

Nicolas Chuaqui

The Windowed Present

for clarinet, violin, cello and piano

6'

2020

Program Note

This work was partially inspired by the concept of "multiply-directed time," found in the writings of Jonathan D. Kramer, which describes how objects in musical time can create multiple and conflicting time-streams. Another source of inspiration was the concept of "the specious present," as discussed in the writings of William James; this is the brief amount of time that the human mind can perceive as a moment, or a "now." These fleeting windows of perception are represented by the measures of the piece, in which past, present, and future are combined and reinterpreted through a semi-systematic approach. Though we move inexorably through time, resonances abound across musical time-space, bringing past, present, and future into one consciousness.

Performance Notes

The "knocking" in the piano part should be on a somewhat resonant part of the instrument. It does not need to be very loud.

Two lengths of fermata are used: the square fermatae are longer than the round ones, though both are of indefinite time.

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♩ = ca. 63 - 66

Clarinet in B♭

Violin

Violoncello

Piano

p *mp* *mp > mp > sim.* *pp*
arco molto sul pont. *gracefully*

pizz. *f mp* *3* *5* *mp p < > < > < > < >* *ord.* *pp*

non vib. *pp* *mp* *f*

♩ = ca. 63 - 66

rit.

4 *accel.* *A tempo* (♩ = 63 - 66)

Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

p *f* *mp* *ppp*
tongue slap

pp p *f* *p* *pp*

p *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *ppp* *mf ppp subito*
molto sul pont. *(m.s.p.)* *ord.*

4 *accel.* *A tempo* (♩ = 63 - 66)

knocking *mf* *pp* *sweetly*

mp *mp* *p* *mf* *p*
red.

rit. **A** With a feeling of fantasy ♩ = ca. 54 (♩ = ca. 108)

Cl. *fp* *pp* *p* *mf*

Vln. *mp* *pp* *pp* *mf* *pp* sul pont.

Vc. *f* *p* *pp* *p* pizz.

Pno. *f* *p* *p* *mp*

Cl. *mf* *ppp*

Vln. *ppp* *ppp* *mf* *p*

Vc. arco *mp* *mf* *p* *mp*

Pno. *sim.*

15 *poco accel.*

Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

f \rightarrow *p* *cresc.* *mf*

pp \rightarrow *mf*

p *ppp* \rightarrow *mf*

f \rightarrow *p* *mp*

ord.

10/4

17 *A tempo* ($\text{♩} = 54, \text{♪} = 108$)

Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

f \rightarrow *p* *pp* \rightarrow *pp* \rightarrow *f*

f \rightarrow *p* *mp*

f \rightarrow *p*

freely and more slowly; quasi-cadenza

sul pont. \rightarrow ord.

ord.

A tempo ($\text{♩} = 54, \text{♪} = 108$)

17

mf

10/4

rit.

Dreamlike; ca. Tempo I (♩ = ca. 63 - 66)

B

18

Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

bouncing, without much pitch

mf *dim.* *pp*

(IV)

p

rit.

Dreamlike; ca. Tempo I (♩ = ca. 63 - 66)

B

18

Pno.

knocking

mf *pp* *p* *sim.*

21

Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

p *mp* *p* *pp* *mp*

pizz. arco

p *mp* *pp* *p*

21

Pno.

p *mf* *p* *mp* *p*

8va

25 *poco rit.* *molto rit.* **A Tempo**

Cl. *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Vln. *mp* *p* *pp*

Vc. *p* *p* *fp* *poco*

Pno. *poco rit.* *molto rit.* **A Tempo**

25 *mp* *p*

28 **Very slowly;** *accel.* **C** **Faster** ♩ = ca. 82 *accel.*

Cl. *mf* *pp* *ppp* *tr* *mf*

Vln. *mf* *p* *mf* *p subito*

Vc. *molto sul pont.* *pp* *f* *pizz.* *p*

Pno. **Very slowly;** *accel.* **C** **Faster** ♩ = ca. 82 *accel.*

28 *p* *p* *mf* *pp*

32 Faster and building in intensity ♩ = ca. 100 poco accel.

Cl. *mp*

Vln. *pizz.* *p* *arco* *pp*

Vc. *arco ord.* *mp* *p* *pp*

Pno. *pp* *f* *cresc.*

mp *mf* *p*

36 **D** A Tempo (♩ = 82); broadly

Cl. *f* *f* *p* *pp*

Vln. *f* *p* *f* *f*

Vc. *p* *f* *p*

36 **D** A Tempo (♩ = 82); broadly

Pno. *f* *f* (knocking)

40 **molto rit.**

Cl. *ffp* *p* *mf* "sh" (spoken)

Vln. *ff* *p* *f* *ppp* *mf* fingers muting open strings, minimal pitch pizz.

Vc. *ff*

Pno. *ff* *f* **molto rit.**

8^{va} 3 8^{va}

loco 8^{vb}

43 $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 66$

Cl. "sh" *f* *pp*

Vln. arco scratch tone, little pitch "sh" (spoken) *p* ord. *pp*

Vc. *f* *p* *pp* *f* *f* *p* *mf*

Pno. *p* "sh" (spoken) *p* *f* "sh" "sh" "sh" "sh" *p* "sh" *p*

8^{vb} 8^{vb} 8^{vb}

48 *tr* *very long* **Slower and more freely**

Cl. *p* *tr* *p* **ppp**
without expression

Vln. "sh" *pp* *very long* **ppp**
without expression

Vc. *p subito* *tr* *very long* *p* **ppp**
without expression

48 *tr* *very long* **Slower and more freely**

Pno. *p* *p* *p* **pp** **ppp**

8vb

FOR PERUSAL