JOHN GIBSON

The Widening Gyre

for large ensemble and electronics

2011
Duration: 19 minutes

Instrumentation

- Flute
- Oboe
- Clarinet in Bb
- Bass Clarinet
- Horn
- Trumpet in C (with straight, cup, and harmon mutes)
- Trombone (with straight and harmon mutes)
- Percussion 1: marimba, crotales (one octave, starting at middle C), 3 tom-toms (low to medium pitch), 2 bass drums (large and small), tam-tam
- Percussion 2: vibraphone, xylophone, snare (medium size, metal shell), 3 tom-toms (medium to high pitch), 2 suspended cymbals (large and small), tam-tam (shared with 1.)
- Harp
- 2 Violins
- Viola
- Cellos
- Contrabass

The electronics can be supplied by a laptop ensemble of seven networked players, or, for a simplified setup, a computer operator triggering samples. The circled cue numbers in the electronics part assume the latter setup. Contact the composer for the software that plays the samples and further instructions.

Performance Notes

- Accidentals apply to all notes of the same pitch within a measure, though cautionary accidentals are frequent.

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The Widening Gyre
(2011)

Flute
Oboe
Bb Clarinet
Bass Clarinet
Horn
C Trumpet
Trombone
Percussion 1
Percussion 2
Harp
Electronics
Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Contrabass

[q = 66]

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Crotales [sounds two octaves higher]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Xylophone</th>
<th>[sounds an octave higher]</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(hard plastic)</td>
<td>to Marimba</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Xylophone</th>
<th>[med. rubber]</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to Vibraphone</td>
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| Hp. | [let strings rattle against each other] |

| Elect. | |

| Vn. 1 | |
| Vn. 2 | |
| Va. | |
| Vc. | |
| Ob. | |
| Cl. | |
| B. Cl. | |
| Hn. | |
| Tpt. | |
| Tbn. | |
[end of first excerpt]
Dramatic increase in density, volume. Dense clicks stop suddenly, leaving long reverberant tail.
[end of second excerpt]
Perc. 1 and 2 function as if playing a single drum kit.

Play snare X noteheads as “ghost” notes.
[end of third excerpt]