

KIT McCARTHY

**The Players Nearest
The Fire Exist**

for orchestra

(2024)

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Duration: c. 11'

Full score in C

to Hollie Harding

Instrumentation

2 Flutes (2nd doubling Piccolo)
2 Oboes (2nd doubling Cor Anglais)
2 Clarinets in Bb (2nd doubling Bass Clarinet in Bb)
Saxophone quartet: soprano, alto, tenor, baritone
2 Bassoons

4 Horns in F
2 Trumpets in Bb
3 Trombones
Tuba

Timpani (doubling whip)
2 percussionists

Tuned: xylophone, glockenspiel, marimba, vibraphone, crotales (bowed), bell plate (any low D♯)

Untuned: snare drum (brushes + sticks), temple blocks (any three pitches), bass drum, vibraslap, at least three assorted cymbals for improvisation (e.g. splash, crash, ride, sizzle, hi-hat), shaker, thunder sheet, ratchet, tenor drum, whip (played by timpanist only)

Harp*

Strings

* The lowest strings of the harp should be tuned to C and Db. They should be prepared with a long strip of strong tinfoil woven between them with one end touching the soundboard and the other the pillar to generate an extended fizzing/buzz when the lowest strings are played.

Programme note

This is a piece about séances, constellations, seagulls, mania, black holes, the concept of time, seaweed, being sad, the materiality of empty space, scarves, conspiracy theories, double espressos, ghosts, ambulances, rosemary, rain, Glenmorangie whisky, unrequited love, entropy, Facebook Messenger, Breton shirts, shadows, white noise, stained glass, topological insulators, lobsters, the Overground, why everything I like is metamodern, magic, botanical gardens, and *I Know The End* by Phoebe Bridgers.

KM
London, March 2024

The Players Nearest The Fire Exist

Kit McCarthy

Floating, blurring ($\text{♩} = c.120$)

The score is arranged in systems. The first system includes parts for Flute 1, Flute 2/Piccolo, Oboe 1, Oboe 2/Cor Anglais, Clarinet in B♭ 1, Clarinet in B♭ 2/Bass Clarinet in B♭, Soprano Saxophone, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Bassoon 1, Bassoon 2, Horn 1, Horn 2, Horn 3, Horn 4, Trumpet in B♭ 1, Trumpet in B♭ 2, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Trombone 3, Tuba, and Timpani. The second system includes Percussion 1, Percussion 2, and Harp. The third system includes Solo Violin 1, Violin 1, Solo Violin 2, Violin 2, Solo Viola, Viola, Solo Cello, Cello, Solo Double Bass, and Double Bass. The harp part includes a table of strings: [E] F G A | [D] C B.

Floating, blurring ($\text{♩} = c.120$)

*molto sul tasto
con sord.
non vib.*

pp *mp* *pp*

*molto sul tasto
con sord.
non vib.*

pp *mp* *pp*

*molto sul tasto
con sord.
non vib.*

ppp *p* *pp*

C Sparking, fluttering (♩ = c.144)

FL 1
FL 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Cl. 1
B. Cl.
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Hn. 3
Hn. 4
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Hp.

C Sparking, fluttering (♩ = c.144) (senza sord.)

S. Vln. 1
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
S. Vla.
Vla.
S. C.
C.
S. Db.
Db.

50

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Cl. 1

B. Cl.

Sop. Sax.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

S. Vln. 1

Vln. 1

S. Vln. 2

Vln. 2

S. Vla.

Vla.

C.

Db.

D

ff

pp

f

p

mf

f

mp

ppp

molto flautando

flautando (encourage overtones)

pizz.

nochet

sul pont.

E♭ F♯ G♯ A♯
D♭ C♯ E♭

89

Fl. 1 *ff* *pp* **G**

Fl. 2 *ff* *pp*

Ob. 1 *ff*

Ob. 2 *f* *espressivo* *pp*

Cl. 1 *ff* *flz.*

B. Cl. *ppp* *murmuring*

Sop. Sax. *fff*

Alto Sax. *fff*

Ten. Sax. *fff*

Bari. Sax. *p* *fff*

Bsn. 1 *p* *fff*

Bsn. 2 *p* *fff*

Hn. 1 *ff* *p* *f*

Hn. 2 *ff* *p* *f*

Hn. 3 *ff* *p* *f*

Hn. 4 *ff* *p* *f*

Tpt. 1 *f* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *p* *fff*

Tpt. 2 *f* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *p* *fff*

Tbn. 1 *p* *ff*

Tbn. 2 *p* *ff*

Tbn. 3 *p* *ff*

Tba. *p* *ff*

Timp.

Perc. 1 *f* *p* *mf*

Perc. 2 *mp* *mf*

[Marimba soft mallets?]

Hp. *mf*

ad lib. harmonic trill
occasionally switch to stopped note
intermittent, flickering

Vln. 1 *p* *fff* **G**

Vln. 2 *p* *fff*

Vla. *p* *fff*

C. *fff*

Db. *p* *fff*

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

C. A.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Sop. Sax.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

C.

Db.

inside players only
gliss. ad lib., on up and down on this harmonic
follow graphic contour

inside players only
gliss. ad lib., on up and down on this harmonic
follow graphic contour

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
C. A.
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2

Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Hn. 3
Hn. 4
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tba.
Timp.

Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Hp.

K accel.

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
C.
Db.

156

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
C. A. [Oboe]
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Hn. 3
Hn. 4
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2 [Xylophone]
Hp.

S. Vln. 1
Vln. 1
S. Vln. 2
Vln. 2
Vla.
C.
Db.

168 rit.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Sop. Sax.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tba.

Timp.

mute out

pp

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

Assorted cymbals, metals etc. brushes

improvise etc. extremely sparse, delicate, fragile glittering, shimmering, sparkling

pp

pppp to p

mf

ppp

bring out

mf

ppp

rit.

S. Vln. 1

Vln. 1

S. Vln. 2

Vln. 2

S. Vla.

Vla.

S. C.

C.

Db.

arco molto sul tasto

pp

incredibly fragile

m.s.p.

arco molto sul tasto

pp

incredibly fragile

pp

col legno battuto percussive

f

arco ord.

ppp

col legno battuto percussive

f

solo molto flautando

riochet, scuff

pp

molto espressivo

mf

arco stationary bounce (no up- or down-bow motion)

pp

f

p

Q Moving, flying (♩ = c.180)

252

Fl. 1 *ff*

Fl. 2 To Picc. *f*

Ob. 1 *ff*

Ob. 2 *ff*

Cl. 1 *fff*

Cl. 2 *fff*

Sop. Sax. *mf*

Alto Sax. *mf*

Ten. Sax. *mf*

Bari. Sax. *mf*

Bsn. 1 *mf*

Bsn. 2 *mf*

Hn. 1 *ppp* *ff* *p*

Hn. 2 *ppp* *ff* *p*

Hn. 3 *ppp* *ff* *mf* *p*

Hn. 4 *ppp* *ff* *mf* *p*

Tpt. 1 *p*

Tpt. 2 *p*

Tbn. 1 *ff* *p* *fff*

Tbn. 2 *ff* *p* *fff*

Tbn. 3 *ff* *p* *fff*

Tba. *p* *fff*

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *ff*

Hp. *ff*

Snare drum with sticks, rather than brushes?

Glockenspiel

Q Moving, flying (♩ = c.180)

S. Vln. 1 *mp* *ord.*

Vln. 1 *f*

S. Vln. 2 *mp* *ord.*

Vln. 2 *f*

S. Vla. *ff* *p* *fff*

Vla. *p*

S. C. *mp* *ord.*

C. *p* *f*

Db. *arco (ord.)* *mp* *f*

tone it down briefly

back to mad/wild/etc.

FL 1
Picc.
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Hn. 3
Hn. 4
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Hp.

Dynamic markings: *p*, *ff*, *mp*, *f*, *pp*

S. Vln. 1
Vln. 1
S. Vln. 2
Vln. 2
S. Vla.
Vla.
S. C.
C.
S. Db.
Db.

gliss everything up
get a bit sul pont., get faster and faster
become more and more wild
it should end up a scratchy mess

ord.
repeat, getting faster and faster
and more and more wild

Dynamic markings: *ff*, *f*, *pp*, *p*

283

Fl. 1
Picc.
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
Sop. Sax.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Hn. 3
Hn. 4
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3
Tba.
Timp.
Perc. 1
Perc. 2
Hp.

S. Vln. 1
Vln. 1
S. Vln. 2
Vln. 2
S. Vla.
Vla.
S. C.
C.
S. Db.
Db.

This page of a musical score, page 26, measures 291-300, features a large ensemble of instruments. The score is written for the following instruments:

- Flute 1 (Fl. 1)
- Piccolo (Picc.)
- Oboe 1 (Ob. 1)
- Oboe 2 (Ob. 2)
- Clarinet 1 (Cl. 1)
- Clarinet 2 (Cl. 2)
- Soprano Saxophone (Sop. Sax.)
- Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.)
- Tenor Saxophone (Ten. Sax.)
- Bass Saxophone (Bari. Sax.)
- Bassoon 1 (Bsn. 1)
- Bassoon 2 (Bsn. 2)
- Horn 1 (Hn. 1)
- Horn 2 (Hn. 2)
- Horn 3 (Hn. 3)
- Horn 4 (Hn. 4)
- Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1)
- Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2)
- Trombone 1 (Tbn. 1)
- Trombone 2 (Tbn. 2)
- Trombone 3 (Tbn. 3)
- Tuba (Tba.)
- Timpani (Timp.)
- Percussion 1 (Perc. 1)
- Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), including a Tenor drum
- Harp (Hp.)
- Violin 1 (S. Vln. 1)
- Violin 1 (Vln. 1)
- Violin 2 (S. Vln. 2)
- Violin 2 (Vln. 2)
- Viola (S. Vla.)
- Viola (Vla.)
- Violoncello (S. C.)
- Violoncello (C.)
- Double Bass (S. Db.)
- Double Bass (Db.)

The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (e.g., *fff*, *pp*), articulation (e.g., *rip*), and performance instructions like "STOP!". The music is primarily in treble clef, with some instruments in bass clef. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The score is densely packed with notes, rests, and other musical symbols.

Fl. 1

Picc.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Sop. Sax.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hrp.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

S. Vla.

Vla.

C.

Db.

improvise! (still bowed)
continue similarly, on these notes
keep it delicate and v. sparse

pitch

air

mp

ppp

p

calmer still

V



323

Fl. 1

Picc.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Sop. Sax.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

air

pitch

air

pitch

air

ppp

mp

ppp

ppp

ppp

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tba.

pp

pp

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

sfz

sfz

sfz



Vln. 1

Vln. 2

S. Vla.

Vla.

C.

Db.

p

pp

slowing right down...