshold that persists was completed in September 2016 and revised in June 2019. The orchestral transcription of this work was premiered on 27 February 2019 by the University of North Texas Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Clay Couturiaux.

Against the gusts of blank repose, a threshold that persists

to the memory of my son, Gabriel Paul Klein (1991-2015)

for wind ensemble

Joseph Klein

2016/19

Transposed score

Anxious ♩ = 48; ♩ = 72

c. 25"

PICCOLO

FLUTE 1,2

OBOE 1,2

ENGLISH HORN

CLARINET in Eb

CLARINET in Bb 1

CLARINET in Bb 2,3

BASS CLARINET in Bb

CONTRA-ALTO CLARINET in Eb

BASSOON 1,2

CONTRABASSOON

SOPRANO SAXOPHONE

ALTO SAXOPHONE

TENOR SAXOPHONE

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

PICCOLO TRUMPET in A

TRUMPET in C 2,3

HORN in F 1,3

HORN in F 2,4

TROMBONE 1,2

BASS TROMBONE

EUPHONIUM

TUBA

CONTRABASS

PIANO

HARP

TIMPANI

PERCUSSION 1

PERCUSSION 2

PERCUSSION 3

PERCUSSION 4

PERCUSSION 5

1

2

Against the gusts of blank repose, a threshold that persists

7" 3" 11" 7"+

♩ = 48; ♩ = 72

PC

FL 1,2

OB 1,2

EH

Eb CL

CL 1

CL 2,3

BS CL

CA CL

BN 1,2

CBN

SSX

ASX

TSX

BSX

PC TP

TP 2,3

HN 1,3

HN 2,4

TN 1,2

B TN

EUPH

TB

CB

PF

HP

TIMP

PRC 1

PRC 2

PRC 3

PRC 4

PRC 5

(play independently)

mp

p erratic

p erratic

f

f

ff

ff

p

f

f

ff

ff

f

f

ff

ff

mf

n

gliss.

mf

n

gliss.

mf

n

arco, div. (a 2)

gliss.

mf

n

pizz. (unis.)

sfz

b2

mp

non div.

mp gently

INSIDE w/fingertips

mp gently

erratic bisb.

mf

p

mp

E4

mp gently

1

WATER GONG w/med. yarn

mf

n

WOODBLOCKS w/hard rubber

mf

SLAPSTICK

sfz

VIBRAPHONE w/bow

n

molto

poco f

VIBRASLAP

sfz

n

TAM TAM

mp

18 19 20 21 22 23

This musical score page covers measures 28 through 33. The instruments are arranged as follows:

- Woodwinds:** PC (Piccolo), FL 1,2 (Flute), OB 1,2 (Oboe), EH (English Horn), Eb CL (E-flat Clarinet), CL 1 (Clarinet), CL 2,3 (Clarinet), BS CL (Bass Clarinet), CA CL (Cello), BN 1,2 (Bassoon), CBN (Contrabassoon), SX (Saxophone), A SX (Alto Saxophone), T SX (Tenor Saxophone), B SX (Baritone Saxophone).
- Brass:** PC TP (Piccolo Trumpet), TP 2,3 (Trumpet), HN 1,3 (Horn), HN 2,4 (Horn), TN 1,2 (Trumpet), B TN (Baritone Trumpet), EUPH (Euphonium), TB (Tuba).
- Percussion:** CB (Cymbal), PF (Piano), HP (Harp), TIMP (Timpani), PRC 1-5 (Percussion).

Key features of the score include:

- Tempo and Dynamics:** The score begins with a *poco f* marking. Various dynamic markings such as *mf*, *mp*, and *sfz* are used throughout.
- Rhythmic Patterns:** The woodwinds and strings play complex rhythmic patterns, often with slurs and ties. The percussion section features a prominent bongo pattern in measures 28, 30, and 31, and snare drum patterns in measures 29, 32, and 33.
- Measure Markers:** The measures are numbered 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33 at the bottom of the page.

C

PC

FL 1,2

OB 1,2

EH

Eb CL

CL 1

CL 2,3

BS CL

CA CL

BN 1,2

CBN

S SX

A SX

T SX

B SX

PC TP

TP 2,3

HN 1,3

HN 2,4

TN 1,2

B TN

EUPH

TB

CB

PF

HP

TIMP

PRC 1

PRC 2

PRC 3

PRC 4

PRC 5

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

This page of a musical score contains measures 41 through 48. The score is arranged in a system with multiple staves. The instruments listed on the left are: PC (Piccolo), FL 1,2 (Flutes), OB 1,2 (Oboes), EH (English Horn), Eb CL (E-flat Clarinet), CL 1 (Clarinet), CL 2,3 (Clarinets), BS CL (Bassoon), CA CL (Cassinet), BN 1,2 (Bassoons), CBN (Contrabassoon), S SX (Saxophone), A SX (Alto Saxophone), T SX (Tenor Saxophone), B SX (Baritone Saxophone), PC TP (Piccolo Trumpet), TP 2,3 (Trumpets), HN 1,3 (Horns), HN 2,4 (Horns), TN 1,2 (Trombones), B TN (Baritone Trombone), EUPH (Euphonium), TB (Tuba), CB (Cymbal), PF (Piano), HP (Harp), TIMP (Timpani), PRC 1 (Percussion 1), PRC 2 (Percussion 2), PRC 3 (Percussion 3), PRC 4 (Percussion 4), and PRC 5 (Percussion 5). The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like *poco f*, *mp*, and *mp (sim.)*. Time signatures of 4/8, 3/8, and 5/8 are indicated. Percussion parts for PRC 1 and PRC 2 include specific instructions for BONGO and SNARE. Measure numbers 41 through 48 are printed at the bottom of the page.

This page of a musical score contains measures 55 through 60. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves for each instrument family. The woodwinds include Piccolo (PC), Flutes 1 and 2 (FL 1,2), Oboes 1 and 2 (OB 1,2), English Horn (EH), E-flat Clarinet (Eb CL), Clarinets 1 and 2,3 (CL 1, 2,3), Bassoon Clarinet (BS CL), Clarinet in A (CA CL), Bassoon 1 and 2 (BN 1,2), Contrabassoon (CBN), Saxophones in E-flat (S SX), Saxophones in A (A SX), Tenor Saxophone (T SX), and Baritone Saxophone (B SX). The brass section includes Piccolo Trumpet (PC TP), Trumpets 2, 3 and 4 (TP 2,3), Horns 1, 2, 3 and 4 (HN 1,2, 3,4), Trombones 1 and 2 (TN 1,2), Baritone (B TN), Euphonium (EUPH), and Tuba (TB). The strings consist of Violins 1 and 2 (V1, V2), Violas (V), Cellos (C), and Double Basses (DB). The percussion section includes Timpani (TIMP), five different Percussion parts (PRC 1-5), and a Harp (HP). The score features complex rhythmic patterns with frequent changes in time signature (5/8, 3/8, 4/8, 5/4) and dynamic markings such as *sfz*, *mp*, and *sim.*. The woodwinds and strings play melodic lines, while the brass and percussion provide harmonic support and rhythmic drive. The harp plays chords and arpeggios. The percussion parts are highly rhythmic, with specific instructions for playing techniques like 'w/wood (w/felt)' and 'BONGO'.

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. The woodwind section includes Piccolo (PC), Flutes 1 & 2 (FL 1,2), Oboes 1 & 2 (OB 1,2), English Horn (EH), E-flat Clarinet (Eb CL), Clarinet 1 (CL 1), Clarinets 2 & 3 (CL 2,3), Bass Clarinet (BS CL), Clarinet in A (CA CL), Bassoon 1 & 2 (BN 1,2), Contrabassoon (CBN), Saxophones (S, A, T, B), and Percussion (PC TP, TP 2,3). The brass section includes Horns 1, 3 (HN 1,3), Horns 2, 4 (HN 2,4), Trumpets 1 & 2 (TN 1,2), Trombones (B TN), Euphonium (EUPH), and Tuba (TB). The strings section includes Cello (CB), Piano (PF), and Harp (HP). The percussion section includes Timpani (TIMP) and five Percussionists (PRC 1-5). The score features a variety of time signatures, including 5/8, 3/8, and 4/8, and dynamic markings such as *cresc.*, *poco f*, *mf*, and *sfz*. The percussion parts are particularly detailed, with specific instructions for snare and bongo drums.

61

62

63

64

65

66

This page contains a musical score for measures 67 through 74. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves for each instrument family. The instruments listed on the left are: PC (Piccolo), FL 1,2 (Flutes), OB 1,2 (Oboes), EH (English Horn), Eb CL (E-flat Clarinet), CL 1 (Clarinets), CL 2,3 (Clarinets), BS CL (Bassoon), CA CL (Cassinet), BN 1,2 (Bassoons), CBN (Contrabassoon), S SX (Saxophones), A SX (Alto Saxophones), T SX (Tenor Saxophones), B SX (Baritone Saxophones), PC TP (Piccolo Trumpet), TP 2,3 (Trumpets), HN 1,3 (Horns), HN 2,4 (Horns), TN 1,2 (Trombones), B TN (Baritone Trombone), EUPH (Euphonium), TB (Tuba), CB (Cymbals), PF (Piano), HP (Harp), TIMP (Timpani), and PRC 1-5 (Percussion). The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, dynamics (mf, f, sfz, ff, p), articulation (poco, a2), and performance instructions (più f, sfz, ff, sfz (sub.)). Large numbers (3, 4, 5, 8) are placed above certain staves, likely indicating time signatures or measure counts. The page is numbered 67 through 74 at the bottom.

Against the gusts of blank repose, a threshold that persists

PC

FL 1,2

OB 1,2

EH

Eb CL

CL 1

CL 2,3

BS CL

CA CL

BN 1,2

CBN

S SX

A SX

T SX

B SX

PC TP

TP 2,3

HN 1,3

HN 2,4

TN 1,2

B TN

EUPH

TB

CB

PF

HP

TIMP

PRC 1

PRC 2

PRC 3

PRC 4

PRC 5

(BONGO)

(SNARE)

(SNARE)

(TOMS)

(SNARE)

(TOMS)

(SNARE)

XYLOPHONE w/hard plastic

TRIANGLE

TAM TAM

75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83

- 14 -

Against the gusts of blank repose, a threshold that persists

PC
FL 1,2
OB 1,2
EH
Eb CL
CL 1
CL 2,3
BS CL
CA CL
BN 1,2
CBN
SX
A SX
T SX
B SX
PC TP
TP 2,3
HN 1,3
HN 2,4
TN 1,2
BTN
EUPH
TB
CB
PF
HP
TIMP
PRC 1
PRC 2
PRC 3
PRC 4
PRC 5

f *mp* *f* *poco* *mp* *f* *poco* *p* *molto* *ff*

p *molto* *ff* *mp* *f* *poco* *f* *poco* *f* *mp*

ff *f* *ff* *mp* *ff* *f (sub.)* *mp*

mp *ff* *f (sub.)* *mp* *ff* *mf* *ff*

ff *mf* *ff* *ff* *f* *ff* *mp* *ff* *f (sub.)* *mf*

ff *f (sub.)* *mp* *ff* *mf* *ff* *ff* *mf* *ff*

mf *ff* *ff* *mf* *ff* *ff*

straight mute *f* *p*

f secco

C# *f (l.v.)*

remove cymbal from Timp III
III: → C#

XYLOPHONE w/hard rubber *f secco*
VIBRAPHONE w/bow *p* *molto* *f*
seco (sempre)

3 4 4 3 4 4

Play in any order, independently of one another; do not repeat a gesture until all four have been played. Stagger entrances, avoid playing together as much as possible. Each iteration is 2-4" in duration; pauses between iterations are 3-5" each.

This page contains a musical score for measures 105 through 110. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout with multiple staves for each instrument family. The instruments listed on the left include:

- PC (Percussion)
- FL 1,2 (Flute)
- OB 1,2 (Oboe)
- EH (English Horn)
- Eb CL (E-flat Clarinet)
- CL 1 (Clarinet)
- CL 2,3 (Clarinet)
- BS CL (Bass Clarinet)
- CA CL (Cello)
- BN 1,2 (Bassoon)
- CBN (Contrabassoon)
- S SX (Soprano Saxophone)
- A SX (Alto Saxophone)
- T SX (Tenor Saxophone)
- B SX (Baritone Saxophone)
- PC TP (Percussion Tom Tom)
- TP 2,3 (Tom Tom)
- HN 1,3 (Horn)
- HN 2,4 (Horn)
- TN 1,2 (Tuba)
- B TN (Baritone Tuba)
- EUPH (Euphonium)
- TB (Trombone)
- CB (Cymbal)
- PF (Piano/Forte)
- HP (Harp)
- TIMP (Timpani)
- PRC 1-5 (Percussion/Cymbal)

The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and various time signatures (4/4, 3/4, 4/4). Dynamics range from *mp* (mezzo-piano) to *ff* (fortissimo). Performance instructions include *secco*, *l.v.* (l'vivo), *arco, div. (a 2)*, *gliss.*, *pizz.*, *vib w/bow*, and *WATER GONG w/med. yarn*. The percussion parts (PRC 1-5) are particularly active, with PRC 4 and PRC 5 showing specific performance techniques like *p* (piano) and *molto*.

105

106

107

108

109

110

Tempestuous ♩ = 120

[H] Suspended ♩ = 40

The score is divided into measures 117 through 122. Each measure is marked with a large number indicating the time signature: 3/8, 5/8, 4/2, 3/2, 5/2, and 4/2. The woodwind section (PC, FL, OB, EH, Eb CL, CL 1, CL 2,3, BS CL, CA CL, BN, CBN, SX) plays a complex rhythmic pattern, often with dynamic markings like *mf*, *f*, *sfz*, and *poco*. The brass section (PC TP, TP, HN, TN, B TN, EUPH, TB) provides harmonic support, with some parts marked *arco* or *open*. The string section (CB) plays a steady accompaniment. The percussion section (PF, HP, TIMP, PRC 1-5) includes various instruments like timpani, snare, cymbals, and vibraphone, with specific playing techniques like *VIBRASLAP* and *RATCHET* indicated. The harp (HP) plays a delicate accompaniment. The score concludes with a key signature change to E major (E#) and a list of notes: D# C# B# E# F# G# A#.

117

118

119

120

121

122

PC
FL 1,2
OB 1,2
EH
Eb CL
CL 1
CL 2,3
BS CL
CA CL
BN 1,2
CBN
SSX
ASX
TSX
BSX
PC TP
TP 2,3
HN 1,3
HN 2,4
TN 1,2
BTN
EUPH
TB
CB
PF
HP
TIMP
PRC 1
PRC 2
PRC 3
PRC 4
PRC 5

4 3 5 3
2 2 2 2
4 3 5 3
2 2 2 2

2. st. mute
1. mute
2. (open)
gliss.
mf
n
gliss.
mf
n
div. (a 2)
gliss.
mf
n
straight mutes
ff intrusive
straight mute
ff intrusive

WATER GONG
w/med. yarn
mf
n
GLOCKENSPIEL
w/hard rubber
mp

123 124 125 126 127

This page contains the musical score for measures 156 through 159. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout with multiple staves for woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion. The woodwind section includes Piccolo (PC), Flute 1 & 2 (FL 1,2), Oboe 1 & 2 (OB 1,2), English Horn (EH), Eb Clarinet (Eb CL), Clarinet 1 (CL 1), Clarinet 2 & 3 (CL 2,3), Bass Clarinet (BS CL), and Contrabass Clarinet (CA CL). The brass section includes Bassoon 1 & 2 (BN 1,2), Contrabassoon (CBN), Saxophone 3 (S SX), Saxophone A (A SX), Saxophone T (T SX), and Saxophone B (B SX). The string section includes Piccolo Trumpet (PC TP), Trumpet 2, 3 (TP 2,3), Horn 1, 3 (HN 1,3), Horn 2, 4 (HN 2,4), Trombone 1, 2 (TN 1,2), Bass Trombone (B TN), Euphonium (EUPH), and Tuba (TB). The keyboard section includes Piano (PF) and Harp (HP). The percussion section includes Timpani (TIMP) and five Percussionists (PRC 1-5). The score features various musical notations such as dynamics (ff, f, mf, mp, fff), articulation (accents, slurs), and performance instructions like 'st. mute' and 'pizz.'. Measure 156 shows a change in tempo and meter from 3/4 to 4/4. Measure 158 includes a 'VIBRAPHONE w/bow' part with dynamics 'p' and 'molto'. Measure 159 is marked with a large '1 X' at the end of the staff.

Against the gusts of blank repose, a threshold that persists

2" 5" 3" 11" 7" 15"+

PC
FL 1,2
OB 1,2
EH
Eb CL
CL 1
CL 2,3
BS CL
CA CL
BN 1,2
CBN
S SX
A SX
T SX
B SX

PC TP
TP 2,3
HN 1,3
HN 2,4
TN 1,2
B TN
EUPH
TB
CB
PF
HP
TIMP
PRC 1
PRC 2
PRC 3
PRC 4
PRC 5

(st. mute)
p

1. (mute)
p

mf gliss. n
mf gliss. n

div. (a 2) mf gliss. n
pizz. (non div.) mp gently

mp
mp

mp gently
INSIDE w/fingertips 8^{ub}
mp gently 8^{ub}

(♩ = 60)
1 2 1 2 1
X X X X X
(♩ = 50)
complete final iteration at cue

(CHIMES)
mp
poco

TAM TAM
mf

WATER GONG
mf n

165 166 167 168 169 170

12/30/19