

The stars like years

Philip Brownlee

Distant and uncertain
senza misura

Clarinet in Eb
Clarinet in Bb 1
Clarinet in Bb 2
Bass Clarinet

ppp *subito f* *pp* *p*

Isolated sustained notes, c. 5 seconds between
Minimal dynamic shaping

Very spacious 10" 20" **Animated for a moment**

Eb
Bb 1
Bb 2
B.

pp *pp* *pp* *pp*

Individual sustained notes, selected from given sets
c. 5 seconds between notes, then spaces gradually becoming shorter
Some dynamic shading, within overall **p**
Sparingly introduce colour trills, and microtonal inflections

A₁

5 **Slow and spacious** 10" 20" 30"

This system consists of four staves: Eb, Bb 1, Bb 2, and B. Each staff contains a single sustained note in a box. The Eb staff starts at 5 seconds and has notes at 10", 20", and 30". The Bb 1 staff has notes at 10" and 20". The Bb 2 staff has a note at 20". The B staff has notes at 10" and 30". All notes are marked *sempre p*.

(5) 40" 50" 1'00"

This system consists of four staves: Eb, Bb 1, Bb 2, and B. Each staff contains a single sustained note in a box. The Eb staff has a note at 40". The Bb 1 staff has a note at 50". The Bb 2 staff has notes at 40" and 50". The B staff has a note at 40".

B₁
6 Slightly agitated

repeat pattern, slurred

pp *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *p*

C₁
7 Fast, suddenly energised
a tempo *colour trill* *Slow and still*
p *pp* *senza misura*

p *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

(8) *poco stringendo*

Score for Eb, Bb 1, Bb 2, and B. instruments, measures 8-11. The Eb part starts with a half note G4, followed by a half note A4, then a half note Bb4, and finally a half note C5. The Bb 1 part starts with a half note F4, followed by a half note G4, then a half note A4, and finally a half note Bb4. The Bb 2 part starts with a half note E4, followed by a half note F4, then a half note G4, and finally a half note A4. The B. part starts with a half note D3, followed by a half note E3, then a half note F3, and finally a half note G3. Dynamics include *p* and *mp*.

(8) *Fast, suddenly energised*
a tempo

Score for Eb, Bb 1, Bb 2, and B. instruments, measures 8-10. The Eb part starts with a half note G4, followed by a half note A4, then a half note Bb4, and finally a half note C5. The Bb 1 part starts with a half note F4, followed by a half note G4, then a half note A4, and finally a half note Bb4. The Bb 2 part starts with a half note E4, followed by a half note F4, then a half note G4, and finally a half note A4. The B. part starts with a half note D3, followed by a half note E3, then a half note F3, and finally a half note G3. Dynamics include *p*, *mp*, *pp*, and *f*. A box highlights a triplet of eighth notes in the Eb part at measure 9.

Individual sustained notes, selected from given sets
 c. 2–3 seconds between notes, not in a regular pattern
 Gradual increase in density over this section
 Wider range of dynamic variation than before,
 still within overall written shape
 Wider range of decorative inflections: colour trills,
 microtonal alterations, tremolos between given notes

A₂

Slowly unfolding
senza misura

Fast, suddenly energised
a tempo

Free choice of events, in any order
 Need not play every event
 Events may be played more than once, although immediate repetitions should be avoided
 Each instrument rhythmically independent
 Tempo within individual events generally quicker than preceding sections
 c. 5–10 seconds between events, silences allowed
 Allow texture to come to rest naturally
 Overall section duration c. 60 seconds

D₁Clarinets in E_b

16 

20 

23 

D₁Clarinets in B_b 1

16 

20 

23 